

Sanctuary Service

March 19, 2023



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

517.332.5073 | ThePeoplesChurch.com

Sunday Schedule

Chapel Service: 8:30 a.m.

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary & Livestreamed on YouTube.

Sunday School is held after the Children's moment.

Nursery Care is provided for Children Under 3.

A Nursing Room is available for those who need it. Ask an usher or the Welcome Desk for directions.

W@PC

Wednesdays @ Peoples Church is a weekly community dinner followed by programming. Join us at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall!

ASL Interpreted Service

The Peoples Church is proud to welcome ASL interpreters for our Sunday worship service and for special events.

Sensory Tool Kit

A Sensory Tool Kit is reserved for individuals who get overstimulated during church services and need something to help calm the nervous system. The kit can be borrowed at the Welcome desk.

THE PEOPLES CHURCH STAFF

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri., and Sunday mornings. Phones are monitored from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

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Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence

Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director

Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music

Rev. Penny Swartz, Minister Emeritus

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Elders meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Robertson Room. Diane Shafer, Chair (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.

JOIN US REMOTELY!

To join the online livestream of the worship service, click [here!](#)

To join the worship service via telephone, dial (844) 933-0517 and follow prompts.

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE

[CLICK HERE!](#)



Order of Service | March 19, 2023

Prelude

Were You There?
Clarion Ringers directed by Elizabeth Reed
Acolytes: Madelyn Schuette, Malaki Kraft

Arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

Please take this opportunity to fill out the black attendance pad found at the end of your pew.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

***Call to Worship**

Rick Shafer

One People of God, open your eyes and see God's glory.
The Light has come to lead us to all that is good.

**All Our eyes have been opened and our vision is clear.
We want to live as children of light.**

One God sees beyond our outward appearance.
God knows the character and content of our hearts.

**All We cannot escape God's notice;
We are always in God's presence.**

One Trusting in God's mercy, come and worship the Lord.

All Trusting in God's love, we will rejoice and praise our Creator!

***Gathering Hymn**

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above! (v. 1-2, 4-5)

No. 41

*O worship the King, all glorious above! O gratefully sing God's power and God's love:
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.*

*O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
Whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form; and bright is God's path on the wings
of the storm.*

*Your bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills; it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.*

*Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.*

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

Text: Robert Grant (1833)

Music: Joseph Martin Kraus (1784)

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CLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

God of all, you draw near us, but we do not see you. You call, but we do not follow. You command, but we do not obey. You bless us, but we do not thank you. You have forgiven our sins and loved us as we are, yet we have nursed our resentments and been stingy with our love. You offer direction, but we go our own way. You have taken the side of the poor and oppressed, but we have shunned those who need our help. Our sins are great, but your mercy is greater still. Forgive us, O Lord, and help us to walk in the way of Jesus. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

****Confession Response***

Restore in Us, O God (v. 1)

no. 434

Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;

Renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Anthem

Amazing Grace

Arr. Francisco J. Nunez

Youth Choir, directed by Elizabeth Reed

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fear relieved. How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

Childrens Message & Baptism

Heidi Bilfinger Smith

Daughter of

Christine Bilfinger & Alexander Smith

Presentation

Responsive Reading

Elder: Do we, the members of the church of Jesus Christ present here at The Peoples Church, promise to be Heidi's family of faith, now and always, offering whatever she might need to better serve and follow our Lord and Savior? And do we promise to encourage her to walk humbly with her Lord all the days of the life?

Congregation: By God's grace, we do.

Elder: Brothers and sisters, we now celebrate the gift of grace in the Sacrament of Baptism.

Congregation: There is one body and one spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us. There is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, one God, creator of us all.

Prayer

The Baptism

Congregational Response

Pastor: Heidi, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, One God, Mother of us all. Amen.

Congregation: We thank you, God, for Heidi! Bless her and keep her, now and forever. Amen.

Anthem

The Call of Wisdom

Will Todd

Sanctuary Choir directed by Dr. Jonathon Reed

Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy; walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory. Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction, entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger. I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me? I am here, I am here, I am with you. Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value, jewels sparkle for awhile; what you long for is not lasting. I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me? I am here, I am here, I am with you. Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom. Those who know me know my love; those who seek me find their answer. I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me? I am here, I am here, I am with you. God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit coeternal. Glory be ascribed to you, now and to the end of the ages. I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me? I am here, I am here, I am with you.

