

Christmas Eve 6 PM Service December 24, 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 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.

*Will resume on January 8th

**Will resume on January 1st

W@PC

Wednesdays @ Peoples Church will reconvene on January fourth. Happy Holidays!

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. 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 | December 24, 2022

Prelude

Traditional Carols
Coppertones, directed by Elizabeth Reed

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: On this holiest of nights, we gather together like the shepherds,
Listening in wonder to the news the angels sang.

**All: Joy to the world! For our savior is come!
A great light has pierced our darkness!**

One: On this most silent night, we sit with Mary and Joseph,
Gazing with wonder at the newborn Jesus.

**All: Our hearts are filled with God's love;
On this night, our hopes and dreams come true.**

One: This is the night of nights, for love has come down.

All: Glory to God in the highest! And peace to one and all!

***Gathering Hymn**

O Come, All Ye Faithful (v. 1, 3-4)

no. 133

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem! Come, and behold him, born the King of angels! O come let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, Let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest! O come let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, Let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, We greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! O come let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, Let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Youth Choir Anthem

Of the Father's Love Begotten

13th Century Plainsong. arr. John Erickson

Youth Choir and Alumni Bell Choir, Directed by Elizabeth Reed

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he; Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore. O ye heights of heaven, adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing; powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring, evermore and evermore. Christ, to thee with God the Father, and the Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be: honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore.

First Reading

Isaiah 9: 2-7

Carol Choir Anthem

Hillside Blues & Calling All People

From *Out Standing in Their Field*, Lee Dengler & Naus Dengler

Carol Choir, Directed by Elizabeth Reed

We are the shepherds guarding our sheep, out on the hillside near Bethlehem. All night long our watch we keep, out on the hillside near Bethlehem. Though the sky is bright tonight, stars are shining with a heavenly light, there is little to excite, out on the hillside near Bethlehem.

Why are the shepherds looking so bleak out on the hillside near Bethlehem? This has been a terrible week out on the hillside near Bethlehem. They are worried and afraid, overworked and underpaid. Many lambs have gone astray out on the hillside near Bethlehem. They are sad. They are blue. Life is hard. Joys are few. Through the day, through the night, is there no hope in sight? Prophets once foretold a dawn; when One would come to right all wrong; But the time has been so long, out on the hillside near Bethlehem. Out on the hillside near Bethlehem. Out on the hillside near Bethlehem.

Calling all people, front and center, calling to folks all over the earth. Now it's time to worship the Savior, as we celebrate His birth. All night, all day with the angels let us sing. All night, all day, praise the newborn King. Now when we are afraid; when we are dismayed, Jesus comes with hope expanding, makes our lives the most outstanding; love that never ends, on that we can depend. This is the most outstanding, most outstanding news! This is the most outstanding, most outstanding news! A Savior, Messiah, Redeemer, Emmanuel, is born to us today. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King! Let every heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing. Praise God for this outstanding news! ... Praise God for this outstanding news! Sing glory..... Sing glory! In the highest.... In the highest! For this outstanding news!

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

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



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

Offertory

Night of Silence

Daniel Kantor

Youth & Alumni Choir, directed by Elizabeth Reed

Cold are the people, winter of life, we tremble in shadows this cold endless night. Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, flowers that will echo the sunrise. Fire of hope is our only warmth, weary, it's flame will be dying soon. Voice in the distance, call in the night, on wind you enfold us, you speak of the light. Gentle on the ear you whisper softly, rumors of a dawn so embracing. Breathless love awaits darkened souls, soon we will know of the morning. Spirit among us, shine like the star, your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar. Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely, rising in the warmth of your Son's love. Star unknowing of night and day, Spirit we wait for your loving Son. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

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 love, We rejoice and give thanks for Jesus, your Son, our savior. May this offering bring good news and great love to a weary world, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (v. 1-3)

no. 119

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king. Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Continued...

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity, pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Text: Charles Wesley, 1739
Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Second Reading

Luke 2: 1-20

Sermon

"Holy Unexpected"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Sharing the Light

Closing Hymn

Silent Night (v. 1-4)

no. 122

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright 'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!"

