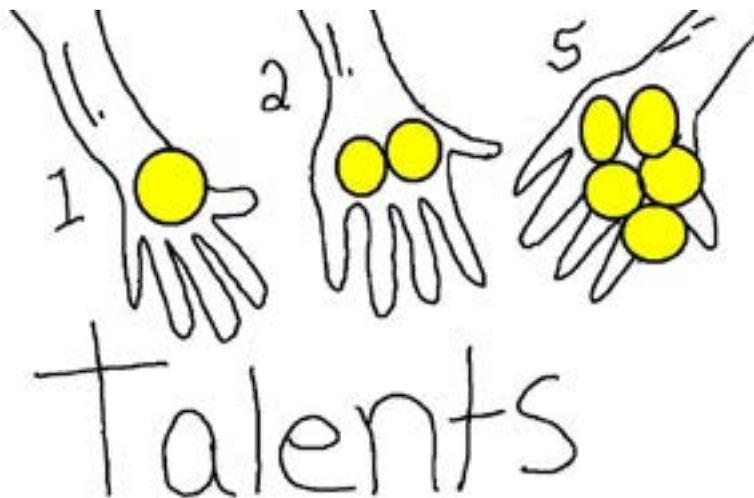


# SUNDAY WORSHIP

## NOVEMBER 15, 2020

*"For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away."*

Matthew 25:29



### 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**

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. 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](mailto:smonroe@thepeopleschurch.com)

**Rev. Drew Filkins** 908.4448  
Associate Pastor, American Baptist Church  
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**Rev. Penny Swartz** 517.648.8987  
Associate Pastor, NACCC

**Rachel Giddings** 908.4453  
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**Gerrilynn Nichols** 908.4432  
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**Dee Przybylski** 908.4446  
Office Administrator  
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**Elisha Smith** 332.6264  
Youth Director  
[esmith@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.**

## MAKE A GIFT ONLINE!

[CLICK HERE!](#)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP | November 15, 2020

## Prelude

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"  
Judy Kabodian, organ

arr. Wilbur Held

## 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: Though we are apart from one another,  
The Spirit of the living God calls us together.

**All: We, who are many, are one in Christ Jesus.**

One: The God of our salvation has brought us together.  
Let us sing songs of praise and rejoice in God's presence.

**All: We, who are many, are one in the Spirit.**

One: Where ever you are, know that the ground beneath your feet is holy.  
In a spirit of hope and reverence, let us worship our God.

**All: We, who are many, are all God's beloved children.  
Let us rejoice and worship the Lord!**

## Gathering Hymn

"Let the Whole Creation Cry" (verses 1 and 2)

*Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high." Heaven and earth, awake and sing, "Praise to our almighty King." Praise God, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love; sun and moon, uplift your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice!*

*Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem loud and bold; join with children's songs of praise; worship God through length of days. From the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll: "Holy, holy, holy One, glory be to God alone!"*

Let the Whole Creation Cry

Text: Stopford A. Brooke (1881); alt.

Music: Jakob Hintze (1678); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach

Copyright: 2013

CCLI#: 1698862

## Prayer of Confession

**Eternal God, you do not change. You have revealed yourself to us in Jesus Christ, and yet we fail to understand your true nature. Your love is steadfast and your mercy is sure, but we allow ourselves to think of you as angry and righteous. With tender care, you draw us to you, but we resist, fearing your judgment. You speak to us of healing, but we wound each other with our words. We have created a version of you that says more about our fears than our faith. Forgive us, dear God, and bring us safely home to you. 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.**

## **Children's Message**

### **Anthem**

"Sing Aloud With Gladness (Exultate Deo)"

Alessandro Scarlatti

*Dr. Jonathan Reed, conductor*

*Exultate Deo, adjutori nostro. Alleluia!*

*Sing aloud with gladness unto God, our helper. Alleluia!*

## **A Reading from Scripture** Matthew 25:14-30

14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

### **Sermon**

"Not What You Expected"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

### **Hymn of Response**

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" (verses 1 and 2)

*God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.*

*Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone. Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.*

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Text: Robert L. Edwards (1961); alt.

