

# Sanctuary Service, Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

## SERVICE INFORMATION

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

There is no Sunday School this morning.

Professional 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.

Please join us after the service in our front lobby for coffee hour and fellowship!



## LISTENING DEVICES

We now offer listening devices that amplify sound from stage microphones, which are available upon request.

## ASL INTERPRETED SERVICE

The Peoples Church is proud to welcome American Sign Language interpreters for our Sunday worship services

## SENSORY TOOL KIT

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



## THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

517.332.5073 | [ThePeoplesChurch.com](http://ThePeoplesChurch.com)

## 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

**Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe** (517) 908.4442  
Senior Pastor, United Church of Christ  
smonroe@thepeopleschurch.com

**Rev. Haley Hansen** (517) 908.4448  
Associate Pastor, United Methodist Church  
hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com

**Adam Droscha** (517) 908.4452  
Communications Specialist  
adroscha@thepeopleschurch.com

**Alexa Hayes-Murray** (517) 908.4447  
Children's Christian Education Director  
ahayes-murray@thepeopleschurch.com

**Jess Beurkens** (517) 908.4446  
Finance Administrator  
jbeurkens@thepeopleschurch.com

**Dana Johnson** (517) 908.4449  
Preschool Director  
djohnson@thepeopleschurch.com

**Beth Lundy** (517) 908.4453  
Membership Coordinator  
blundy@thepeopleschurch.com

**Zack Matthews** (517) 908.4444  
Facility Director  
zmatthews@thepeopleschurch.com

**Elisha Smith** (517) 332.6264  
Youth Director  
esmith@thepeopleschurch.com

**Vince Watson**  
Events Coordinator  
vwatson@thepeopleschurch.com

**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, you can find **The Peoples Church of East Lansing on YouTube!**

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@TPCEASTLANSING



THE PEOPLES CHURCH  
OF EAST LANSING

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE  
**HERE!**



# Order of Service | December 10, 2023

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

## **Prelude**

Traditional Carols  
Coppertone Ringers directed by Elizabeth Reed

## **Welcome**

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

## **Induction of New Members**

Lauren Anderson, Carlie and John Richards, Cara and Owen Ronk, Kelsey Osborne-Garth

**Elder to Congregation:** Let us, the members of The Peoples Church, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

**Congregation:** We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen savior.

## **Profession of Faith – Congregation and New Members**

**Pastor:** With the whole church, let us confess our common faith as expressed in our church's covenantal statement. Please stand and join in the confession of faith as found in the bulletin.

**All:** We believe the teachings of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and with the help of God, we will strive daily to live the life of purity, unselfishness, and service which Christ exemplified to the world.

## **\*Call to Worship**

One In the midst of this busy season, God calls us to slow down.  
Let us patiently wait for the arrival of Christ.

**All Our lists are long and our calendars are full.  
In this place, may we find God's peace.**

One We gather in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.  
We worship the Lord, the God of our salvation.

**All Prepare the way for the coming of the Christ Child!  
Our hearts are open to receive God's gift.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

Go Tell it on the Mountain (v. 1-3)

no. 136

**Refrain:** *Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

*While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Refrain.*

*The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain.*

*Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Refrain.*

Go Tell it on the Mountain  
Text and Music: African American spiritual  
Copyright: 2013  
CLI#: 1698862

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of wonder, we confess that we do not always do our best. Sometimes we are nice, and sometimes we are mean. Sometimes we are giving, and sometimes we are selfish. Sometimes we forgive people who have hurt us; sometimes we like to hold grudges. We are very sorry for all our mistakes and sins. Help us to do better. Help us to be more like Jesus. And help us to remember that you love us, no matter what. Amen.**

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Confession Response**

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

no. 96 v. 2

Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within, and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