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.

Silent Night
Text: Joseph Mohr (1816)
Music: Franz Xaver Gruber (1818)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Benediction

Postlude

Rhapsody on a Catalan Carol
Judy Kabodian, Organist

Eugene Gigout

POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

In Celebration of:

Dr. Dave Mills *given by Susan Allis*

Dr. Harry Allis *given by Susan Allis*

Our family, Tom, Heidi, Beth, and Katie *given by Sandy & Carol Bryson*

Paul & Dean Przybylski *given by Dee & Dave Przybylski*

In Honor of:

Peter, Gwyneth, and Christopher Schroeder *given by Judy Schroeder*

To the Glory of God:

Given by Richard & Kay Comstock

In Memory of:

Adele Longhway and Glenna Steinkamp *given by Bob & Margie Steinkamp*

Carol O. Ekern *given by Fran Ekern*

Chuck Wing *given by Nancy Wing*

Curt & John Liechty and a good friend, Marcia Engelkes *given by the Liechty family.*

Dean & Paula Telder, and Adele & Henry Przybylski *given by Dee & Dave Przybylski*

Dean and Carolyn Telder *given by Doug Chial*

Dorwin E. & Helen J. Hoffmeyer, and Ralph & Ethel Mae Maxwell *given by Thomas & Lynne Hoffmeyer*

Dr. & Mrs. Benjamin Stone *given by the Stone family*

Dr. & Mrs. William Vernon Hicks *given by Russ & Barb Hicks & Family*

Dr. Geoff Sumner-Smith *given by Jann Angell*

George and Katie Kerr *given by their children.*

Howard & Myra Johnson, and David & Irene Johnson *given by Jean & Marc Lyon*

Howard E. Angell and Daisy T. Angell *given by their daughter, Jann Angell*

John Liechty, Dr. Curtis Liechty, Rev. Frank McAuley Jr., and our parents *given by Lana & Steve Wagner*

In Memory Of:

Linda Janecke, Zorob Kabodian, and Arthur Markarian *given by Judy Kabodian*

Lyn Babbitt *given by Paul Babbitt*

Marley & Doug Pearson *given by Diane & Lenny Bartoszewicz*

Marty Simonds *given by Richard Simonds and family*

Mary Jean Daniels *given by Russ & Barb Hicks & Family*

Michael Harrison, *given by his family*

My brother, Fred *given by Ken Beachler*

My father, Angelo Galasso, who would have been 100 years old on December 20th *given by Sharon Tuma*

My friend and mentor, Helen Hoffmeyer *given by Mary Culham*

My parents, Kathryn & Hugh *given by Ken Beachler*

My parents, Ray & Marion Heil *given by Susan Heil-Godfrey*

Our grandparents, Polly & Jack Reed, and Tom DeSimone *given by Hallie and Christopher Reed*

Our late parents: Herbert & Marie Conner, and Robert & Irene Dosser *given by Andy & Sandy Conner*

Our parents, Barbara & Cameron Carruthers and Olene & Jim West *given by Ken and Mary West*

Our parents, Roselyn & Joe Perron, and Helen & L.D. Gieseler *given by Ray & Janet Perron*

Parents and Grandparents *given by Janet Woolsey, Jane Hedeem, and Debra Trowbridge.*

Richard W and Eleanor Belyea Stubbs - you are each missed beyond measure but are always close in our hearts *given by the families of Dorn & Beth McGaw and Rick & Mary Stubbs (2 Poinsettias)*

Shirley Guider and Jean Grua *given with love by the Guider Grua family*

Stanley & Doris Brower and Marie Brower *given by David Brower*

Thomas Vaughn and Steward Hoffman *given by Merylyn Vaughn-Hoffman*

Walter Goff *given Ellie Goff, Jeff Goff, and David, Julie, Gavin & Ava Gwisdalla*

William Woolsey *given by Janet Woolsey, Jane Hedeem, and Debra Trowbridge*