

 KALAMAZOO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
"A Sanctuary in the City... Living Faith"



In response to the lateness of the most recent government directive,
we are not meeting in our Sanctuary for in-person worship this Sunday.
Please, find our service live-streamed at the usual time.

And please note, given evolving circumstances and responsive plans,
some information in this bulletin may be subject to change.

AUGUST 2, 2020

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM

THE GATHERING

*Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here—with whatever joys, questions, or tears you bring today—as we worship God, who welcomes us all!
And now you are invited to listen for God's Spirit speaking to you through the music of the Prelude, as we prepare our hearts for worship.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.
Let us worship God.

PRELUDE

“Prelude and Variations” on *Adoro Te Devote* Gerald Near

DOXOLOGY (tune #607)

(All are invited to hum or meditate upon the words of praise. Watch Pastor Chrissy for some simple signs, and join in as you are able, so that we may raise our hands in praise, if not our voices.)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* OPENING RESPONSES

from Isaiah 52 and 55

How beautiful is the messenger who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says, “Your God reigns!”

Break forth into singing! For the Lord brings comfort and bares a holy arm before the eyes of all nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of God!

Everyone who thirsts, come! You that have no money, come eat and drink without price.
Why spend money and labor on that which does not truly satisfy?

We will listen carefully, eat what is good, and delight in rich food. We will come to God and listen, and live in the everlasting covenant of steadfast love!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Generous God of grace and abundance, you bless us richly with resources to live. Food. Friends. Beauty. Possibilities. Promises. Purposes. Yet, too often, we ignore your invitation and call to share. We hoard blessings. We waste opportunities. We feast on selfish desires, and so, distance ourselves from you and others. Where there is separation, there is pain. Where there is pain, there is story. Where there is story, there is listening and not listening, understanding and misunderstanding, devotion and disorientation. Amid hurts we carry and hurts we cause, help us hear again the story of Jesus. Turn us again—to one another in compassion and to Christ with commitment. So, may we find you—your love in life we share. Amen.

(Prayer continues in silence.)

Friends, hear the good news! Jesus proclaimed God's reign—preaching and teaching, healing and eating, forgiving and calling all to believe the gospel. God raised Jesus, breaking the power of sin and evil. In everlasting love, God redeems us and all creation.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus!

God's Spirit feeds us with the bread of life and cup of salvation. In a broken and fearful world, God gives us courage to pray without ceasing and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. May the peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

(Please stand and share signs of Christ's peace with others, remaining in your place of worship.)

PEACE

“Peace of God Be with You”

Peace of God be with you. Peace of God be with you.

Assalaamu lakum, salaam, salaam. Peace of God be with you.

THE WORD

MOMENT FOR YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, teach us your way and lead us in your truth along the path of life. We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your voice. In our hunger for you, nourish us today and strengthen us for service to Christ in all our days to come. Amen.

FIRST READING

Romans 10:5-15

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Matthew 14:13-21

For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us,

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“From Lack to Leftovers”

“... and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.”

(Matthew 14:20)

* **MUSICAL RESPONSE** “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”

Please reflect silently on the music and the words of the hymn. How can we share an abundance of Holy Love amid times of seeming scarcity? How can we reflect the mind, heart, and will of Christ in the choices we make?

(Refrain)

You satisfy the hungry heart
with gift of finest wheat;
come give to us, O Saving Lord,
the bread of life to eat.

Is not the cup we bless and share
the blood of Christ outpoured?
Does not one cup, one loaf declare
our Oneness in the Lord?

Refrain

As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
they know and heed his voice.
So when you call your family, Lord,
they follow and rejoice.

The mystery of your presence, Lord,
no mortal tongue can tell:
whom all the world cannot contain
comes in our hearts to dwell.

Refrain

Refrain

With joyful lips, we sing to you
our praise and gratitude
that you should count us worthy, Lord,
to share this heavenly food.

You give yourself to us, O Lord,
then selfless let us be,
to serve each other in your name
in truth and charity.

Refrain

Refrain

THE THANKSGIVING

TIDINGS OF THE CHURCH

We give thanks to God and live faith, offering ourselves through worship, work, service, and love in all its forms.

Please note: As we leave the Sanctuary, our offering may be left in plates located in the aisles.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. ...

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

THE SENDING

* BENEDICTION *(Our congregational response is “Alleluia, Amen!”)
Please remain seated until an usher dismisses you.*

* POSTLUDE “Festal Postlude” on *Lasst uns Erfreuen* William Faulkes

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

Allen Parfitt
Dr. Patricia Stromsta
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
The Rev. Chrissy Westbury

Music

Cindy Hunter, Director of Music, Piano
Michael Montgomery, Organist

Sound

Sound Team members

Ushers

Betty Bennett, Dave Dell,
Andy Hamilton, Liz Hamilton,
Mike Hammond, Don McCloud

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please sign one of the letters in the narthex or back door, and keep these families in your prayers this week.

