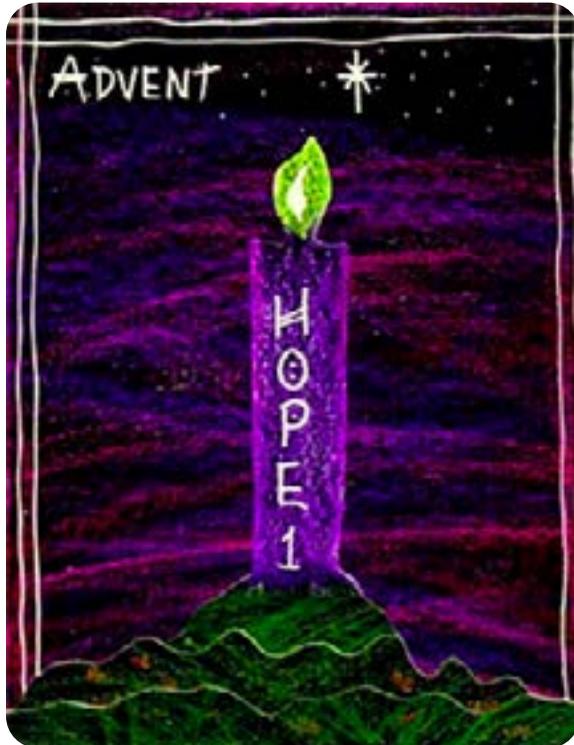


FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOVEMBER 29, 2020



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

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
Associate Pastor, American Baptist Church
dfilkins@thepeopleschurch.com

Rev. Penny Swartz 332.6074
Associate Pastor, NACCC
pswartz@thepeopleschurch.com

Rachel Giddings 908.4453
Communications Specialist
rgiddings@thepeopleschurch.com

Dana Johnson 908.4449
Preschool Director
djohnson@thepeopleschurch.com

Kathi Mitchell 908.4447
Children's Christian Education Director
kmitchell@thepeopleschurch.com

Gerrilynn Nichols 908.4432
Hospitality Director
gnichols@thepeopleschurch.com

Dee Przybylski 908.4446
Office Administrator
dprzybylski@thepeopleschurch.com

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.



The phone number for the call in worship service is currently not working and we are working to fix the issue asap! We apologize for the inconvenience.

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE!

[CLICK HERE!](#)

ORDER OF WORSHIP | November 29, 2020

Prelude

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"
Judy Kabodian, organ

arr. Noel Rawsthorne

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

Rev. Penny Swartz

One: For too long we have lived in darkness, O God. We long for the light, your promise of salvation.

All: Come, O come Emmanuel! Bring light into our hearts!

One: Today, in a spirit of hope and expectation, we light the first candle of advent.

All: Jesus is our hope and our salvation! Come, O come Emmanuel!

One: As we light this candle, we will kindle hope in our hearts.

All: We are people of hope! Let us worship the God of our salvation!

Gathering Hymn

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (verses 1 and 2)

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Text: Charles Wesley (1744)

Music: Rowland Hugh Prichard (1830); harm. Ralph Vaughn Williams (1906)

Copyright: 2013

CCLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Adoration

God of hope, we gather this morning in a new season. We hang the greens and light the candles. We prepare our hearts and our homes to welcome your Son once again. We praise you for your steadfast love, for the blessings we have received, for the comfort of the Spirit and the companionship of Christ. In this hour, set our hearts afire with the true spirit of this season, a season filled with hope. We praise you in Jesus' name. Amen.

Moment of Silence and Reflection

Adoration Response

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" (verse 2)

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest for evermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Text: Medieval Latin; trans. and para. John Mason Neale (1853); alt.

Music: German Folk Melody, 14th cent.; harm. David Hugh Jones (1953)

Copyright: 2013

CCLI#: 1698862

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Children's Message

Anthem

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"
Dr. Jonathan Reed, conductor

Plainchant

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, ever more and ever more!

O, that birth forever blessed when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race, and the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, ever more and ever more!

This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord, whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word. Now he shines, the long expected. Let creation praise the Lord, ever more and ever more!

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, ever more and ever more!

A Reading from Scripture Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! 3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 4 From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. 5 You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. 6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. 7 There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered[c] us into the hand of our iniquity. 8 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. 9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Sermon

"Out of Time"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1, 5 - 7)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Text: Latin prose, pre-9th cent.; trans. composite

Music: Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1852); arr. John Weaver (1988)

Copyright: 2013

CCLI#: 1698862

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Drew Filkins

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, you have done marvelous things for us. Bless all we offer you: our time, our talents and our treasure. May all our gifts be used to bring light and hope to those in need. Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (verses 1 and 2)

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits; the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
Text: Georg Weisdel (1642); trans. Catherine Winkworth (1855, 1863)
Music: *Musica Sacra* (c. 1778)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"

arr. Wilbur Held

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

EDGEWOOD VILLAGE CHRISTMAS GIFTS—COVID STYLE!

You're invited to help the children at Edgewood Village enjoy a wonderful Christmas. If you would like to purchase a gift for a child at Edgewood Village please contact Emily Anderson via email at: Anderson2910@icloud.com or via telephone at 517.648.0632. She will provide you with all the information you will need: gender and age of the child, item the child wishes and details for returning the gift. If you would simply like to financially support this activity, that is an option too! Please contact Emily, and thank you!

REFUGEE SERVICES CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

From Luke 10:29, "And who is my neighbor?" For the last many years we have opened our hearts to our refugee neighbors with various gifts. This year, even with the challenges of Covid, we will be gifting these families and individuals with Meijer and Target gift cards. Spending of these gifts is closely supervised by the staff at St Vincents Refugee Services and the most popular purchases are shoes and boots. A designated box will be in the church office if you wish to donate cards. Or, you may donate electronically to The Peoples Church and designate the donation for 'Refugee Services.' Donations may be made starting now until December 13. Email Ruth Worthington at: worthin2@msu.edu with any questions.

CHICs BIBLE STUDY GROUP



CHICs (Connected Hearts in Christ) Small Group will be starting a discussion of *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans. In this book, Evans examines some of our favorite Bible stories and possible interpretations. She is undaunted by the most difficult passages and wrestles through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating Scripture's mysteries. The group will start on **January 7** over Zoom and meets weekly on Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. If you are interested in joining us please email Beth Lundy at Lundybb@comcast.net or 610.246.0029 by call or text.

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. More details will be provided in the weeks ahead.

WOMEN OF PEOPLES CHURCH DUES

The Women of Peoples Church welcome your dues of \$20.00 and any additional Circle Local Giving donations in order to continue to support local needs. Please send your money to the church, attention: WPC Treasurer. Please note your Circle if appropriate. Thank you.

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.

VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP*

Our virtual fellowship hour is back! 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: 885 9630 8098 and when asked for a password enter: TPC (please note, this is a new meeting link ID and passcode).

Don't have access to internet? No problem! You can still join us from ANY phone! Dial by your location; see below:

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Enter the Meeting ID: 885 9630 8098 and password 680020

* 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.

