

SUNDAY WORSHIP SEPTEMBER 20, 2020



*"So, the last will be first, and
the first will be last."*

Matthew 20:16



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
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Elisha Smith 332.6264
Youth Director
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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.

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 | September 20, 2020

Prelude

"Carol"

Judy Kabodian, organ

Gerald Finzi

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: O give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's holy name.

All: We will make known God's deeds among all the people.

One: Sing songs of praise to our Creator! Glory in God's holy name.

All: We seek the Spirit of the living God and our hearts rejoice!

One: God's patience is everlasting and God's mercy endures forever.

All: We give thanks for the gift of our salvation! Let us worship the Lord!

Gathering Hymn

"Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" (verses 1, 3, and 4)

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; glad of heart your carols raise; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, should sing God's praise? Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!

Like a loving parent caring, God knows well our feeble frame, gladly all our burdens bearing, still to countless years the same. Alleluia! Alleluia! All within me, praise God's name!

Angels, teach us adoration; you behold God face to face. Sun and moon and all creation, dwellers all in time and space: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

Text: Henry Francis Lyte (1834); adapt. Ecumenical Women's Center (1974)

Music: John Goss (1869)

Copyright: 2013

CCLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, with trembling lips we confess our sins to you. All our waking hours are marked by selfishness. We pretend we have earned your love and believe others are unworthy of such grace. We ask for inclusion but practice exclusion. When others suffer, we are quick to offer prayers but slow to offer material assistance. Forgive us for all the ways we have failed to follow Jesus. Soften our hearts and release us from our anxieties. We pray all this in Jesus' name. 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 Moment

Anthem

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

arr. Eric H. Thiman

Dr. Jonathan Reed, conductor

A Reading from Scripture Matthew 20:1-16

20"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2 After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; 4 and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. 5 When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. 6 And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' 7 They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' 8 When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' 9 When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. 10 Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. 11 And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 12 saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' 13 But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? 14 Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' 16 So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Sermon

"First and Last"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" (verses 1 and 2)

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind. And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word, and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
Text: Frederick William Faber (1854)
Music: Dutch melody; arr. Julius Röntgen (1906)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 16998862

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

Because of your presence, Holy God, the ministry of this church shines with the light of Christ. Use this offering and all our gifts to build up this community through the work and witness of this church. May our words and our deeds bring Good News to the world in Christ's name. Amen.

Sending Hymn

"For the Fruit of All Creation" (verses 1 - 3)

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will be done. In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done. In our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God. For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God. For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

For the Fruit of All Creation
Text: Fred Pratt Green (1970)
Music: Welsh melody (1784)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

"Festival Voluntary"

Flor Peeters

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL IS BACK!

Sunday School is back! Kathi Mitchell is very excited to see your children, so we are going to have Sunday School this September and see how much participation we get. Kathi has the Robertson Room all set up for a socially distant class and each child or set of siblings will get their own table and supplies. A reminder that the children will be released after the children's moment to walk across the hall and masks are required for everyone's safety. If you are not yet comfortable returning to services, Kathi also has packets of supplies for delivery or pick up. Contact her for more information.

CASTING CALL FOR OUR VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!

It's that time of year again and we are happy to announce we will be doing a **virtual** Christmas pageant this December! We're going to make a movie of "The Case of the Reluctant Innkeeper" to be shown during a service and live streamed on our YouTube channel. It's going to be fantastic! If your child would like to participate, please contact Kathi Mitchell as soon as possible. Roles are being cast and Zoom rehearsals with Mrs. Reed will begin soon!

FLU SHOT CLINIC

The Peoples Church will again sponsor a flu shot clinic primarily for church and preschool staff members and their families on **September 24** from Noon to 3:00 p.m. in the Robertson Room. Members of the church are also invited to join the staff as they prepare for the coming flu season. If you wish to get your flu shot here, please bring your insurance/Medicare card. Covid-19 precautions will be in place and face masks are required.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

The Peoples Church Campus Ministry is continuing to meet each Thursday evening from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. outside near the Northeast entrance of the church. This fall, a variety of topics will be covered in this weekly Bible study. All college students are welcome and dinner is provided!

NEW MEMBER CLASS

If you are interested in becoming a member of The Peoples Church, or simply want to know more about this remarkable community, consider joining us for a New Member Class, via Zoom, on **October 11** at 11:30 a.m. Email Robin Matheson at matheso4@msu.edu to let her know you are interested in attending and she will add you to the Invite for the class. You may also call Robin at 517.290.3223.

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.

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. Beginning September 14, we will be studying Romans. To join the meeting, [click here](#). Or, on your Zoom app enter meeting ID: 369 714 134. 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, *White Fragility*, by Robin Diangelo.

WEDNESDAY NOON MENS GROUP: will begin on September 16 and will meet each Wednesday at Noon. At our first meeting, we will be discussing what book we will be studying. 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.

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive

The Peoples Church

Wednesday, September 23, 2020
1:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

To schedule an appointment log onto RedCrossBlood.org
and enter sponsor code: Peoples Church EL

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



ONE LOVE GLOBAL EVENT

With the rise in awareness of systematic racism, The People's Church Outreach Ministry felt that TPC should get involved. With the assistance of Alan Canady, they have initiated a relationship with *One Love Global*, a community-based organization dedicated to revitalizing the Lansing metro area and create a sustainable community where justice, peace and equal opportunity are obtainable for all people. One Love Global through its Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) program, is engaging the Metro Lansing community in racial healing and equity. Through truth and recognition of history, they work towards the following goals:

- Break trans-generational cycles of poverty and trauma in the Black community through social entrepreneurship and leadership development.
- Create a viable model for economic development and the creation of sustainable community wealth.
- Live in a unified nation that is responsive to the needs of all within its borders and is socially responsible beyond its borders.
- A nation that diligently seeks equity in opportunity, access, and quality of life for all.

The Outreach Ministry encourages the congregation to get involved! Those interested in TRHT are invited to plug into the following event:

Lansing's 3rd Virtual People's Assembly - Saturday September 26, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Register on our Facebook page "Lansing People's Assembly," (registration is still open)

For more information check out the *One Love Global* website: <https://www.oneloveglobal.org/trht>