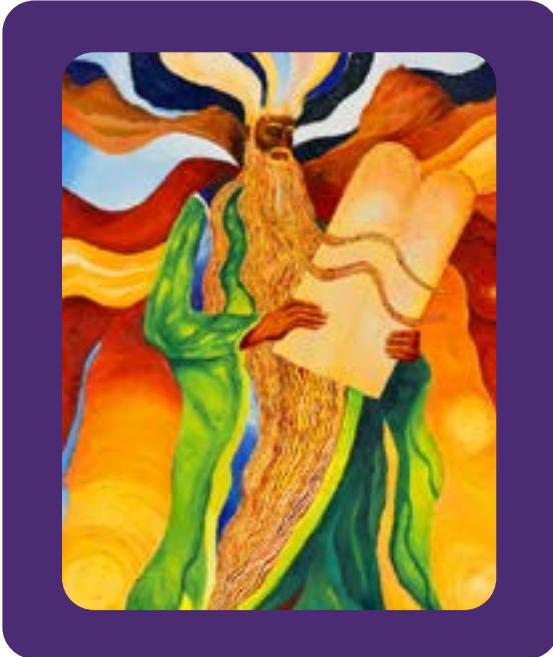


# THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

## MARCH 7, 2021



*"For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it."*

Exodus 20:11

### 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](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

**Rev. Penny Swartz** 648.8987  
Minister Emeritus & Associate Pastor, NACCC  
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Hospitality Director  
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**Dee Przybylski** 908.4446  
Office Administrator  
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**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.



## !!NEW PHONE NUMBER!!

To join the worship service via telephone, please dial **(844) 933-0517** and follow the prompts.

## MAKE A GIFT ONLINE!

[CLICK HERE!](#)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP | MARCH 7, 2021

## **Prelude**

"These Are the Holy Ten Commands"  
*Judy Kabodian, organ*

J.S. Bach

## **Welcome to The Peoples Church!**

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

## **Call to Worship**

One: In the days of Noah, God placed a rainbow in the sky as the sign of a covenant of God's love for all the earth.

**All: In the colors of the rainbow, we see the sign of God's grace for all creation.**

One: In the days of Moses, the words of God were written on tablets of stone, as the sign of a covenant between God and all of God's people.

**All: In the tablets of stone, we see the sign of God's hope for each to live in peace with God and neighbor.**

One: In the days of the prophet, God promised to place a new covenant in our hearts.

**All: We are the living Body of Christ and in our hearts we see the sign of God's promise among us.**

## **Gathering Hymn**

"Great God of Every Blessing" (verses 1 and 2)

*Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care, you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share. How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start: sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.*

*Your Word is our salvation, the source of endless grace, in death and life extending your covenant embrace. In Christ we are one body; each member has a part: sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.*

Great God of Every Blessing  
Text: David Gambrell (2009)  
Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1864)  
Copyright: 2013  
CCLI#: 1698862

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Creator God, forgive our moments of ingratitude, the spiritual blindness that prevents us from appreciating the wonder that is this world, the endless cycle of nature, of life and death and rebirth. Forgive us for taking without giving and reaping without sowing. Open our eyes to see, open our lips to praise, open our hands to share. May our feet touch lightly on the path we tread, and our footsteps be worthy of following, for they lead to you. Forgive us and release us from the burden of our sins. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **Moment of Silent Reflection**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

**Congregational Response** "Restore In Us, O God"

**Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;  
renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.**

## ***Passing the Peace of Christ***

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

## ***Children's Message***

### ***Anthem***

"Trust in the Lord"

Jean Berger

*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*

### ***A Reading from Scripture*** Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words: 2 I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; 3 you shall have no other gods before me. 4 You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, 6 but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. 7 You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. 8 Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work. 10 But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. 12 Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. 13 You shall not murder. 14 You shall not commit adultery. 15 You shall not steal. 16 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. 17 You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

### ***Sermon***

"Commandments and Covenants"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

### ***Hymn of Response***

"Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect" (verses 1 - 3)

*Your law, O Lord, is perfect, the simple making wise; how pure are your commandments, enlightening my eyes!*

*More to be sought than riches, your words are my soul's wealth; their taste is sweet like honey, imparting life and health.*

*My strength and my redeemer, law giver and true light, my words and meditations make worthy in your sight.*

Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect  
Text: Keith Landis (1987)  
Music: Melchior Vulpius (1609)  
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***

**Receive these gifts, Holy One, and sanctify them by your Spirit. Drive away any ill motives and accept our humble offering. Amen.**

### ***Service of Communion***

### ***Prayer of Thanksgiving***

**Gracious God, at this table, we have received the signs of your love and your mercy. May our lives shine with the same love and mercy. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### ***Sending Hymn***

"O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer" (verses 1, 4 - 6)

*O my soul, bless your Redeemer; all within me bless God's name; bless the Savior, and forget not all God's mercies to proclaim. As it was without beginning, so it lasts without an end; to their children's children ever shall God's righteousness extend: Unto such as keep God's cov'nant and are steadfast in God's way; unto those who still remember the commandments and obey.*

*Bless your Maker, all you creatures, ever under God's control, all throughout God's vast dominion; bless the Lord of all, my soul!*

O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer

Text: The Book of Psalms (1871); alt.

