ORDER OF WORSHIP
22nd Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2026
10:30AM

WELCOME

HYMN SING

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

INTROIT *Praise God for This Holy Ground* John L. Bell

CALL TO WORSHIP Jess Hart

One: God is our dwelling place:
All: God gathers us into community with each other to love and work, to support and heal.
One: God is our dwelling place:
All: God gathers us into community with all people to bring justice and hope, freedom and truth.
One: God is our dwelling place:
All: God gathers us into community with all creation: to live in harmony, to grow new gardens.

*HYMN No. 305 *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

*CALL TO CONFESSION
(Silent Confession)

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love, your commandments are so simple: to love God, love neighbor, love self. Yet we cannot always muster that love. Love for you seems too abstract and distant. Love for our neighbors seems too impractical and draining. Love for ourselves seems too impossible and important. But you are truly the God of love; if there is anyone who can help us love, it is you. Shower us with your love so we might have the greatest example, and help us learn from you. 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)

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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

Psalm 1

Amen. **Amen.**

ANTHEM *Love the Lord* John Leavitt

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 22:34-46

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

REFLECTION "Loving God and Neighbor" Andrew Miller

Question of the day: How do you love God? How do you love neighbor?

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From 1st Presbyterian Church Mooresville, NC

The basis of faith is desire. The beginning of faith is commitment.
The heartbeat of faith is trust. The privilege of faith is sharing.
The beauty of faith is acceptance. The hope of faith is belief in God.
The joy of faith is the peace of God.
The reward of faith is the presence of God.
The focus of faith is the Son of God. With all diligence, therefore,
I will keep the faith by which I am kept, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*HYMN 203 *"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"*

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OPPORTUNITY FOR STEWARDSHIP Mary Lu Yardley

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. 828 *More Love to Thee, O Christ*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE No. 300 *We Are One in the Spirit* (v.1)

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

* POSTLUDE *Postlude on "Darwall's 148th"* Charles Callahan

*NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS, SO GO IN PEACE AND SERVE THE LORD

Notes:

*Stand in body or spirit.

Worship Leaders: Mary Jo Cox; the Chancel Choir; Jess Hart; Andrew Miller

Gil and Elinor Rau Choral Scholars: Lorelei Wilburn, Carli Tower, Zoe Flickinger, Lexi Galliers, Keon Celestine, Liam Cox

There will be Fellowship after worship today.

The Prayers and Concern of the Congregation are extended to:
Jean Winther, Jim Bidwell, Bob Pinnell (brother of Barb Lindley), Cyndy Abbott, Linda Rose, Joyce Petro, Michael Espinoza, William Richardson, Nancy Wilson, Andy Loubert (Pete and John Loubert's brother), John Daniels, J T Schmitt (Barb Lindley's son-in-law), Nick Baker, Mike McNabb, Scott Campbell (Andrew& Martha Miller's friend), Betty Gempel, Lois Miller, Louisa Ellis (Jeff & Cam Ellis granddaughter), Suzanne Hand, Verna Russell, Sarah Gilbert, Lavona Osborne. Cathy Chang and Noah Lapp, Vowles Elementary, First Presbyterian, Ithaca, MI, Lesotho Evangelical Church and the Woodland Hospice House.

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,

Children and Worship

All children are welcome and loved at First Presbyterian! All children from newborns through fifth grade begin in the Sanctuary for worship with their families. Infant through three years old will be dismissed to the nursery and Pre-K through 5th grade will be dismissed to go to the Worship Center for Children Worship with a blessing after the Passing of the Peace. Children are also welcome to stay in worship. On Communion Sundays, Children (usually the first Sunday of the month), children remain in worship.

Save the Date:

Homeless Shelter Volunteers, November 1-7

The Choir is back! If you have questions about the choir or would like to sing, please contact Mary Jo Cox, mary.j.cox@gmail.com or 989-400-2019
We would love to have you join us!

Vowles Elementary Snacks Needed

Students are asked to bring an extra snack or two for "Snack Time" during the school day at Vowles Elementary. Some families struggle to provide snacks. Would you please consider helping by bringing individual pre-package snacks and putting them in the yellow wagon in the Narthex? Approved snacks: Goldfish, Pretzels, Cheez Its, Veggie Straws, Granola Bars (any kind), Crackers- peanut butter or cheese, Teddy Grahams, Rice Krispie Treats, Fruit Snacks, Pudding cups Applesauce cups, Popcorn- individual bags, Pringles- individual cups/containers

Holy Shift: College Ministry

Holy Shift is an ecumenical campus ministry supported by First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Immanuel Lutheran (ELCA), and St. John's Episcopal Church.

Semester Activities:

Sunday 4pm Tea and Tarot at St. John's Chapel, 206 W. Maple St.
Wednesday 11:30am-1:30pm Community Lunch at Wesley Center on the campus of Central Michigan University
Thursday 6:30pm Evening Prayer St. John's Chapel, 206 W. Maple St.

Contact Jess Hart siblingjess@gmail.com call/text: 989-317-4136