

**First Presbyterian Church
of Ithaca, Michigan**

Blessed are the peacemakers...



*...for they will be called
children of God.*

**Sunday, June 23, 2019
10:30am**

Service for the Lord's Day
2nd Sunday After Pentecost

June 23, 2019

10:30am

** indicates that the congregation may stand as they are able.
Bold text indicates where the congregation joins in unison.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude & Ringing of the Bell

Gathering Music	<i>When I Look into Your Holiness</i>	pg. 1
	<i>Majesty</i>	pg. 9

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive)

All have sinned and fall short of God's glory,
but by the grace of God we are redeemed.

God made the sabbath as a gift for us,
and Jesus Christ is Lord of the sabbath.

There is no other like the Lord our God,
keeping covenant and steadfast love.

***Opening Prayer**

Lord God of the nations, you have revealed your will to all people and promised us your saving help. May we hear and do what you command, that the power of evil may be overcome by the gift of your healing grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn #473 (blue)**

For the Beauty of the Earth

Call to Confession

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children.
With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors, and we have refused to hear the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession

Sung Response

God is So Good

sing twice

*God is so good, God is so good,
God is so good, he's so good to me.*

Assurance of Pardon

The crucified Christ has set us free to live in the Spirit of life. Hear the good news of the gospel. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

*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.*

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Exchange words of peace and reconciliation with one another.

***Sung Response**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

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

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Prayer of Illumination (unison)

Overwhelm us with Your Spirit, O God, that the words we hear will speak to our hearts as Your Word, made known to us in Christ the Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:11-22

Sermon

Pastor Christina

***Hymn (insert)**

Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit

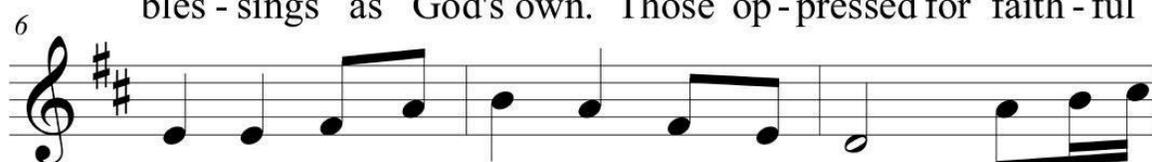
Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit



1. Bles - sed are the poor in spir - it; all God's
2. Bles - sed, too, are those who hun - ger and who
3. Those who share the peace God gives them will find



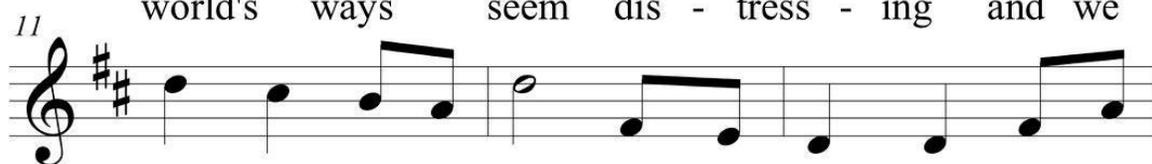
realm is sure - ly theirs. Those in mourn - ing will find
thirst for what is right. They will not be prone to
bles - sings as God's own. Those op - pressed for faith - ful



com - fort as an an - swer to their prayers. Meek ones
wan - der, for your will is their de - light. Those who
liv - ing will call Hea - ven's king - dom home. When the



whom this world de - spis - es will in -
show God's care and mer - cy will re -
world's ways seem dis - tress - ing and we



her - it ever - y - thing. God, your king - dom still sur -
ceive that mer - cy, too. God, in Christ you show us
feel life's pain - ful sting, God, re - mind us of the



pris - es; may we seek the reign you bring.
clear - ly of the joy we have in you.
bless - ings of the won - drous life you bring.

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Prayers of the People

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 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 glory, forever. Amen.

Sung Response

Be Still and Know

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

Morning Offering

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

God of grace, it is our delight and our devotion to give these gifts to you. All we are and all we have are yours alone. Accept this joyful offering as a token of our abiding love: use it to bring peace, justice and comfort to all the world, Amen.

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

Greetings from Our Guest

***Hymn #358** (blue) *Help Us Accept Each other*

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Today's Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:11-22

So remember that once you were Gentiles by physical descent, who were called “uncircumcised” by Jews who are physically circumcised. At that time you were without Christ. You were aliens rather than citizens of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of God's promise. In this world you had no hope and no God. But now, thanks to Christ Jesus, you who once were so far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Christ is our peace. He made both Jews and Gentiles into one group. With his body, he broke down the barrier of hatred that divided us. He canceled the detailed rules of the Law so that he could create one new person out of the two groups, making peace. He reconciled them both as one body to God by the cross, which ended the hostility to God.

