

SUNDAY WORSHIP

JANUARY 17, 2021



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 is still 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. 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

GeriLynn 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.

Kari Naghtin, 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 | JANUARY 17, 2021

Prelude

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"
Judy Kabodian, organ

arr. Wilbur Held

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Call to Worship

One: Be still and listen.

In the quiet you can hear God calling.

**All: O Lord, you have searched us and known us.
You can tell what we are thinking from far away.**

One: God is calling you by name, for a purpose.
Listen to the voice of God and do not be afraid.

**All: O Lord, you know when we sit down and do nothing.
You know when we rise up and stand for something.**

One: Our words and our deeds are known to God.
This is news too wonderful for us to bear!

**All: Search us and know us, Holy One.
We, your children, have gathered to praise you!**

Gathering Hymn

"God, Reveal Your Presence" (verses 1 and 3)

God, reveal your presence: gladly we adore you, and with awe appear before you. Holy is your temple: all within keep silence, humbly bow with deepest reverence. You alone now we own as our God and Savior: Praise your name forever!

Fountain of all blessing, purify my spirit; all my trust is in your merit. Like the holy angels on your glory gazing, we adore, hosannas raising. Let your will ever still rule your church terrestrial, as the hosts celestial.

God, Reveal Your Presence

Text: Gerhard Tersteegen (1729) trans. Frederick William Foster and John Miller (1789)

Music: Joachim Neander (1680)

Copyright: 2013

CCLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and forgiving God, our lives are an open book to you. Help us to recognize in ourselves what you have seen in us. Remove the distortions that keep us from acknowledging our sin. Awaken in us a sorrow over the wrong we have done and the good we have neglected. Create in us an earnest desire to change. O God, we are aware of the pain we have caused and the pain within us. Surround us with your unchanging love. Bless us with your forgiveness. Help us to face the truth, confess our sins and be transformed by your grace. Amen.

Moment of Silent 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

"Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me Out and Known Me"
Psalm 139, selected verses

Healey Willan

Lord, thou has searched me out and known me; thou knowest my down-sitting and my uprising; thou understandest my thoughts long before. Whither shall I go then from thy spirit, or whither shall I go then from thy presence? If I take the wings of the morning and remain in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there also shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, per-adventure the darkness shall cover me, then shall my night be turned to day. Yea, the darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day. The darkness and light are both alike to thee, are both alike to thee.

A Reading from Scripture Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. 3 You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. 5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. 13 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. 16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. 17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

Sermon

"The Tyranny of Reason"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response

"You Are Before Me, Lord" (verses 1 and 5)

You are before me, Lord, you are behind, and over me you have spread out your hand; such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too high to grasp, to great to understand.

Search me, O God; search me and know my heart; try me, O God; my mind and spirit try; keep me from any path that gives you pain, and lead me in the everlasting way.

You Are Before Me, Lord
Text: Ian Pitt-Watson (1973, 1989)
Music: Alfred Morton Smith (1941)
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

We have heard the cries of the suffering, Holy God, and we know you have called us to action. Bless this offering and help us use all our gifts to bring healing and transformation to people near and far. We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sending Hymn

"My Life Flows On" (verses 1, 2 and 4)

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation. I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new creation. No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing! All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

My Life Flows On
Text: Robert Lowry (1869)
Music: Robert Lowry (1869)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

"When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder"

arr. Wilbur Held

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THE READING PEOPLE

The Reading People will meet on January 21, via Zoom, at 1:30 p.m. They will be discussing the book, *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger. To join the meeting and discussion, open Zoom and enter the meeting ID: 636 517 5503 then passcode: katiejeff

CHICs BIBLE STUDY GROUP

CHICs (Connected Hearts in Christ) Small Group meets each Thursday over Zoom 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. This group is currently reading the book, *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans.

PCYG VIRTUAL GROUPS

The Peoples Church Youth Group continues to meet weekly via Zoom. The Middle School group meets each Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and the High School group meets each Sunday from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. If you have a child in middle or high school that is interested in joining the PCYG, email [Elisha Smith](mailto:Elisha.Smith) for more information and to get the Zoom link.

PEOPLES CHURCH PRAYER CHAIN

Our church has a very active, energetic and viable prayer chain that includes about 40 prayer warriors praying daily for cherished individuals who need the comfort and healing of prayer. People may have lost loved ones, have friends or family who are ill or have the need for mental, emotional or physical support. To request prayers, all it takes is approval from those needing prayers, an agreement to support this covenant group and periodic updating. Grieving individuals may receive prayers for 1 year. All other requests need updating every 3 months. Know that you may always extend these guidelines, if needed. Contact the church office or Janet Perron at: jrperron@comcast.net if you have a prayer request, or if you are interested in joining the prayer chain. It helps to have **Peoples Church Prayer Group** on the subject line.

THE PEOPLES FORUM

The Peoples Forum is back and offering monthly presentations from a dynamic lineup of guest speakers! The meetings will take place via Zoom, once per month (for now), at 9:30 a.m. Be sure to mark your calendars for our upcoming forums:

February 7: Will Repko
MSU Debate Coach of National Champion Debate Team

March 7: Neil Mueller
Trumpeter

[Join the Zoom meeting here](#); Meeting ID: 848 3386 7143. Or, you can dial 1 301 715 8592 and enter the meeting ID: 848 3386 7143. Email questions to [Mary West](#).

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: 841 4703 4632. You can also dial 1.929.205.6099 and when prompted enter 841 4703 4632.

TUESDAY MORNING MENS GROUP: meets each Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. To join, [click here](#). The meeting ID is: 837 5361 0456; passcode is: TPC. You can also dial 1.301.715.8592 and when prompted enter the meeting code 837 5361 0456 and passcode 160971.

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

WEDNESDAY PCYG MIDDLE SCHOOL GROUP: meets each Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. If interested in joining this group, email [Elisha Smith](#), PCYG Director.

SUNDAY PCYG HIGH SCHOOL GROUP: meets each Sunday from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. If interested in joining this group, email [Elisha Smith](#), PCYG Director.

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: 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)
- +1 346 248 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.



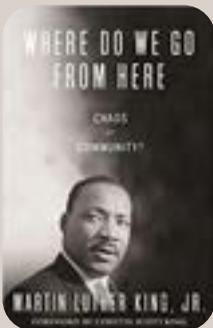
NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING
JANUARY 19, 2021

National Day of Racial Healing Virtual Celebration
January 19, 2021, 12pm-1:30pm

[RSVP](#)

Grounded in Lansing's history, we'll gather to explore and celebrate racial healing in our community. We will hear from and honor, Black elders and youth in our community, learn about TRHT healing circles from practitioners, experience art, and reflect on art and imagery in relation to racial equity with guest Dr. Theodore Ransaw.

This is also a great opportunity for community members to learn about the TRHT process and how to join ([like the New Member Orientation on January 25th](#)).



Community Read: *Where Do We Go From Here*, by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Saturday, January 23, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Community Discussion virtual brunch

[RSVP](#)

Join the community read and discussion of Dr. Martin Luther King's book. TRHT members have prepared a comprehensive reading guide and will lead thoughtful discussions of Dr. King's work in the context of the moment we're in.

We are seeking facilitators to help lead small group discussions. Please contact: aislinn@oneloveglobal.org if you are interested in supporting!