

SUNDAY WORSHIP JULY 12, 2020



"...Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Matthew 13:8-9



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

200 W. Grand River Ave. | East Lansing, MI 48823
517.332.5073 | ThePeoplesChurch.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

All regularly scheduled Sunday programs have been suspended until further notice.

Worship Service are:

8:30 a.m. - in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. - in the Sanctuary &
Livestream on YouTube

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

WNL! programming will return when it is safe to do so. Updates will be provided as they happen.

A community meal will still be served for those who need one. Meals can be picked up in the Northwest entrance of the building.

ASL Interpreted Service

The Peoples Church is proud to welcome ASL interpreters for our 10:30 a.m. worship service and for special events.



THE PEOPLES CHURCH STAFF

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings.

Reception Desk 332.5073

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe 908.4442
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Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music
Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director
Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence
office@thepeopleschurch.com

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Elders meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Robertson Room.

Bob Cantrell, Chairperson
elders@thepeopleschurch.com



ALL ARE WELCOME!

Whether you are young or old, rich or poor, doubtful or hopeful... no matter where you are in your faith journey, YOU are welcome here. For those with children, be assured that noises and wiggling are signs of a church that is alive and growing; your entire family is welcome in worship.



During this time of social distancing, The Peoples Church Staff are still here for you!

While we may not be physically in the office, we are still available via email or phone for any questions or concerns you may have. Please don't hesitate to reach out to one of us!

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE!

[CLICK HERE!](#)

ORDER OF WORSHIP | July 12, 2020

Prelude

"Tocatta in D Major"
Neil Mueller, trumpet
Judy Kabodian, organ

Giambattista Martini

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Worship is both personal and communal, formal and informal, intimate and casual. Here at The Peoples Church, we recognize that people come to worship God in both joy and pain, faith and doubt, with laughter and with tears. Our worship tries to reflect a desire both for meditation and celebration. Please know you are invited to participate in any and all ways you feel led. Our songs, prayers, words and actions are the works of imperfect people trying to worship a perfect God.

Call to Worship

One: God's Word is a lamp to our feet that lights our path.
In this time of worship, open yourselves to receive the Word.

**All: We are ready to receive the Word God offers.
We want to live in the light of God's love.**

One: God's Word is a seed that is sown in the soul.
Prepare your heart to receive the Good News!

**All: Our hearts are open to God's good Word.
Let us join together and praise the Lord!**

Gathering Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" (verses 1, 3 and 4)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all. We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight. All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
Text: Walter Chalmers Smith (1867) alt.
Music: Welsh Folk Melody; arr. Caniadau y Cyssegr (1839)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you understand us better than we understand ourselves. You know how much the cares of life weigh us down. Our thoughts and actions are often shortsighted. We take so much for granted, failing to value the wonder of life all around us. We neglect our spiritual lives and do not tend the holy seeds you have planted in our hearts. We want to be like good soil, receiving your word and nourishing the gift of faith. Forgive our sins and free us from all that keeps us from bearing fruit for you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Moment of Silence and Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response "Spirit of the Living God"

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Children's Moment

Solo "Aria" Flor Peeters
Neil Mueller, trumpet

A Reading from Scripture Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 Let anyone with ears[a] listen!"

18 "Hear then the parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.[a] 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Sermon "Lessons of a Master Gardener" Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response "Give Thanks, O Christian People" (verses 3 and 4)

Give thanks, O Christian people, for all who love the Lord, who live each day believing in God's eternal Word: to share Christ's love in living, to witness with each deed, to use the talents given to plant the gospel seed.

Give thanks, O Christian people, for life in fellowship with all who trust our Savior their serving to equip: to ease another's burdens, to cope in joy and stress, to magnify God's message and Christ's great love confess.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Give

Offertory

[Click here to give your offering to our virtual Offertory Plate](#)

Act of Praise

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, all of life is a gift from you. We thank you for the gift of the Spirit and the guidance of Scripture. Accept this offering as a sign of our gratitude and our intention to live faithful and meaningful lives. May our words and our actions bring glory to your name. Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" (verses 1 and 2)

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace. O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound; may the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound. Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing
Text: Attr. John Fawcett (1773); alt. stanza 3, alt. Geoffrey Thring (1880)
Music: Sicilian melody (18th cent.)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Benediction

Benediction Response

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

Postlude

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

arr. Paul Manz

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



WELCOME ELISHA SMITH!

It is with joy and honor that I take on the role of the Youth Director here at The Peoples Church. After working the past four years with youth in the Lansing area, I know that my passion lies in working with youth and in inspiring them to follow the Lord. I've spent time over the past few years working in residential foster care as well as in Restorative Justice facilitating, but feel that the Lord is calling me to youth ministry.

This year I am finishing up my degree at Michigan State University as I pursue my BA in Human Development and Family Studies with minors in LGBTQ and Sexuality Studies, and Law, Justice, and Public Policy. I was raised in the beautiful state of Wyoming and will always have a little bit of cowgirl in my heart, but have found and fallen in love with Michigan and the home I've created here.

After spending the last two years as a part of The Peoples Church and TPC Campus Ministries, I am confident that The Peoples Church is my home and I am looking forward to spending time with the wonderful youth and families that make this church so special. I am looking forward to settling into this new "normal" together as we explore and grow in our faith, and I am anxious to begin meeting and establishing relationships with each and every one of you.

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHURCH?

If you are interested in becoming a member of The Peoples Church, or simply want to know more about this remarkable community, please email Robin Matheson at matheso4@msu.edu to learn more about our amazing community of faith!

VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP*

Join us, virtually each Sunday, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service for fellowship. It's easy! Grab a cup of your favorite coffee and a sweet snack and log on to Zoom. You can join the meeting by clicking on the link below:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#), or in your Zoom app enter Meeting ID: 837 9739 7682 and when asked for a password enter: Peoples

Don't have access to internet? No problem! You can still join us from ANY phone! Dial 1-312-626-6799 and when prompted for a meeting ID enter 837 9739 7682# and the password is 50803#.

* Please note: For those who are with us in person for worship, there will not be a fellowship until further notice. Virtual fellowship will continue for those at home.

WELCOME BACK!

We are glad to have you with us in person to worship together once again!

Rest assured we are doing our part to provide a safer environment for worship. We ask that you do your part and screen yourself for potential COVID-19 symptoms prior to coming to the church building. **DO NOT** come if you are feeling unwell, are experiencing any symptoms of illness, or if you have come into contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

While here, please wear a mask, practice social distancing and follow the safety measures that we have put in place for the safety of everyone.



WAYS TO GIVE

There are many ways to provide financial support for the ministry and mission of The Peoples Church. Please consider giving in one of the following ways:



1. You can make a contribution by mailing a check or cash to the church at this address: 200 W.Grand River Ave., East Lansing, MI 48823.
2. We are also able to accept stock gifts or funds from a tax deferred account for your Required Minimum Distribution.
3. If you prefer to use your smartphone, you can make a gift by sending a text to 73256 and including the word **Peoples** in the message line. You will be sent a link that will take you to our GIVE website. Just enter the amount and your account information. Be sure to tell us which fund you are donating to (most people give to the general fund).
4. If you have set up your REALM account with The Peoples Church, you can make a one-time gift or recurring gift by logging onto your REALM account and following the prompts on the screen.
5. If you have questions or need help, just call the church and speak directly to our Office Administrator, Dee Przybylski. She can set up a single gift or recurring gift using a credit, debit card or checking account information. She'll need the amount of the gift and how you would like the gift applied.