Music: Witt's Psalmody Sacra (1715); harm. William Henry Havergal (1847) alt.

Copyright: 2013

CCLI#: 1698862

### ***Benediction***

### ***Benediction Response***

"Go Now in Peace"

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

### ***Postlude***

"Sonata VI: Fugue"

Felix Mendelssohn

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### NEW MEMBERS

We are blessed to have so many visitors attending The Peoples Church virtually and in person and so many interested in learning more about our wonderful faith community! We are thankful that technology gives us the opportunity to share God's word and offer programs and classes virtually! Are you interested in learning more? Consider joining us for our next Zoom New Members Class on April 18! Sign up by contacting Robin Matheson at [matheso4@msu.edu](mailto:matheso4@msu.edu) or 517-290-3223.

### TROOP/CREW 2: SCOUTING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH AND 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

Troop and Crew 2 continue to scout virtually and outdoors in our 100th year with The Peoples Church. While Covid is taking some adjusting to, as it is for all, scouting has continued for both boys and girls ages 11-21. We are meeting virtually every Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. (see [www.troop2el.org](http://www.troop2el.org)). Additionally, we are sponsoring a family tubing night at Hawk Island in March, following all BSA, state and local health guidelines. Those interested in checking us out, email us at [info@troop2el.org](mailto:info@troop2el.org).

Save the date for Troop 2's 100 year celebration on Sept 18, 2021. Planning has started and we are calling all former alumnus scouts and scouters, church or other supporters, to tell us your story or join us in our 100 year celebration. Email us your name, contact information, your relationship to Troop 2 and the dates of your involvement to: [100yearAnniversary@Troop2EL.org](mailto:100yearAnniversary@Troop2EL.org). Please feel free to include any memories you wish to share! Or visit our [website](#) to submit your contact information using the 100 year survey.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is still going strong—virtually! Each week there is a video featuring a Bible story, lesson, discussion and craft. For more information or to sign up for the video links, email Kathi Mitchell at: [kmitchell@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:kmitchell@thepeopleschurch.com).

### THE PEOPLES FORUM

The Peoples Forum offers monthly presentations from a dynamic lineup of guest speakers! The meetings will take place via Zoom, once per month, at 9:30 a.m. Mark your calendars for our upcoming forums:

**April 11:** Marie Blair, Concert Pianist

[Join the Zoom meeting here](#); Meeting ID: 952 4386 8996 and passcode is TPCPF. Or, you can dial 1 301 715 8592 and enter the meeting ID: 952 4386 8996 and passcode TPCPF. 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:** As men of faith, we read the Bible and other books, listening for God's voice and direction for our lives. We also listen to each other, looking to support and challenge each other's walk of faith. As we endeavor to do so, we find ways to put God's word into action in our lives and in God's wider kingdom on earth. If you are interested in participating in this group, they meet 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. They are reading *Life on the Vine: Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*, by Philip D. Kenneson.

**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:

- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

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.



# WALK & TALK WEDNESDAYS

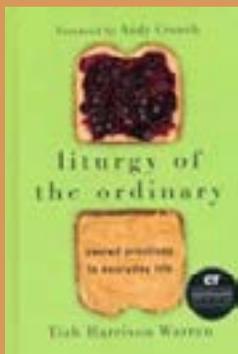
**Each Wednesday  
March 3 - March 31**

You're invited to come to the church, walk the labyrinth in the Snider Social Hall, and have a conversation with Rev. Penny Swartz. The point is to experience a "mini-pilgrimage" by following an intentional, guided walk toward a centering point where you might experience God and God's word for you. During the season of Lent in these continuing unprecedented times of Covid-19, walking this sacred path may be exactly what your soul and spirit need.

Walking the church's labyrinth will be by appointment only in order to follow the CDC Covid guidelines. Walks and subsequent conversation will be offered on Wednesdays in 90-minute blocks of time, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Email [pswartz@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:pswartz@thepeopleschurch.com) or call 517-648-8987 to schedule a time to walk and talk.

## CHICs WOMEN'S GROUP



CHiCs (Connected Hearts in Christ) Women's Study will be starting a new book: *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren.

If you are interested in joining us for this discussion, via Zoom, every Thursday evening from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. please call Beth Lundy at 610-246-0029 or email at [lundybb@comcast.net](mailto:lundybb@comcast.net). Members of the group laugh together, pray together and read together. Join us!