

SUNDAY WORSHIP

OCTOBER 25, 2020



Welcome Amanda Tyler



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

All regularly scheduled Sunday programs have been suspended until further notice.

Worship Service:

**10:30 a.m. - in the Sanctuary &
Livestream on YouTube**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

WNL! programming will return when it is safe to do so. Updates will be provided as they happen.

A community meal will still be served for those who need one. Meals can be picked up in the Northwest entrance of the building.

ASL Interpreted Service

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





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

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

Rev. Drew Filkins 908.4448
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Office Administrator
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Elisha Smith 332.6264
Youth Director
esmith@thepeopleschurch.com

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.

Bob Cantrell, 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.



To join the worship service via telephone, please dial **517-583-3949** and follow the prompts.

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE!

[CLICK HERE!](#)

ORDER OF WORSHIP | October 25, 2020

Prelude

"Morning Has Broken"
Judy Kabodian, organ

arr. Gilbert Martin

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

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

One: Children of God, gather together and join in worship. The Holy One draws near.

All: Setting aside all distractions, we will listen for God's voice. What does the Lord have to teach us?

One: Day after day, God calls us to faith. God's commandments are right and righteous.

All: God's steadfast love endures forever. Let us give thanks and praise the Lord!

One: Children of God, rejoice and give thanks.

All: We will rejoice and give thanks to the Lord.

Gathering Hymn

"The Lord Is God" (verses 1-4)

The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise to God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.

With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and might, O people, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light.

At night or day, at home, away, together and apart, O children, take these holy words and keep them in your heart.

The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise to God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.

The Lord Is God

Text: David Gambrell (2011)

Music: Carl Gotthelf Gläser (1828); arr. Lowell Mason (1839)

Copyright: 2013

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Prayer of Confession

God of grace, have mercy upon us as we make our confession. So often what we preach is not what we practice. We ourselves do not bear the burdens we impose on others. Our compassion is finite and our forgiveness is conditional. We value pleasure above the needs of others. We pretend not to hear the cries of the oppressed. O God, forgive our craving for comfort and security. Helps us to embody the bold love of Jesus Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

Moment of Silence and Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response "We Are Forgiven"

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Anthem

"A Prayer For the Church"

Zebulon M. Highbcn

Dr. Jonathan Reed, conductor

Lord, make the doors of this church wide to receive all who need human love, to shut out all envy, pride, and strife. Make its threshold smooth to be no stumbling block to children or straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the Tempter's pow'r. Lord God, make the church the gateway to thine eternal kingdom. Amen, amen.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

(Where there is charity and love, God is there.)

A Reading from Scripture Luke 4:1-20

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." 4 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" 5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' 11 and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" 12 Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. 16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." 20 And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

Sermon "The Temptation of Christian Nationalism: Power Brokers over Prophets"

Amanda Tyler, Executive Director of Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty

Hymn of Response

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" (verses 1 and 2)

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian
Text: African American Spiritual
Music: African American Spiritual
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Prayers of the People & 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

[Click here to give your offering to our virtual Offertory Plate](#)

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

Almighty God, we dedicate this offering to your reconciling work. Bless these gifts and enhance our ministry. May we use all our talents to love our neighbors and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sending Hymn

"The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound" (verses 1, 3, 4 and 5)

The church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone. Where charity and love are found, there can the church be known.

True love will not sit idly by when justice is denied. True mercy hears the homeless cry and welcomes them inside.

If what we have we freely share to meet our neighbor's need, then we extend the Spirit's care through every selfless deed.

The church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone. Where charity and love are found, there can the church be known.

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

Text: Adam M.L. Tice (2005)

Music: African American Spiritual; Jubilee Songs (1884); adapt. Harry T. Burleigh (1940)

Copyright: 2013

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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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP*

Join us, virtually each Sunday, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service for fellowship. It's easy! Grab a cup of your favorite coffee and a sweet snack and log on to Zoom. You can join the meeting by clicking on this link: [Join Zoom Meeting](#), or in your Zoom app enter Meeting ID: 837 9739 7682 and when asked for a password enter: Peoples

Don't have access to internet? No problem! You can still join us from ANY phone! Dial 1-312-626-6799 and when prompted for a meeting ID enter 837 9739 7682# and the password is 50803#.

