

SUNDAY WORSHIP

APRIL 18, 2021



*"...Look at my hands and my feet;
see that it is I myself."*

Luke 24:39

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 648.8987
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

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.



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 | APRIL 18, 2021

Prelude

"In the Garden"
Judy Kabodian, organ

arr. Dale Wood

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Call to Worship

One: We are here to worship God.
With our songs and our prayers, we will praise the Lord.

All: God of grace, bless us with your presence and your peace.

One: We are here to grow in our faith.
Listen closely for the word God offers to you.

All: God of grace, bless us with your word and your Spirit.

One: We are here to discover God's will.
Look for signs that lead you forward.

**All: God of grace, bless us with inspiration and insight.
Together, let us worship the Lord!**

Gathering Hymn

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" (verses 1 - 3)

Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there, where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer; O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.

Gracious God, I come before thee; come thou also unto me; where we find thee and adore thee, there a heaven on earth must be; to my heart O enter thou; let it be thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be done indeed; may I undisturbed draw near thee, while thou dost thy people feed. Here of life the fountain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Text: Benjamin Schmolck (1732); trans. Catherine Winkworth (1863)

Music: Joachim Neander (1680); harm. The Chorale Book for England (1863)

Copyright: 2013; CCLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, we are distressed by the troubles of this world. Everywhere we look, we see problems and crises. There is so much evil in the world, we feel powerless and weary. We are tempted to turn away from you and give in to despair. Yet through your word, you speak to us of love and hope and healing. You give us a vision of the world renewed and restored. Forgive our sins, almighty God, and open our minds to receive your truth through scripture. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response

**By this promise that you love us, by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Godspeed to Dee Przybylski

Anthem

"Christ Hath a Garden"

Gerald Near

Christ hath a garden walled around, a paradise of fruitful ground, chosen by love and fenced by grace from out the world's wide wilderness.

Like trees of spice his servants stand, there planted by his mighty hand; By Eden's gracious streams that flow, to feed their beauty where they grow.

Awake, O wind of heav'n and bear their sweetest perfume through the air: Stir up, O south, the boughs that bloom, till the beloved Master come.

That he may come, and linger yet among the trees that he hath set; That he may evermore be seen to walk among the springing green.

A Reading from Scripture Luke 24:36b-48

36 While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 37 They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. 38 He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." 40 And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41 While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate in their presence. 44 Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46 and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things.

Sermon

"God Is Still Speaking"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response

"Be Thou My Vision" (verses 1, 2 and 4)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art; thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord: thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heaven-ward, O Power of my power.

High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Be Thou My Vision

Text: Irish Poem; trans. Mary E. Byrne (1905); vers.. Eleanor Hull (1912)

Music: Harm. (1927); Oxford University Press.

Copyright: 2013; CCLI#: 1698862

Stephen Ministry Commissioning

Stephen Leaders: Aram Kabodian • Chuck McNeil

Stephen Ministers: Mark Cannizzaro • Chance Liscomb • Beth Lundy • Connie McNeil
Susan Nowicki • Roger Smitter

Prayers of the People & 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.

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 dedicate this offering to the strengthening of this church. Bless these gifts and help us to make this place a house of worship where all your children are truly welcome. Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service" (verses 1, 3 and 4)

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace, we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace. May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend, equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense, help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence. Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care, bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife. Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase, messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service
Text: Jane Parker Huber (1981)
Music: John Zundel (1870)
Copyright: 2013; CCLI#: 1698862

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

"The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound"

arr. Dale Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ZOOM NEW MEMBERS CLASS TODAY AT NOON!

Interested in more information about The Peoples Church, but forgot to sign up for the New Members Class today at 12 p.m.? You can still join the class by [clicking here](#). Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe and members of the Welcome Ministry will guide you through the class information. You can also call in to the class by dialing, 301-715-8592 and enter the Meeting ID: 874 8471 6588. We looking forward to seeing you!

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:

May 2: Sean Holland, One Love Global

June 6: Dick Peffley, GM and CEO of Lansing Board of Water and Light

[Join the Zoom meeting here](#); Meeting ID: 952 4386 8996 and passcode is TPCPF. Or, dial 1 301 715 8592 and enter the meeting ID: 952 4386 8996 and passcode TPCPF. Email questions to [Mary West](#).

Please note: The Zoom presentation of the Forum can now be viewed in-person, in the Robertson Room, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary will follow immediately afterward.



VIRTUAL ALL-CHURCH TALENT SHOW POSTPONED

Welcome Ministry has made the tough decision to postpone the Virtual All-Church Talent Show slated for April 25. Thanks to Gabe and Theo Eysseleinck, Abraham Barton and Brad Fingland who inquired and/or sent in videos! Please keep honing your skills for a future event! All are encouraged to participate at a later time. Questions can be directed to Diane Shafer at dshafer@cityof-feastlansing.com. Stay tuned for more details on a future date.

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.



GREAT DECISIONS

On April 22, Dr. Matt Zierler will speak on Brexit and the European Union. Professor Zierler's research and teaching interests are in foreign policy, international security, international relations theory, international law, and international cooperation. He is the associate dean of the MSU Honors College.

The presentation begins at 4:30 p.m. on Zoom; to join [click here](#). Or, enter the Meeting ID: 945 1939 0238 and Passcode: 965570 in your Zoom app. You can also dial, 1-312-626-6799 and enter the same meeting ID and passcode when prompted. Email malarz@aol.com to be added to the mailing list or with any questions.

Brexit: Taking stock and looking ahead: With the "Brexit transition period" coming to an end this year, the United Kingdom will formally leave the European Union at the start of 2021. With negotiations between the two entities continuing to stall, what does the future of Europe and the UK look like? Will the UK survive a possible Scottish vote to leave? Who will step up and take command of Europe now that Angela Merkel is out of the spotlight?



EARTH DAY: APRIL 22

Earth Day is April 22. The Earth Stewardship Team encourages you to take on an activity to reduce your carbon footprint and do your part to help our planet. Activities, such as planting a tree, picking up trash, reducing plastic use, reducing energy use, or increasing your home recycling efforts, are just a few ideas. You can also visit Earthday.org for more ideas or to find an Earth Day Event near you to participate in. Together each one of us can make a difference!