**Passing the Peace of Christ**

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

**Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 11:1-6

**Sermon**

"A Child Shall Lead Them"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

## **Children's Pageant**

## **'The Reluctant Innkeeper'**

Written by: Ruth Elaine Schram and Mark Cabaniss

Orchestrations by: John DeVries

Copyright: Jubilate Music Group, LLC

### ***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 this 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 peace, we dedicate this offering to your work in this world. May this money and the ministry it supports bring healing to the sick, comfort to the suffering, and light to all who live in darkness. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, who brings us true peace. Amen.**

### ***\*Sending Hymn***

Love Has Come (v. 1-3)

no. 110

*Love has come: a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies. See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises: Love! Love! Born unto you, A Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.*

*Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his mother; what is the name her heart is saying? Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers. Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.*

*Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free. Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!*

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

Rhapsodie on a Catalan Carol  
Judy Kabodian, Organist

Eugene Gigout

**The Reluctant Innkeeper Cast:**

**Court Staff:**

Attorney Sam Shepherd: Izaak Biedenbender  
Judge Joey Justice: Theodore Eysseleinck  
Bailiff: MJ Schuette

**Witnesses:**

Heehaw A. Donkey: Amelia Irvin  
Malachi Mutton: Gabriel Eysseleinck  
Benjamin Holiday: Henrik Hunter

**Jurors:**

Juror 1/Joseph: Declan Biedenbender  
Juror 2/King: Melle Tans  
Juror 3/King: Alice Hunter  
Juror 4/Mary: Clara Fingland  
Juror/Angel: Grace Jenkins  
Juror/Angel: Hadley Murray  
Juror/Sheep: Malcolm Irvin  
Juror/Sheep: Callahan Murray  
Juror/Sheep: Jay Tans

**Youth Group Singers:**

Brooklyn Burke  
Abraham Barton  
Abigail Schuette

*A special thank you to all the pageant parents who helped make this pageant possible!*

*We would like to invite the cast, their families, and the congregation to join us for a cookie party in the Robertson Room following the conclusion of the service.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**8:30 SERVICES:** There are no 8:30 a.m. services during the month of December. We encourage all of our regular 8:30 service goers to join our 10:30 a.m. services during Advent and Christmas.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES:** Because Christmas Eve lands on a Sunday this year, there will be only one morning worship service at 10:30 a.m., and there will be **two evening services at 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.** We hope you will join us in celebration, adoration, and worship this Christmas Eve.

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)***



**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:** If you would like to make a poinsettia dedication this Christmas season, please sign up for a poinsettia order at the Welcome Desk, or email your order to [office@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:office@thepeopleschurch.com) by **TODAY**. Please include your name, and who your gift is in memory, celebration, or honor of. Poinsettia orders are \$20. Checks should be made payable to The Peoples Church with 'Poinsettias' indicated in the memo line. Poinsettias will be displayed during worship on **Sunday, December 17** and can be picked up following the 9 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

**MSU BRASS HOLIDAY CONCERT:** The Michigan State University Brass will perform a concert of holiday, classical, and popular music at The Peoples Church **tonight at 7 p.m.** This family-favorite event, which is sponsored by the TPC Fine Arts Committee, will include talented student musicians and their professors from the MSU College of Music. The concert is free of charge, and at intermission concert-goers will be treated to an offering of Christmas cookies and hot beverages.

**NEW ART EXHIBIT:** The Peoples Church Fine Arts Committee has installed its latest exhibit. "The World of the Play: A Creative Process" offers a glimpse of behind-the-scenes design and technology from past and present MSU Department of Theatre productions, and class work from faculty and students. It includes an assortment of pieces in both theoretical and practical formats, ranging from costumes and masks to scenic models and renderings, as well as faux scenic painting, lighting design, and stage properties. This exhibit will be on display until March 7, 2024. Pick up an exhibit catalog across from the Welcome Desk

**EDGEWOOD VILLAGE HOLIDAY FOOD PROGRAM:** The Thanksgiving food program was a big success, and 21 families from Edgewood Village are very grateful. Now we need about 11 more shoppers willing to buy food for families and deliver it to the Edgewood Village Center on **December 20 between 5 and 6 p.m.** If you are able to do this, please contact Katie Slabaugh by calling (313) 410-1113, or by emailing her at [kslab@hotmail.com](mailto:kslab@hotmail.com).

