

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022



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 paused this week.

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.

Reception Desk (517) 332.5073

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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. Bev Mason, 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 | November 27, 2022

Prelude

Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying
Judy Kabodian, Organist

Flor Peeters

Acolytes

Alazne EstradaCadieux & Madelyn Schuette

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**

One: All around us, the world rushes by, counting down the shopping days.
But the gift God offers cannot be rushed, so we wait.

**All: We wait with hope for the brokenhearted to be healed,
For the downtrodden to be lifted up, and for the captives to be released.**

One: As prophets foretold and angels proclaimed:
Keep watch, for the Christ child is coming!

**All: We patiently make our way towards Bethlehem
And faithfully await the coming of our Lord.**

One: Let us sing into the silence:
Come, O come, Emmanuel!

**All: Let us light a candle against the darkness,
For Jesus is the light of the world!**

***Gathering Hymn**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (v. 1, 5-7)

no. 88

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Text: Latin prose (pre-9th cent.)
Music: Thomas Helmore (1852)
Copyright: 2013 CLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Lord of all times, we come into your presence asking your forgiveness. We have failed to live in the present. We have wasted our moments, wanting the future now, seeing our dreams as the answer to our problems. In other moments, we have looked backward to glory days that seem glorious only in their passing, rather than seeing your blessing in each day. Open our eyes to our mission at hand. Open our ears to your message to us today, so we might share in bringing the good news of your salvation to the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

**Confession Response*

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (v. 3)

no. 93

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Anthem

The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee
Sanctuary Choir, Directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

Jean Berger

The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing, of every living thing, of every living thing. The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. The eyes of all wait upon thee, wait upon thee.

Children's Message

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

First Scripture

Isaiah 2: 1-5

Second Scripture

Matthew 24: 36-44

Sermon

"Christian Practice"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

The days are surely coming, says God to all the earth, when you will see my promise: salvation come to birth. My righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land and you will be delivered by my almighty hand.

The days are surely coming, says Christ, the promised one, when you will read my warning in moon and stars and sun. Though earth and heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear, for I am your redeemer, and I am drawing near.

The days are surely coming when we will know at last the fullness of God's presence, God's promise, come to pass. Then righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land and we will be delivered by God's almighty hand.

The Days Are Surely Coming

Text: David Gambrell, 2009

Music: Welsh folk Melody; *Llwybrau Moiant*, 1872

Copyright: 2013

CLI#: 1698862

Pastoral Prayer and 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



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

****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

God of glory, we dedicate this offering in the hope of all the good it will release into the world. Through your Spirit, may this money become food for the hungry, healing for the injured, and justice for the oppressed. This is our prayer and our hope. Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (v 1-2)

no. 82

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king; born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Text: Charles Wesley, 1744
Music: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1830
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Postlude

O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide
Judy Kabodian, organist

arr. Willow Held

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAIZE SERVICE: This month's Taize service is today, November 27th at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. The 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. We are also looking for someone to play the piano for these services. If you are interested, please contact Sarah Dymond at dymondsn@gmail.com.

KNITTING PEOPLE: Knitting People will meet on Thursday, December 1, from 1-3 p.m. in the Robertson Room. We invite you to join us to knit and crochet baptismal blankets, prayer shawls, slippers, hats and mittens for people in our community. We have needles, yarn, and patterns, just waiting for your helping hands!

VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY: The Peoples Forum regularly meets on the first Sunday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room. On Sunday, December 4th, Penny Swartz will present "A Child's Christmas in Wales: Redux".

MUSIC SUNDAY: Music Sunday will be December 4th during the 10:30 worship service. The sanctuary choir will be performing Vivaldi's Gloria with orchestra. Please join us as we lift our voices in song!

HOLIDAY BRASS CONCERT: The Fine Arts Committee is pleased to announce that following a three-year hiatus due to Covid, the MSU Music Department's Holiday Brass concert will return to The Peoples Church on Tuesday, December 6 at 7 p.m. with a free concert in the Sanctuary.

