

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 1, 2019



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Chapel

9:30 a.m.

Carol Choir Rehearsal

Confirmation Class

PCYG Bible Exploration

Peoples Forum

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Sanctuary

Children's Sunday School

11:30 a.m.

Coppertones Rehearsal

Lunch & Lounge | Campus Ministry

Dance 149

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

5:30 p.m.

Community Meal

6:00 p.m.

Youth Choir Rehearsal

Children's Education

6:30 p.m.

Adult Formation Classes

Peoples Church YouthGroup

Yoga Class



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

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

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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.

Jodi Cook, 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.

ASL Interpreted Service

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



MAKE A GIFT

Please note, we have a new link for online giving (below):

<https://onrealm.org/thepeopleschurch/Give>

See back page for more information on **REALM!**

Children through 5th grade are invited to participate in Sunday School following the Children's Moment during service. Please be sure to check-in your child at one of the kiosks located in Friendship Hall, prior to worship service, to receive a name tag for your child. Kathi Mitchell, Children's Christian Education Director, will lead the children to the classrooms on the third floor for Sunday School. At the conclusion of worship, you may pick up your child on the third floor; please show the security code you received at check-in to the teacher.

ORDER OF WORSHIP | DECEMBER 1, 2019

Prelude

"Chorale Prelude on *Sleepers Wake*"
Judy Kabodian, organ

J.S. Bach

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Drew Filkins

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

Leader: Today we begin the journey of Advent and remind ourselves of what Jesus has brought into our lives.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and be present to us this day.

Leader: Today, we light the first candle, the candle of HOPE, for Christ is our hope and our salvation.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and bring your gift of hope.

Leader: We light this candle and pray for those who are in despair. May the light of Christ shine on us and through us.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and bless our worship.

Leader: All you people of HOPE, come let us worship the Lord!

Gathering Hymn

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

No. 83

Procession of the Light of Christ

Blake Burke and Brooklyn Burke, Acolytes

Call of Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of Light, in this season of sales, shopping, and stress, we confess how easy it is to slip off your path. We become so focused on having a good time that we forget to take the time to do good for your people. We find ourselves strangely jealous over the gifts others receive, yet we undervalue the gifts of peace and serenity you hand out so freely.

Forgive us, Breath of Salvation. By your mercy, help us to be alert for the signs of your grace and hope in our midst. We pray this in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Time for Silence and Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: This is the good news: you will be swept away in the waters of mercy, salvation carrying you home to God's heart.

People: **Peace, serenity, healing, hope—these gifts, and more, are ours in this Advent season of watching and waiting. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Congregational Response "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (verse 2 only) No. 96
**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.**

First Reading Romans 13:11-14
(Pew Bible Page 1,138; Large Print 1,726)

Passing the Peace of Christ *(Please stand if able)*
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Communion

Communion Hymns "Savior of the Nations, Come" No. 102
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" No. 88

Children's Moment (10:30 a.m.)

Anthem (10:30 a.m.) "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" arr. Gustav Holst
Sanctuary Choir, directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

Second Reading Matthew 24:36-44
(Pew Bible Page 993; Large Print 1,511)

Sermon "Stay Awake" Rev. Dr. Monroe

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

(During the pastoral prayer there will be a time to offer prayers of joy and concern, voiced aloud or silently for and on behalf of others.)

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.

Call to Offering

Thanksgiving and Dedication of Gifts

Offertory (10:30 a.m.)

"Every Valley"
Ben Maines, tenor

John Ness Beck

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 One, as we prepare for the advent of Christ, give us your spirit of wisdom. As we seek to embody your love in the world, give us your spirit of good counsel. As we seek to be faithful, give us eyes to see beyond the obvious. As we gather in this hour, we lift all in need before you. May we be instruments of your peace on earth as we offer these gifts to you to do your work. Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"

No. 643

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

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

arr. Paul Manz



**Floral Dedication:
Given in memory of Daisy T. Angell, by Jann Angell.**

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKET DRIVERS

The 95 family members in the neediest areas of Greater Lansing are grateful to the members of The Peoples Church who donated and/or delivered Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings to their homes on November 23rd. Thanks to drivers: John Lindley and family, Susan Kilmer, Susan Godfrey, Dorothy Bartholic, Tom Hoffmeyer, Bruce Raak and Sue Lothrop, Grimaldo Robles, Stephanie Cepak, Linda Dow, and Tammy Fickies. You are a blessing. ~The Holiday Food Basket Committee

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Join us for a community meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by adult programming in the Robertson Room at 6:30 p.m.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

On **December 4**, join the Rebekah/Hannah Circle and the Dorcas Circle for *A Celebration of Christmas Music* with special guest, Joe Kennedy, in the Robertson Room. The program begins at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us for this special event.