**EDGEWOOD VILLAGE CHRISTMAS GIFTS:** Share Christmas joy by providing a gift for a child at Edgewood Village. If you would like to purchase a gift for a child, or if you would like to support this program financially, please contact Emily Anderson via e-mail, [anderson2910@icloud.com](mailto:anderson2910@icloud.com), or by phone, (517) 648-0632, and she will provide all the information you will need.

**SNOWPANTS COLLECTION:** The annual Snowpants Collection is underway! Please donate new or gently used children's snowpants, coats, hats and mittens/gloves. All are donated to the Love Clothing Closet at the Judson Baptist Church, where they work with families who've contacted Christian Services, to provide clothing, pajamas, shoes and boots, and winter gear. Look for the new box outside of the church office.

**PEOPLES CHURCH EUCHRE TOURNAMENT:** The Peoples Church second annual Euchre tournament will be **Friday, January 19, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.** Cost is \$10 per person, and space is limited to 32 participants. The sign-up list is in the church office!

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)***

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** On **Sunday, January 21, 2024, following the 10:30 a.m. service** there will be a special congregational meeting for the purpose of voting on the proposed Capital Campaign. If you are unable to attend the January 21 meeting, you may pick up a 'Request for Absentee Ballot' at the Welcome Desk, or one can be mailed or emailed to you upon request. Subscribers to the weekly E-Newsletters have the option to scroll down in those emails to the Capital Campaign announcement and print their own ballot request at their convenience.

### ***PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH***

**ACHE:** Adults Connecting & Having Events is a group for young adults that meets twice a month for activities and events. On **Saturday, December 16 at 7 p.m.**, ACHE will host its annual Christmas party in the Campus Lounge. Contact Pastor Haley at [hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com) to RSVP.

**COLLEGE MINISTRY:** Campus Ministry now meets **after the 10:30 a.m. service** for Lunch & lounge, and **twice a month** for activities and outings. For more information, contact Pastor Haley by emailing [hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com).

**ENGAGING THE WORD:** Pastor Shawnthea leads the in-person study group on **Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Robertson Room**, and the **Wednesday Zoom session from 9 to 10 a.m.** The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068627263>. Pastor Haley leads a Bible Study at **9:30 a.m. on Sundays in the Robertson Room**. This week's passage is Luke 1:46-55.

**PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP:** Youth choir is meeting **today at noon** for choir rehearsal, then PCYG is gathering for lunch and print making from **12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.** The PCYG Christmas party is coming up on **Sunday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m.!** For more information about PCYG, contact Elisha, by emailing [esmith@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:esmith@thepeopleschurch.com).

**PORCH OF HEAVEN:** Porch of Heaven is a Lectio Divina service that takes place **Mondays at 6:15 p.m. in the Telder Room**. It involves reading scripture, silence, mindfulness and sharing. Visit Porch of Heaven tomorrow evening, or email Tom Schaberg at [tschaberg1@gmail.com](mailto:tschaberg1@gmail.com) for more information.

**TAIZE:** Our December Taize service is **Sunday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Chapel. Taize services consist of repetitive and meditative singing, prayer, scripture, and silence. It is a powerful, quiet, contemplative worship experience. These services are inter-denominational and all are welcome.

**TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP:** The Tuesday Morning Men's Group is currently reading the Christmas story as described in gospels Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Beginning in January, the group will be reading 'Meeting Jesus for the First Time,' by Marcus J. Borg. The Tuesday Men's group meets at **7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Robertson Room**.

**WEDNESDAYS @ PEOPLES CHURCH:** Join us **every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.** in Snider Social Hall for a community dinner! At **6 p.m.** Pastor Shawnthea teaches dance aerobics in the gym, and Pastor Haley leads a discussion on faith and the news at **6:30 p.m.** All are welcome!