

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

DECEMBER 24, 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
Minister Emeritus & Associate Pastor, NACCC
pswartz@thepeopleschurch.com

Rachel Giddings 908.4453
Communications Specialist
rgiddings@thepeopleschurch.com

Dana Johnson 908.4449
Preschool Director
djohnson@thepeopleschurch.com

Zack Matthews 908.4444
Facility Director
zmatthews@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.



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 | DECEMBER 24, 2020

Christmas Carol Singalong

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Call to Worship

Rev. Penny Swartz

One: Tonight is the night. The light has come. Jesus is born!

All: In the cold, dark night, a star brightly shines!

One: Slowly but surely we have traveled the road to Bethlehem.
Along the way, we have lit the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.
Tonight, we light the Christ candle, for Jesus is God's gift to us.

All: This is a holy night, for Jesus Christ is born!

One: As we light the Christ candle, we remember what Christ brings:
Rest for the weary,
Peace for the troubled,
Hope for the despairing,
Justice for the oppressed,
And love for each and every one.

**All: Tonight, we see the light and we believe!
May our hearts be full of Christmas light.**

Gathering Hymn

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (verses 1, 3 and 4)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the ever lasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Text: Phillips Brooks (1868)
Music: Lewis Henry Redner (1868)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Bidding Prayer & 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.

Anthem

"Still, Still, Still"

*Still, still, still, Let all the world be still, For Mary lays her son to rest, sings to him softly at her breast,
Still, still, still, Let all the world be still.*

*Sleep, sleep, sleep, My dearest baby, sleep, The angels all rejoice and sing, Heav'n for your delight shall ring,
Sleep, sleep, sleep, My dearest baby, sleep.*

*Joy, joy, joy, My heart is filled with joy! The God of love has left his throne, made this humble world his own,
Joy, joy, joy, My heart is filled with joy!*

Passing the Peace of Christ

Rev. Drew Filkins

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

Children's Christmas Message

Hymn

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" (verses 1 - 3)

*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 new born king!"*

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

Hark the Herald Angels Sing
Text: Charles Wesley (1739) alt.
Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1840); arr. William Hayman Cummings (1855)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Invitation to Give

Offertory

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

Anthem

"Carol of the Bells"

arr. Peter Wilhousky

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

Gracious God, on this night when we celebrate the birth of your son, we gather these gifts and ask for your blessing. Help us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and comfort those who suffer. We give and serve in the name of the Christ child. Amen.

A Reading from Scripture Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. 8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" 15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Sermon

"One Light, One Love"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Sharing the Light

"Silent Night" (verses 1 - 3)

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

Text: Joseph Mohr (1816), stanzas 1-3, English trans. John Freeman Young (1863)

Music: Franz Xaver Gruber (1818)

Copyright: 2013

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Benediction

Postlude

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

arr. Lani Smith



CHRISTMAS 2020 POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

IN MEMORY OF ...

Stan Cousino, by Rev. Drew, Holly, Jack, and Ida Filkins

Roy H. and Marion Heil, by Susan Heil-Godfrey

My husband, Don McMillan and our parents, Don & Verna Dickson & Bill & Ruth McMillan, by Barbara McMillan

Roland and Marilyn Ledebuhr, by David and Jane Ledebuhr

LaVerne Harrison, by Sarah Dymond

Leroy and Grace Gingrich, by Deborah Hager

Michael Harrison who loved Christmas music, by his Family

Howard and Daisy Angell, by Jann Angell

Dr. Geoff Sumner-Smith, by Jann Angell

Don and June Whipp (long time members of The Peoples Church), by Terry and Beverly Oetzel

My parents, Kathryn & Hugh Beachler, and brother Fred, by Ken Beachler

Adora Kettingen, by Jacqueline Borszich

Edna & Wilbur Brookover, Laura & Ernest Hillman, Jr. and Linda Brookover Bourque, by George, Eliza, Patty, and Sam Brookover

Carol O. Ekern, by Fran Ekern

Dr. Curtis Liechty, John Liechty and our parents, by Lana & Steve Wagner

Dr. Curt Liechty and son, John, by Mary Liechty

Our parents and grandparents: Allen Woolsey, Gracey Woolsey Garfield, Kenneth and Mildred Moore, by The Woolsey Family

Thomas H. Vaughn and Steward B. Hoffman, Jr., by Marilyn Vaughn Hoffman and Family

Linda Janecke and Zorob Kabodian, by Aram & Judy Kabodian

Greg Hilton, by Suzette E. Hilton

Marty Simond, Sharon Dawson and Frances Kaneene, by Valerie Nilson

George and Katie Kerr by their children Christine, Calvin, Gwendolyn & Elizabeth Ann

Karen Gerkin, by Emily Gerkin Guerrant

Our dear parents, Joe and Rosie Perron & Larry and Helen Giester, by Ray and Jan Perron

Chuck Wing, by Nancy Wing

Our son Bart, by Gary and Sandra Wegenke

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

Celia Wycoff-Marxer and Carol Turner, by Frank Marxer

William and Adele Longhway, Jerry and Nancy Longhway, & Bob Jones, by Bob & Margie Steinkamp

Charles and Margaret Steinkamp, Wayne and Glenna Steinkamp, & Bernard Steinkamp, by Bob & Margie Steinkamp

Ruth Ann Ference, by Bob Ference

Our parents: Ralph and Ethel Mae Maxwell and Dorwin and Helen Hoffmeyer, by Tom and Lynne Hoffmeyer

Pat and Doug Roy, & Carol Wells, by Tony and Kellie Wells



CHRISTMAS 2020 POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

IN MEMORY OF ...

Stevan Nikoloff, by his wife, Darlene Nikoloff

Our parents Ruth and Wilbur Close & Rev. George and Laura Walton, by Dr. & Mrs. James Close

Dr. Curtis and John Liechty, by Jim and Connie Close

Mary Dalley, by her daughters

Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Stone, by The Stone Family

Camille and Gail Rockwell & Lou and Esther Nowack, by Mary Nowack and David Rockwell

IN CELEBRATION OF ...

Our Family: Tom, Heidi, Beth and Kate, by Carol and Sandy Bryson

Our Children: Ashley & Brent, by Chuck & Lorie Barbieri

The development of vaccinations to help control the COVID-19 pandemic, by Mike & Penny Swartz

True friends in the time of COVID, by Ruth Worthington

Our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, Lary & Mary Hill, by Tonia and Steve Whittaker & the whole Whittaker clan!

Loving family and friends, by Gary and Sandra Wegenke

IN HONOR OF ...

Rev. Drew Filkins and his faithful and outstanding service to our church community, by Ray and Jan Perron

Pastor Drew Filkins for his faithful service and friendship, by Rev. Shawnthea Monroe

Our beloved family, by Chuck and Lorie Barbieri

Our grandchildren, by Betty and Mike Moore

Our church staff

VIRTUAL GROUPS



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

SERMON PREVIEW GROUP: This group will resume on January 6.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE: Monday, December 28, will be the last Monday Morning Bible. Join us via Zoom as we celebrate the 33 years of this bible study. 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](#).