CHRISTMAS ORATORIOS CONCERT: Find inspiration this holiday season through the uplifting sound of the MSU Choral Union, University Chorale, and State Singers as they join forces with the MSU Symphony Orchestra in two gems of the season: selections from J. S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* and Camille Saint-Saëns' work of the same name, written as an homage to the Baroque master. This event is at the Wharton Center in Cobb Great Hall on December 10th at 8 p.m. Tickets for this performance are available at whartoncenter.com/events.

PERSONAL NEEDS CLOSET - VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Looking for a hands-on volunteer opportunity? The Peoples Church and All Saints Episcopal Church in coordination with Christian Services, operate a Personal Needs Closet pickup every Saturday, and are looking for volunteers to help distribute these goods at All Saints on alternate Saturdays from 8:45-11:00 a.m. We would like to make a schedule for the first few months of 2023. If you may be interested, call Mimi Burpee at 517-881-6437, or via email at mimburpee@gmail.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have any prayer requests or wish to be part of The Peoples Church prayer chain, please contact Jan Perron at jrperron@comcast.net.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: The children are excited to perform a live Christmas Pageant during worship on December 11th! We will have our traditional cookie party after the performance. If you would like to donate baked goods for everyone to enjoy, please contact Kathi Mitchell at kmitchell@thepeopleschurch.com. The cookie party is always a lot of fun and we welcome everyone who wants to congratulate our cast on a job well done!

ADVENT TEA: Join the Women of Peoples Church after worship on December 11th for a special gathering celebrating the season of advent. We will enjoy a delicious brunch, fellowship, music and more. Our featured speaker will be The Peoples Church's beloved Mary West, who will speak on the topic: *A Word to the Wise*. **Tickets for this event are for sale at the Welcome Desk today after worship.** Tickets are \$10 per person; children under 8 are free. **We are also looking for volunteers** to assist with set up, clean up, and to bring cookie donations in on the 11th. Please contact Susan Nowicki, Event Chair, at susan.nowicki@att.net if you would like to volunteer or you have questions.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES: There will not be 8:30 or 10:30 worship on Sunday, December 25th. However, you are invited to join The Peoples Church for our **6 and 9 p.m. services on Christmas Eve**. Churches that are having a service on Christmas morning include; University United Methodist (11 a.m.) and All Saints Episcopal (10 a.m.).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS GIFT PROJECT: Share the Christmas joy by providing a gift for a child at Edgewood Village, here in our local community. If you would like to purchase a gift, please contact church member Emily Anderson via e-mail at anderson2910@icloud.com or by phone at 517-648-0632. She will provide you with all the information you will need: gender and age of the child, item the child wishes and details for delivering the gift. If you would simply like to financially support this activity, that is an option too.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Our community doors have been wide open this year welcoming not only anticipated refugees but also those fleeing Afghanistan and Ukraine. Many of the latter arrived with the clothes on their backs and are now in need of winter shoes and boots. We respond, first by a gift from the Community Engagement committee to Refugee Services and second by **collection of Meijer and Target gift cards from our congregation.** The donation box will be at the Welcome Desk during Sunday services and otherwise in the office - beginning Sunday Nov. 27th until Sunday Dec 18th. Many thanks!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: If you would like to make a poinsettia dedication this December, please fill out the form below and return it to the office by December 11th. If you have questions regarding poinsettias, please email office@thepeopleschurch.com.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Please return this form to the Church Office or offering plate
no later than **December 11th, 2022.**

Poinsettias will be displayed during worship on December 18th and can be picked up following the 6 and 9 p.m. Christmas Eve services.

_____ I would like to honor a loved one with a poinsettia this holiday season. (A suggested donation of \$20 is appreciated. Please make checks payable to *The Peoples Church* and indicate *Poinsettias* in the memo line.)

My gift is:

_____ In Memory of
_____ In Celebration of

_____ In Honor of
_____ To the Glory of God

Name: _____

Given by: _____