

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 7, 2024**  
**10:30 AM**

PRELUDE

*Meditation on "Break Thou the Bread of Life"*  
Mary Jo Cox, organ

John Barr

WORDS OF GREETING No. 399

*God Welcomes All*  
**God welcomes all,  
strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong  
and it never ends.**

*(sing twice)*

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WELCOME

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jean Winther

One: We ponder your steadfast love, O God,

**All: and our praise reaches to the ends of the earth.**

One: Tell the next generation:

**All: Our God will be our guide forever.**

One: Come, let us rejoice

**All: and worship God.**

\*HYMN No. 35

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

(Silent Confession)

\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God who formed our inward parts and know our hearts, forgive us. Instead of acknowledging you as our God, we make our own idols. Instead of proclaiming Jesus Christ as our Lord, we proclaim ourselves. Instead of turning to the Holy Spirit, we attempt to attain your way as our own understanding. Redirect our wrong ways and lead us to the ways that make Jesus visible in our lives. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*RESPONSE No. 581

*Glory Be to the Father*  
**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.**

*During the response to the Passing of the Peace, newborns through kindergarten are invited to meet in the Narthex and go down to the Nursery. Please pick up your child from the Nursery following worship.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 123

Amen. **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Andante*  
Mark Cox, euphonium

Piotr Tchaikovsky  
arr. Alan Raph

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 6:1-13

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

SERMON

“In Dependence”

Rev. David Sickelka

Question of the day: What can you identify in your own life that is evidence of God at working among us?

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From: *A Declaration of Faith* (PCUS, 1977)

**We believe in one true and living God alone, whose demands on us are absolute, whose help for us is sufficient. That One is the Lord, whom we worship, serve, and love.**

**Jesus, the long-expected Savior, came into the world as a child, descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin. He lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to his people the coming of God’s kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child, yet born of God’s power as was no other child. In the person and work of Jesus, God himself and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God’s promised rule. Through his birth life, death, and resurrection, he brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended.**

**Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN No. 503

*Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation*

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SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*If you are worshiping virtually today, please make sure that you have some sort of drink and bread or cracker for Communion. In person communion wafers are made of flour mix (garbanzo bean, tapioca, sorghum, fava beans, potato starch), water, canola oil, salt.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN No. 726

*Will You Come and Follow Me* (vs. 1,5)

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\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE No. 702 *Christ Be Beside Me* (v.1)

**Christ be beside me;  
Christ be before me;  
Christ be behind me,  
King of my heart.  
Christ be within me;  
Christ be below me;  
Christ be above me,  
never to part.**

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\* POSTLUDE

*Tambourin*

Francois-Joseph Gossec

Notes:

\*Stand in body and spirit.

Worship Leaders: Mary Jo Cox; Jean Winther; David Sickelka

Following Worship there be a time of fellowship in the Witherspoon Room.

The Prayers and Concern of the Congregation are extended to:

Anita Anderson-Love, 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, , First Presbyterian, Fenton, MI, Pasundan Christian Church, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

### 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](http://www@fpcmp.org) and hit the "Give Now" button or use the QR Code,



### **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Food Truck and Fellowship**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of 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.

### **Save The Date**

#### **Worship on the Front Lawn**

Weather permitting, we will worship on the front lawn on Sunday July 14, and August 11. If the weather is poor, we will worship in the Sanctuary. Please bring a camping or lawn chair or a blanket to sit on.

#### **Worship as Service**

On Sunday, July 21 we gather in the Sanctuary at 10:30AM for a prayer then we will be sent out to do service projects for our time of worship.

#### **Sermon as a Conversation**

Sermon as a Conversation is a time that when we will break up into small groups and have discussions and there will be a time to ask Pastor Andrew questions about the scripture reading for the morning. Sermon as a Conversation will take place Sunday, June 23 and July 28.

#### **Worship in the Park**

Join us Sunday, August 25 for Worship in the Park with other churches in our community. Worship will begin at 10:30AM. Following worship there will be a potluck lunch.

### **Rev. David Sickelka**

The Reverend David Sickelka (Pastor Dave) was raised in rural NW Iowa on a farm between the towns of Sutherland and Primghar, in O'Brien County. With two older brothers and a younger sister, there were many opportunities for hay forts in the barn, snow forts in the winter, ball games of various stripes and lots of hands-on experience with conflict resolution! He attended Westmar College in Le Mars, Iowa earning a B.A. with majors in Christian Religion and Sociology. His Seminary experience was at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, located in New Brighton, Minnesota (a suburb of Minneapolis).

After earning his Master of Divinity degree there, he was ordained on June 9, 1985, in his home church in Calumet, Iowa. He served churches in western Nebraska, southern Illinois, northern Indiana, and Des Moines, Iowa. He is a certified Interim Minister through the Interim Ministry Network, and also a Certified Firefight (II). In October of 2021, Dave retired and is rehabbing the old CMU Presidents' (Grawn and Warriner) house on High and Franklin. It is the

base of operations for a planned house church that will be part of the United Church of Christ (UCC).

Dave is married to Susan, also an ordained UCC pastor. The house is being faithfully guarded by Fiona, a Shetland Sheepdog, and Zippy, a Freezerrier (Bishon-Frise/terrier mix). Pastor Dave enjoys music, reading, drama, and crossword and Sudoku puzzles. This is not to say that he has any particular aptitude or skill in these areas! He has been known to spend hours tinkering on something mechanical that has stopped working or make a home repair job drag on for weeks. He is currently a nominee for the Committee on Ministry of the Covenant Association of the Michigan Conference UCC, which oversees matters of authorized ministry in the Association.