When he came, he announced the good news of peace to you who were far away from God and to those who were near. We both have access to the Father through Christ by the one Spirit. So now you are no longer strangers and aliens. Rather, you are fellow citizens with God's people, and you belong to God's household. As God's household, you are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. The whole building is joined together in him, and it grows up into a temple that is dedicated to the Lord. Christ is building you into a place where God lives through the Spirit.

Prayer List:

Loving God, we lift the following in prayer to You. Hold these people and situations in Your hands, and in them, may Your will be done. Amen.

Concerns:

Travelling Mercies for those who are going on vacation; Karen Rozen; Shelly's friend Beth; Reshawn Whetstone; Kathy Francis; Vickie Jackson; Bonnie Smith; Garret Miniard; Jim Elliott; Barb Elliott; Lois Palmer; Al Bartholomew; Tina Castillo and her mom, Gayle; Jan Felton; The Rev. George Gillette; Mackenzie Brown; Susie Page; Pat MacDonald; Brenda Bollman; Rhonda Handley; Geneva Foster; Soulemayne Galadi, serving in the Congo; Those who make decisions that affect others; Those living with mental illness; Our military and veterans; Our police, fire, and other emergency responders; Our country;

Thanksgivings:

Miracles and healing mercies granted; Three expected grand-babies in the church family this year; Our church family; The church office volunteers; New jobs and the opportunities that come with them; For birthdays and anniversaries; For those who help others in crisis; For the angels in our church family

Continuing Prayers:

John & Nancy Allen; Penny Arnold; Marian Bouchey; Randy Jenison; Christina Latoski & family; Barb Pharr; Karen Rozen; Shelly & Jamie Sanders; Randy Smith, David Thum; Shelley Zamarron & family

If you would like someone added to the prayer list and announced during the Prayers of the People, please contact the church office or speak to Pastor Christina.

Happening this Week:

- Men's Breakfast – Tuesday, 8:30am – Hearthstone Oven
- Food Pantry – Wednesday, 9:30am – Food Pantry

Service Volunteers – June 30, 2019:

- Cynthia Smith, Liturgist
- Jim & Carolyn Gruesbeck, Greeters
- Cynthia Smith & Cheri Booth, Ushers
- _____, Coffee Hour
- Tom Heinlein & Carolyn Gruesbeck, Counters

By the Numbers – June 16, 2019

Attendance: 43 – Offering: \$1,024

Pastor Christina on Vacation

Pastor Christina will be on vacation June 27-July 12. If you have a pastoral emergency, call the church office and the office volunteers will pass your emergency on to the on-call pastor. We pray for safe travels for Pastor Christina and her family.

3 Sundays You Don't Want to Miss!

June 30 – Jamie Sanders is our guest preacher, and will be sharing a bit of where he has seen God in his own story

July 7 – Members of our Session will lead a meaningful service based on the writings of Ann Weems, late "poet laureate" of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

July 14 – We worship at Camp Westminster on Higgins Lake. Sign up on the table in the hallway to share rides. We will worship and have lunch with the campers and camp staff.

A Quilted Communion Cloth to Celebrate our Sesquicentennial

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of our congregation, we would like to create an "Old Rugged Cross" quilted banner. We would like each member to check their "rag bag" or the back of their closet for a piece of discarded cloth. Color and size do not matter - every color is accepted, and every piece can be made to fit – just know you won't be getting it back. There is a wicker hamper in the fireplace room, near the fireplace, to receive your donation. **We would like to collect all donations by July 31, 2019**, so that we will have time to weave and complete the quilt by our 150th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service, on February 16, 2020.

When you place your donation in the basket, it would be helpful if you would please write the names of the donors on the clipboard near the basket. If you have any questions, please see Sandy Parr.

Looking for Pictures and Memories

With our 150th Anniversary Celebration on the horizon, we are looking for any pictures, mementos, or other memories you might have of our church's history. The history book that was written a few years ago is a lovely place to read about our history, but we are looking for pictures. Were you married at our church? Did you have a child baptized here? Did you attend as a child? Please bring your photos of the church – or church activities – to the church office with your name clearly marked on them. We will scan them in and get the originals back to you. We can't make our anniversary the best without everyone's help. For more info, see Pastor Christina.



*The music printed in this bulletin is covered under CCLI #11388530.
Most of the prayers and responsive readings came from the Book of
Common Worship from the Office of the General Assembly.*

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To learn more about our congregation, visit our website:
www.ithacapres.org
and our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ithacapres

Leading Worship Today:

The Rev. Christina L. Jensen, Pastor
Karen Emery, Liturgist
Bob Crist, Music Director
Chuck & Karen Emery, Greeters
Chuck & Karen Emery, Ushers
Joy Heinlein & Dale Nester, Counters

Staff:

The Rev. Christina L. Jensen, Pastor
Bob Crist, Music Director
Chris Shemes, Treasurer
Shelley Zamarron, Custodian



The First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan, is a congregation of the Presbytery of Lake Huron of the Presbyterian Church (USA).