HOLIDAY WREATH & POINSETTIA SALE

TODAY is the last day to purchase a holiday wreath or poinsettia. Place your order at the Welcome Desk between worship services or following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.



MSU HOLIDAY BRASS CONCERT

The MSU Holiday Brass Concert, hosted by the Fine Arts Committee, will be held on **December 9** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The concert is free and open to the community. Join us for a delightful evening.

BIBLE EXPLORATION

PCYG Bible Exploration will start back up on **December 15** at 9:30 a.m. in the youth den. Email Joe at: jkennedy@thepeopleschurch.com with any questions.

PEOPLES FORUM



On **December 8**, The Peoples Forum welcomes Clare Luz, founding Director of Age Alive and Assistant Professor, College of Osteopathic Medicine, MSU. Clare will speak to us about the Age Alive program. Join us at 9:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room.

TICKETS FOR THE WPC ADVENT TEA

TODAY is the last day to purchase tickets for The Women of Peoples Church Advent Tea on **December 8**. This event will take place in the Snider Social Hall from 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m. Enjoy a delicious buffet, music, and an inspirational guest speaker. Admission is \$8 per individual or \$50 for a table of eight. **Purchase tickets between worship services.**

SOUTHSIDE KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS

The Peoples Church serves the Southside Kitchen on the third Tuesday of each month. Volunteers are needed in 2020 to help with the following dates: January 21, February 18, May 19, June 16, July 21 and August 18. Contact Jan Perron at: jrperron@comcast.net, for more details or to sign up

WINTER REFUGEE COLLECTION

For years our congregation has supported the Refugee Services program at St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Charities. Even with the significant decrease in incoming legal refugees vetted by the United Nations, the refugees already established in the Lansing area have ongoing needs as they create their new lives. Because needs are so individualized, the decision has been made to again collect gift cards from Meijer or Target. Collection dates are: **December 1, 8 and 15** in the Northwest Entrance. St. Vincent Refugee Services sends a huge thank you for your generosity.

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed to help with Sunday School. If you love children and want to share the love of Jesus with them, contact Kathi Mitchell at: kmitchell@thepeopleschurch.com.

EDGEWOOD VILLAGE CHRISTMAS GIFTS



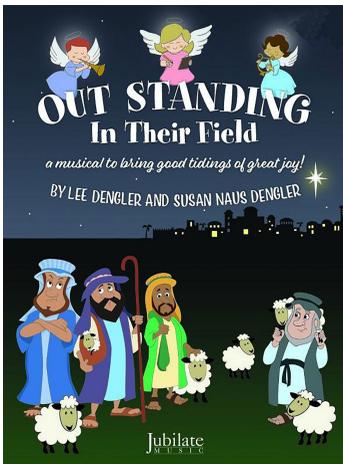
You're invited to help the children at Edgewood Village enjoy a wonderful Christmas. If you haven't already, please visit the Christmas tree in Friendship Hall with gift ideas. Select one of the ornaments from the tree, purchase the item listed and return the new, unwrapped gift by December 15 so it can be wrapped and delivered before Christmas morning! If you can assist with gift wrapping on Tuesday, December 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the Robertson Room, please sign up below and put in the offering plate.

YES! I CAN HELP WRAP GIFTS FOR EDGEWOOD VILLAGE! PLEASE CONTACT ME.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: DECEMBER 8



Join us at our 10:30 a.m. worship service on December 8 for our annual Children's Christmas Pageant.

Out Standing In Their Field tells the Christmas story with a ragtag group of shepherds and a colorful company of angels.

It's sure to be a service you won't want to miss!

MUSIC SUNDAY! DECEMBER 15

Music Sunday is on December 15 during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Join us to hear joyful music fill the Sanctuary with *A Service of Lessons and Carols*, featuring a string orchestra.



2019 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES



6:00 p.m., Sanctuary; Family candlelight service
with Youth and Children's Choirs

9:00 p.m., Sanctuary; Traditional candlelight service
with the Sanctuary Choir

ASL Interpreters will be provided at both Christmas Eve worship services.

A SEASON OF HOPE ADVENT TEA

DECEMBER 8

Snider Social Hall

11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

**Ruelaine Stokes,
Guest Speaker**



Sponsored by  *Women
of Peoples Church*