

ORDER OF WORSHIP
4th Sunday after Epiphany
January 29, 2023
10:30AM

PRELUDE

A Prayer of Need
Mary Jo Cox, piano

Penny Rodriguez

WORDS OF GREETING

One: The people who walked in
darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep
darkness—on them light has shined.

All: Thanks be to God!

WELCOME

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

INTROIT

O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

Hal Hopson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jean Winther

One: What does the Lord require of you?

All: to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

One: Let us turn our hearts and voices to God!

All: We will sing to the God of our salvation!

*HYMN No. 19

God of Great and God of Small

*CALL TO CONFESSION

(Silent Confession)

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we have not done what is blameless and right, nor spoken truth from the heart with love. We do not keep your word, and when we participate in gossip, our words and deeds cause pain. Forgive us by the power of your mercy, that we might stand in the goodness of Christ and walk in the light of your love. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*RESPONSE

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, amen.**

CHILDREN'S OFFERING; BLESSING

Congregation: **May the Lord go with you as you worship and learn together.**

Children: May the Lord be with you as you worship here.

Congregation: **Go in peace.**

Children: We go in peace. Amen.

During the response to the Passing of the Peace, newborns through 5th grade are invited to come forward to the chancel steps for the blessing. After the blessing, they will be dismissed to the Nursery and to the Children's Worship Center in the lower level for the Children and Worship time. Please pick up your child from the Nursery or Worship Center when they have finished their time of worship.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Micah 6:1-8

Amen. **Amen.**

ANTHEM

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Brenda Portman

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:1-12

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

"Plead your case before the mountains?"

Nathaniel Asperger

Question of the day: How can you work to be God's justice in the world?

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he
descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to
judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and life everlasting. Amen.**

*HYMN No. 739

O For a Closer Walk with God

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 sins, as we forgive those who have sinned 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.**

*HYMN No. 749

Come! Live in the Light

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE No. 748 *Go with Us, Lord*

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
Through this and every coming day,
That in your Spirit strong and true
Our lives may be our gift to you.**

*POSTLUDE

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Mark Hayes

Notes:

*Stand in body and spirit.

Worship Leaders: Mary Jo Cox; Jean Winther; The Chancel Choir; Nathaniel Asperger

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

STORYTELLER
GREETER

Wilson Gyasi
Doug Lapp

The Prayers and Concern of the Congregation are extended to:

Jacob Malley (friend of Amelia and Billy Myler), Heidi Long, Lois Miller, Jaime Love (brother of Kevin Love), Louisa Ellis (Jeff & Cam Ellis' granddaughter), Olivia Geisthardt (friend of Anna Clare Miller), Linda Loubert (Pete Loubert's Step Mother), Suzanne Hand, Dottie Theunissen, Rick Rodriquez (friend of Tim Fitzgerald), Mike Mitchell & JT Schmitt (Barb Lindley's son-in-laws), Charles Loubert, Jim Gilbert, Peter and Verna Russell, David Neyer, Lois Kerr, Sarah Gilbert, Joyce McNabb, Colleen Long, Lavona Osborne. Cathy Chang, Juan Lopez, and Noah Lapp, Vowles Elementary, Linden Presbyterian, Linden, MI, Protestant Church of Africa, and the William E. Brockman Infant Pantry of Community Compassion Network.

Offering

If you are joining us for worship in-person and would like to give an offering, please place your offering in an offering plate. You can also give your pledge, per capita payment, or offering by mailing it to the church office: First Presbyterian Church, 1250 Watson Road, Mt. Pleasant, 48858. You can also give an offering by going to the church's website, www@fpcmp.org and hit the "Give Now" button or use the QR Code,



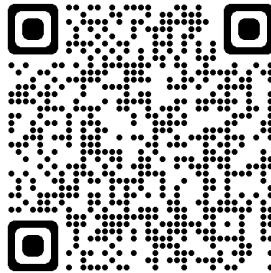
Please join us for a time of fellowship after worship in the Witherspoon Room.

The food pantry of Community Compassion Network needs peanut butter. Please bring it to the church and we will make sure it is taken to the Strickler Center and given to the food pantry.

Help Needed

We will be hosting the rotating homeless shelter February 12-19, 2023. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-saints will partner with us once again. Your help is needed. Below is a link to Sign-up Genius. First Presbyterian Church is responsible for meals on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday. At this time, we have our meals covered, however we need help with **evening volunteers, overnight volunteers, and early morning volunteers**. If a slot is filled and you would like to help let me know and I can add you to the list. Let me know if you have any questions.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044BA8A92FA1F58-presbyterian>



LENTEN BOOK STUDY

Join us as we explore forgiveness during the Lenten Season as we read “The Book of Forgiving” written by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu. There will be two discussion groups for the book study. Monday evenings (February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, and April 3) from 6:30-7:30PM or Thursday mornings (March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6) from 10:30-11:30AM. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex or contact Andrew Miller.

Capital Campaign: Lift the Roof

At the January 15, 2023, Stated Session Meeting, the Session voted and approved unanimously to replace the roofing on the entire church complex weather permitting this March. The total cost of the roof project is \$88,000.

In December of 2022 the church received a \$20,000 gift to go towards the roof replacement. Thus, we have a balance of \$68,000 to raise. The Session also approved taking \$34,000 out of the General Fund to pay towards the roof replacement. So, that means we have a balance of \$34,000 to come up with. The Session in addition approved a Capital Campaign to raise the remaining funds plus a 10% tithe for local outreach opportunities. Hence, the Session is asking the congregation to raise \$37,400.

One may ask why the 10% tithe? The reason is simple for me, we as a church, we as the body of Christ cannot only look inward but we also must look outward to see how we can help others in our community.

Please pray and consider making a donation to the “Lift the Roof Capital Campaign” so that we can continue to stay dry and warm as we continue to reach out to help those in our community.

Checks may be made out to “FPC” and in the memo line write “Lift the Roof” or you may give electronically by scanning the QR Code below. If you have questions please contact Kevin Love the Chair of House and Grounds, anyone currently serving on Session, or Andrew Miller. Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity.