* Please note: For those who are with us in person for worship, there will not be a fellowship until further notice. Virtual fellowship will continue for those at home.

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKET PROGRAM

The Peoples Church has agreed to provide 30 food baskets to those in need this holiday season, in Lansing where our community has been most impacted by the shut down. Please consider sharing with our friends and neighbors and make a donation to the 'Food Basket Program' with your next contribution. Please email Jessica Eyselinck at: jessica@eyselinck.com for more information or with any questions. Thank you!

ALL SAINTS' DAY: NOVEMBER 1

If anyone would like to remember a loved one who has died this past year, please email the office at: office@thepeopleschurch.com.

VIRTUAL GROUPS

Below are some of our currently offered Bible studies or fellowship groups that meet virtually, via Zoom.



SERMON PREVIEW GROUP: meets each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. To join, [click here](#); Meeting ID: 861 2945 8059. You can also dial 1.929.205.6099 and when prompted enter 861 2945 8059.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE: meets each Monday at 11:00 a.m. We are currently studying Romans. To join the meeting, [click here](#). Or, on your Zoom app enter meeting ID: 369 714 134 and enter the passcode: MMB. You can also dial 1.312.626.6799 and when prompted enter 369 714 134#.

TUESDAY MORNING MENS GROUP: meets each Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. To join, [click here](#). The meeting ID is: 963 085 991. You can also dial 1.646.558.8656 and when prompted enter the meeting code 963 085 991. They are studying the book, *Strength to Love* by Martin Luther King, Jr.

WEDNESDAY NOON MENS GROUP: meets each Wednesday at Noon. To join, [click here](#).



About Our Speaker

Amanda Tyler is the executive director of BJC in Washington, D.C. She leads the organization as it upholds the historic Baptist principle of religious liberty, defending the free exercise of religion and protecting against its establishment by government.

Tyler often speaks in churches, educational institutions and denominational gatherings, and she provides commentary on church-state issues to the national media. A member of the Texas and U.S. Supreme Court Bar, she has experience working in Congress, in a private legal practice and serving as a law clerk for a federal judge.

Called a “powerful advocate” and “rising star in the sector” by The Nonprofit Times, she was named one of the nation’s top 50 nonprofit leaders in 2018. She was named “Baptist of the Year” by EthicsDaily.com in 2019 for her work leading the “Christians Against Christian Nationalism” campaign.

A graduate of Georgetown University and the University of Texas School of Law, Tyler previously served on the staff of U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett. Tyler grew up hearing about the cherished Baptist principles of religious liberty and the separation of church and state in her Baptist church in Austin, Texas, and she first sought out the organization 20 years ago when she moved to D.C. to attend college. She first served on BJC’s staff as assistant to the general counsel from 1999-2001, which included coordinating the broad coalition in support of the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act.

A member of First Baptist Church of Washington, D.C., she lives in the city with her husband and their son. You can follow her on Twitter: [@AmandaTylerBJC](https://twitter.com/AmandaTylerBJC)

BJC Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty:

Founded in 1936, Baptist Joint Committee (BJC) is a national faith-based organization whose singular focus is the protection of religious liberty, furthering the principle that religion must be freely exercised, neither advanced nor inhibited by government. They are the only faith-based group working on a national level to ensure that every American has the right to follow his or her religious beliefs.

THE 2020 HENRY & ANNABEL LARZELERE MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS

Christian Citizenship in 2020

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

10:30 a.m.

Virtual worship Service
Amanda Tyler, Guest Preacher

To view the worship service [click here](#)



1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Presentation with Amanda Tyler
via Zoom

To view the presentation enter the
meeting ID: 896 0035 7859 in Zoom and the password BJC

Henry & Annabel Larzelere Memorial Lecture Series



The Henry & Annabel Larzelere Memorial Lecture Series was established in 2017 to honor their interest in continuing education on topics of international interest and theological thought. Henry and Annabel moved to East Lansing in 1938 where Henry was a new faculty member in the College of Agriculture at MSU. They promptly joined The Peoples Church and became deeply involved in the church community as well as in greater Lansing where they were active in a variety of civic activities. Henry and Annabel were world travelers who were always building bridges of hope and understanding. Our desire is that these lectures will inspire and strengthen us to serve with compassionate love as we strive to build a more just and peaceful world.