Scripture

John 9:1-12

Sermon

“Now I See”

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Responsive Hymn

Be Thou My Vision (v. 1-4)

no. 450

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

Text: Irish poem; trans. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor Hull, 1912, alt.
Music: Irish ballad; harm. David Evans, 1927
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862



To make a gift online, please scan the QR code.

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

Nocturne in E Minor
Clarion Ringers directed by Elizabeth Reed

Cynthia Dobrinski

***Act of Praise**

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

Prayer of Dedication

Rick Shafer

God of light and love, we bring these tithes and offerings to you for blessing. May the ministry of this church bring relief and comfort to those who suffer and light to those who are lost. May all we say and do reveal our faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Live into Hope (v. 1-4)

no. 772

*Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!*

*Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
Removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.*

*Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
The right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.*

*Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.*

Live into Hope
Text: Jane Parker Huber (1976)
Music: Musica Sacra, c. 1778
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Postlude

Bell Symphony
Judy Kabodian, organist

Henry Purcell

PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

ACHE: Adults Connecting and Having Events is a young adult group that meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. To keep up with events, follow us on Instagram: [ache_thepeopleschurch](#). Join us 4/6 at Ozone's for dinner and card games, and **Friday, 4/21** for a potluck and game night to welcome Haley Hansen!

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Campus Ministry is meeting today! After church we are riding in the van to bowling and lunch. Anyone interested in coming along please meet in the back of the sanctuary after the service and find Julie DeGraw.

CHICs (CONNECTED HEARTS IN CHRIST): CHICs (Connected Hearts in Christ) Women's Small Group is currently reading *Accidental Saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. If you are interested in joining the group or have questions, contact Beth Lundy at lundybb@comcast.net or (610)246-0029.

ENGAGING THE WORD: Led by Pastor Shawnthea, this group meets in-person on Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Robertson Room and Wednesdays on Zoom from 9 to 10 a.m. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88178100531>. This week's scripture is Ezekiel 37:1-14.

MEN'S WEDNESDAY NOON DISCUSSION GROUP: Please join us in the Robertson Room for our discussion of "The Sin of Certainty" by Peter Enns.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: D&D club is meeting today 12:30-3:00 p.m. PCYG is meeting 3:00-6:00 p.m.

PUB THEOLOGY: We meet on the second Thursday each month, 6:30 p.m. at Crunchy's to engage in conversation about faith, life, and what is happening in the world. Join us April 13th!

REBEKAH/HANNAH CIRCLE: We will meet March 22nd at 12:00 noon at Coral Gables for lunch and fellowship.

TAIZE SERVICE: The next Taize service is **March 26 at 6:30 p.m.** Services consist of repetitive and meditative singing, prayer, scripture, and silence. It is a powerful, quiet, contemplative worship experience. This service is inter-denominational and all are welcome.

TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP: The Tuesday Morning Men's Group is reading *Love Wins* by Rob Bell. We continue to meet at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Robertson Room.

WEDNESDAYS @ PEOPLES CHURCH: A community dinner is hosted every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall, followed by your choice of dance aerobics with Shawnthea Monroe, or Faith & the News bible study in the library. We hope you can join us for Wednesdays @ Peoples Church!

VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY: Voices of the Community will meet on Sunday, April 2 at 9:30 a.m. in The Robertson Room. The presenter will be Dr. Mitch Rinek, a retired dermatologist and member of The Peoples Church. His topic will be: 'Oh, my; What is that Spot on my Skin?' Identification and Treatment of Skin Lesions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS: Cheryl Leece, our Edgewood Village volunteer coordinator, is requesting our help with driving a resident to the Haslett YMCA at 8:45 a.m., and picking her up again at 10 a.m. to return to Edgewood Village. Volunteer forms and background checks would need to be done if you have not completed them already. Please email Cheryl at leececm44@gmail.com if you are able to help. THANK YOU!

MEMORIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: Barb Potter's memorial service will be Saturday, March 25 at 11 a.m. The service will be livestreamed, the link for which will be sent out in the March 24 eNews blast.

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP



Join us for Coffee and Conversation in Friendship Hall following the service!

Easter Lily Memorial Gifts

Please return forms to the church office no later than **April 3, 2023!**

_____ **I would like to honor a loved one with an Easter Lily.** (a suggested donation of \$20 is appreciated. Please make check payable to The Peoples Church and indicate "Easter Lilies" in the memo line.)

Please accept my gift:

_____ **In Memory of**

_____ **In Honor of**

_____ **In Celebration of**

_____ **To The Glory of God**

Name: _____

Notes: _____
