

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 21, 2021



"I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Jeremiah 31:33

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.

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Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music
Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director
Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence
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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 | MARCH 21, 2021

Prelude

"Solemn Prelude"
Judy Kabodian, organ

G. F. Handel

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Call to Worship

One: God has promised a new covenant, one written on our hearts.
Gather in God's presence to affirm that new covenant.

**All: We call on God's steadfast love and mercy.
Our hearts burn with the love of Christ.**

One: The law of love is written on our hearts.
By this love, our Creator has named us and claimed us.

**All: We want to encounter the God who loves us.
We are open to hearing God's word for us.**

One: Through Jesus Christ, God offers us the joy of salvation.
Our brokenness can be healed and our wholeness restored.

**All: Come, Spirit of the living God, and set our hearts on fire.
Let us rejoice in God's presence and praise our Creator!**

Gathering Hymn

"Come, Thou Almighty King" (verses 1 - 3)

Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing; help us to praise: Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou incarnate Word, merciful, mighty Lord, our prayer attend. Come, and thy people bless, and give thy word success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour. Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

Come, Thou Almighty King
Text: Collection of Hymns for Social Worship (1757)
Music: Felice de Giardini (1769)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love. In our hearts, we know how far we have strayed from the path of Jesus Christ. We do not hold back from judging others, yet we are stingy with our love. We compromise our principles and turn away from faith when it suits our purposes. We desire your forgiveness but do not forgive others in the same way. We are caught in the web of our own self-serving ways. Free us from the burden of our sins and heal us with your love. We pray all this 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

"The Size of Your Heart"

Eleanor Daley

The size of your heart is the size of your life, for out of your heart comes the kind of your life. The way you reach out to the world all around, is first in your heart to be found.

So if in your heart there is plenty of room, for love and compassion to come into bloom; their fragrance flows out through all that you do, healing the hurt and making new.

The ones who this know have helped all of us grow, as those who spread light to God's great delight, dispelling the dark and then freeing the heart 'till each one becomes God's daughter, son.

The size of your heart is the size of your life, for out of your heart comes the kind of your life. The way you reach out to the world all around is first in your heart to be found.

A Reading from Scripture Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Sermon

"Know It By Heart"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee" (verses 1 and 2)

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away; O let me from this day be wholly thine!

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire; as thou hast died for me; O may my love to thee pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!

My Faith Looks Up to Thee
Text: Ray Palmer (1830)
Music: Lowell Mason (1831) alt.
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

God, we present these offerings that they may be used to extend your liberating reign. With them, we offer our varied ministries in the days ahead, that each of us may be part of your answer to the cries of the world. May we live and love as Jesus did. Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord" (verses 1, 2 and 4)

Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray; give us the mind of Christ each passing day; teach us to know the truth that sets us free; grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.

Take thou our hearts, O Christ; they are thine own; come thou within our souls and claim thy throne; help us to shed abroad thy deathless love; use us to make the earth like heaven above.

Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will; through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill. We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all; we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord
Text: William H. Foulkes, stanzas 1-3 (1918); stanza 4 (c. 1920)
Music: Calvin Weiss Laufer (1918)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

"Jesus, Priceless Treasure "

Johann Walther

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS DUE MARCH 29!

If you are interested in dedicating an Easter Lily to a loved one, please fill out the form [online here](#), or fill out the form on the back of this bulletin and return to the church office. **The deadline for dedications is March 29.**

MAUNDY THURSDAY AND EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

Mark your calendars for our in-person Maundy Thursday service on April 1 at 6:30 p.m. Covid-19 safety protocols will be followed.

Our Easter Sunday worship service will be held in-person as well as livestreamed on our YouTube site. If you would like to join us for the in-person Easter Sunday service, we are asking that you RSVP, as we can only allow a maximum of 130 people in the sanctuary. **TO RSVP CLICK HERE**; once we reach our capacity we will not be able to accept more reservations. Covid-19 safety protocols will be followed.

GREAT DECISIONS: MARCH 25

On March 25, Dr. Amanda Flaim will be our speaker on "Human Trafficking." Professor Flaim, an Assistant Professor at MSU in the James Madison College and the department of Sociology, studies problems and paradoxes in human rights policy, including statelessness and citizenship, human trafficking, and the global expansion of rights to education and birth registration.

NOTE: We will meet at 5:00 p.m. on Zoom. To join the meeting, [click here](#). Or, enter the Meeting ID: 276 120 0354 and password: 709283 in the Zoom app. Email malarz@aol.com with any questions.

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 or 517-290-3223.

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
in March

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 or call 517-648-8987 to schedule a time to walk and talk.

Yes, I (We) would like to help the sanctuary come alive with Lilies on Easter morning.

Please accept my gift of \$20 in support of the Sanctuary Decoration Fund.

In Memory of In Celebration of In Honor of To the Glory of God

Dedication (Please Print): _____

Given By (Please Print): _____

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS MONDAY, MARCH 29; return form to the church office.