A letter of sympathy will be sent this week to the family of Dave McShane on his death.

A letter of sympathy will also be sent this week to Whitney Hoag on the death of her husband, Frederick.

WORSHIP UPDATE FROM SESSION

To date, our church has had three in-person services, along with the virtual service. Attendance has been between 30 and 60 people. We have received some comments, both positive and negative, regarding the safety of these services. Health Ministry Committee and Session continue to review our practices as we learn more about dangers and safe procedures.

Session still feels comfortable continuing the in-person services, as long as all safeguards are followed. There remains, as ever, the option to suspend these services, based on what's occurring in the community with COVID-19 infections. If you have questions about all the good consideration and preparation that has been done, our concerns and ideas to share, please contact Pastors Chrissy or Seth or a Session member.

ONLINE GIVING:

Please go to <https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Giving/firs321262>

Paper checks can still be sent to the church, 321 W. South St., Kalamazoo, MI, 49007.

TAILGATE VESPERS—PINE ISLAND

On Sunday, August 16, at 7:00 pm, we will share a simple tailgate vespers service at our Pine Island property (on Q Avenue just west of Finnagan Street). Bring a chair as we share in the beauties of God's creation!

Have a prayer request?
Prayer chain email:
KFPCPrayer@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

We are currently meeting in the backyard at the home of Connie Houts (2015 Wild Cherry Lane). We are studying the Psalms, using the book *The Psalms for Today*, by Beth LaNeel Tanner.

Coffee is served at 9:30 a.m. and our study begins at 9:45 a.m. Please bring a lawn chair if you have one. If weather presents a problem and the class is canceled, Pat will send out an email by 8:30 a.m.

We look forward to seeing you as we practice social distancing and wearing our masks.

Pat Stromsta pat.stromsta@kalamazoofirstpres.org

CELEBRATE THE VISION

Thank you to **Susan DeJong**, who provided cookies for our Celebrate the Vision sack lunches on Wednesday evening. We pass out sack lunches from our South St. door on Wednesday evenings from 5:15 – 5:35. We request that volunteers sign up in advance, as we are observing social distancing in the kitchen and in our service line.

Desserts are always needed (36 individual desserts are bagged each week) and can be brought to church 9–1:00 Monday–Thursday. or Wednesday. after 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Stromsta at pat.stromsta@kalamazoofirstpres.org.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our church supports many outreach ministries in our community and beyond. Each month, we will feature one of these ministries, so that we can be involved not only through our financial giving, but in our understanding of what these organizations do and how we can further support them. For the month of July, we will highlight the **Kalamazoo Drop-in Child Care Center**, which is located in the basement of First Congregational Church on Michigan Avenue.

After having been closed since the Stay Home/ Stay \Safe order on March 23, the Center opened on Monday, July 13. The KDCCC has worked hard to follow CDC and State guidelines to make the Center as safe as possible for the children. A reopening letter was sent to parents with information about their new policies and procedures, and can be found on their website at kdccc.org. Childcare is currently being provided Monday – Friday from 11– 3:00. Call (269) 382-3640 if you have questions or concerns.

Members of First Presbyterian Church are invited to provide the following:

Disinfectant wipes
Diaper Wipes
100 % Apple Juice

A box for KDCCC can be found at our Lovell Street door with our Receptionist.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

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The Reverend Chrissy Westbury, Associate Pastor, x203
Dr. Patricia Stromsta, Director of Outreach, x204
Joseph Burrel, Associate for Youth and Families
Ann Ross, Health Ministry Coordinator, x211
Cindy Hunter, Director of Music
Michael Montgomery, Organist
Ann Johnson, Office Administrator, x205
Anna Barnhart-Davis, Communications Coordinator, x209
Louise Taylor, Financial Coordinator, x206
Shawn Smith, Building Superintendent, x213
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The Reverend Dr. Elizabeth Candido, Parish Associate

The Reverend Kathleen Robertson King, Parish Associate and United Campus Ministry Pastor

UPCOMING WORSHIP

August 9

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Matthew 14:22-33

August 16

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
The Rev. Chrissy Westbury
Isiah 56:1-8; Matthew 15:10-28

7:00 pm—Tailgate Vespers at Pine Island

Grounded in living faith, receiving diversity as a gift, we seek to reflect Christ's light in God's world. Continually discerning God's vision of grace and peace, we share inspirational worship, spiritual nurture, compassionate service to others, and the pursuit of justice—all to the glory of God.