Music: The Sacred Harp (1844); harm. James H. Wood (1958)

Copyright: 2013

CCLI#: 1698862

## ***Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer***

Rev. Penny Swartz

**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***

**God of wonder, we dedicate this offering to your work through this church. Bless these gifts and the ministry of your people. May our giving and our living bring more light to this world. Amen.**

### ***Sending Hymn***

"God of the Fertile Fields" (verses 1, 2 and 4)

*God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread: forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned, that all in every land be clothed and fed.*

*We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you all that you give; help us in love to share, teach us like you to care for people everywhere, that all may live.*

*God of the countryside, dear to the Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our lives anew in faithful love to you. Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.*

God of the Fertile Fields  
Text: Georgia Harkness (1955); alt.  
Music: Felice de Giardini (1769); alt.  
Copyright: 2013  
CCLI#: 1698862

## ***Benediction***

### ***Benediction Response***

### ***Postlude***

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

arr. John Goss



#### **Floral Dedication:**

**Given in memory of Daisy Angell, by her daughter Jann Angell.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### NEW MEMBER INDUCTION TODAY

The Peoples Church will be inducting new members following the service today. You are invited to join the induction, via Zoom, by [clicking here](#); enter the meeting ID: 818 9343 3435. Or, you can join by dialing 1-301-715-8592 on your telephone and enter the meeting ID: 818 9343 3435.

### 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 Eysselinck at: [jessica@eysselinck.com](mailto:jessica@eysselinck.com) for more information or with any questions. Thank you!

### FALL CLEAN UP

Volunteers are needed to help rake and bag leaves on the church grounds during the month of November. You can choose your own days and times for helping. All help is greatly appreciated, and we ask that everyone follow these instructions while participating:

**DAYS & HOURS:** Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**COVID REQUIREMENTS:** Wear masks (city of East Lansing directive) and maintain 6-foot distancing (also required if you enter the church).

**BRING YOUR OWN RAKES AND/OR BLOWERS:** Bags are provided by the church and will be available inside the church rotunda entrance. People can always stop at the office if they need anything for yard clean up. Place full bags at the curb on Evergreen Ave (north of the Memorial Garden).

**WORK ON ALL AREAS AROUND THE CHURCH:** North, South, East, and West sides including the parking lot area.

\*\*\*If children of the Preschool are outside, do not work around them or areas close to them.

### SAVE THE DATE: 2020 ADVENT CELEBRATION

This year we will be celebrating Advent via a virtual event on Zoom and hope members of the Women of Peoples Church can join us. We will be gathering on **December 9 at 10:00 a.m.** The event will emanate from The Sanctuary of The Peoples Church and feature Dr. Shawnthea Monroe as our featured speaker. The program will also include musical interludes with our treasured organist, Judy Kabodian and favorite soloist Will Johnson. The WPC Annual Business Meeting will also take place during this event, which will feature a presentation of the 2021 Board of Directors slate and review of revisions to the WPC Constitution for approval. While the event will be offered primarily on Zoom, members are welcome to join us in the Sanctuary. You will need to follow the established safety measures and worship guidelines that guide participation in weekly worship services. More details will be provided in the weeks ahead.

## 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](#) (NEW LINK and MEETING ID!); Meeting ID: 841 4703 4632. You can also dial 1.929.205.6099 and when prompted enter 841 4703 4632.

**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 meeting ID: 369 714 134 and then passcode: 456440.

**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](#).

## WAYS TO GIVE

There are many ways to provide financial support for the ministry and mission of The Peoples Church. Please consider giving in one of the following ways:



1. You can make a contribution by mailing a check or cash to the church at this address: 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing, MI 48823.
2. We are also able to accept stock gifts or funds from a tax deferred account for your Required Minimum Distribution.
3. You can make a gift by sending a text to 73256 and including the word **Peoples** in the message line. You will be sent a link that will take you to our GIVE website. Just enter the amount and your account information. Be sure to tell us which fund you are donating to (most people give to the general fund).
4. If you have set up your REALM account with The Peoples Church, you can make a one-time gift or recurring gift by logging onto your REALM account and following the prompts on the screen.
5. If you have questions or need help, call the church and speak directly to our Office Administrator, Dee Przybylski. She can set up a single gift or recurring gift using a credit, debit card or checking account information. She'll need the amount of the gift and how you would like the gift applied.

