

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024
10:30 AM

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth
Mary Jo Cox, piano

Mark Hayes

WORDS OF GREETING

One: How good it is for us to
come together as kindred spirits.

All: Hallelujah!

WELCOME

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

INTROIT

O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

Hal Hopson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jim Bidwell

One: We come to worship with joy,
trusting God's holy word will inspire us.

**All: We lean into God for understanding,
anticipating the Spirit's blessing.**

One: May God hear our praise!
May we be counted among the great congregation.

**All: May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts
be acceptable to God.**

*HYMN No. 463

How Firm a Foundation

*CALL TO CONFESSION

(Silent Confession)

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. We have not loved others as you have loved us. We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*RESPONSE No. 591

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

(sing twice)

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

John 15:1-8

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

ANTHEM

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

Oliver Gottbreht, Lauren Geates, and MJ Lashley, soloists

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 4:7-21

The Spirit speaks to the church today. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

"Becoming Agents of Love"

Andrew Miller

Question of the day: What comes to mind when you hear, what is God and what God is not?

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *From Scripture*

**This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved,
if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins
according to the Scriptures, that he was buried,
that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared first to the women,
then to Peter, and to the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,
the beginning and the end;
he is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

*HYMN No. 36

For the Fruit of All Creation

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(If you have a prayer of concern or joy, please text 989-954-3297.)

MORNING PRAYER 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. 634

To God Be the Glory

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You

Hal Hopson

* POSTLUDE

Praise!

Gilbert Martin

Notes:

*Stand in body and spirit.

Worship Leaders: Mary Jo Cox; Jim Bidwell; The Chancel Choir; Andrew Miller

The Prayers and Concern of the Congregation are extended to:

Bill Wilson, Laura Havens (Marge Havens' daughter in-law), J T Schmitt (Barb Lindley's son-in-law), Nick Baker, Wendy Shugert, Mike McNabb, Scott Campbell (Andrew & Martha Miller's friend), Betty Gempel, Jillian & Flynn Gray, Martha Loubert (sister-in-law of John, Pete, and Sheri Loubert), Lois Miller, Jaime Love (brother of Kevin Love), Louisa Ellis (Jeff & Cam Ellis granddaughter), Olivia Geisthardt (friend of Anna Clare Miller), Suzanne Hand, Charles Loubert, Jim Gilbert, Peter and Verna Russell, Lois Kerr, Sarah Gilbert, Joyce McNabb, Colleen Long, Lavona Osborne. Cathy Chang, Juan Lopez, and Noah Lapp, Vowles Elementary, Emerson United Presbyterian, Breckenridge, MI, Christian Evangelical Church in Sangihe-Talaud, and the William E. Brockman Infant Pantry of Community Compassion Network.

Offering

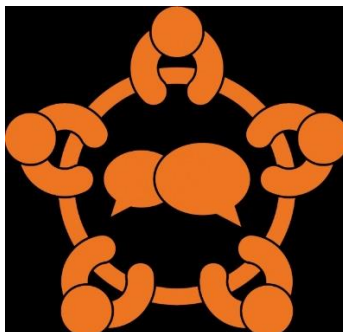
If you are joining us for worship in-person and would like to give an offering, please place your offering in an offering plate. You can also give your pledge, per capita payment, or offering by mailing it to the church office: First Presbyterian Church, 1250 Watson Road, Mt. Pleasant, 48858. You can 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,



Celtic Worship

Please join us for a Celtic Worship Service, to take place from 6:00-6:30 on four Wednesdays in May: 5/8, 5/15, 5/22, 5/29. Come to any or all! We'll meet in the sanctuary to celebrate this ancient tradition, which is our heritage as Presbyterians. We'll pray, sing, read scripture, and share communion and the joy of being together.

Who is God Calling Us to Be ROUNDTABLE Discussion



The Who is God Calling Us to Be Team wants to hear from you. You are invited to a roundtable discussion. This afternoon, Sunday April 28, from 4:00-5:00PM. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Signup sheets are located on the Narthex bulletin board or you can go to the following link or QR Code: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADA823ABFAC34-48926229-whoisgod>.



Community Garden

It is that time of year to start thinking about gardening. For the second year in a row will have garden plots available in the Community Gardens on the other side of the playground on the church property. If you are interested in a plot contact Andrew Miller by email andrewmiller@fpcmp.org or call/text 989-954-3297.

3rd Tuesday Food Truck and Fellowship

On the 3rd Tuesday of June 18, July 16, and August 20 the Cruisin' Chef food truck will be parked in the church parking lot from 5-6:30PM. Come and get some food and have casual conversations with church and neighborhood friends. All are invited and all are welcome.