

First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan



Sunday, July 7, 2019
10:30am

Service for the Lord's Day
4th Sunday After Pentecost

July 7, 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

In Christ Alone

pg. 23

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive)

"Our God is Called Hope"

Our Lord was a Lord who turned things upside down and inside out

a man who dined with sinners

a man who befriended prostitutes and tax collectors

a man who was called heretic, a man who broke the Sabbath rules

a man who changed water into wine

And he bids us to follow him

to turn things upside down and inside out

to go where the hurting is, to change water into wine

to change who we are into the Kingdom of God.

***Opening Prayer**

"Prayer of Thanksgiving"

O Lord, you flower the gardens for us and make green the wastelands. The mountains burst forth with streams of water and the fields are filled with your bounty. Thank you, God, for all good gifts, and make our hearts your home that we might serve you all our days and live in the hope of your peace. Amen.

***Hymn #469** (blue)

Morning Has Broken

Call to Confession

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial, the Lord our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

O God, we confess that we forget who we are. We don't listen for a still small voice. We walk with our heads down and miss all the stars that could be ours. But we know, O God, that you are a God of Hope who does not forget your covenant with us, a Shepherd-God who looks for lost sheep, a faithful God who keeps calling us in spite of our deafness, a God who enters our history and opens our eyes and heals our blindness. O God, accept us as your stewards and send us out in the hope of your love. 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

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. 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

Psalm 66:1-9

A Reading

"You, Sitting in the Pew Next to Me"

Rick Teal & Vickie Thum

***Hymn #280 (blue)**

Amazing Grace

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

Affirmation of Faith

"Statement of Faith"

We believe in God, in Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, and in you and in me. We believe the Holy Spirit has freed us to worship as a community. We believe the Holy Spirit works through: balloons and ministers, daisies and wiggly children, clanging cymbals and silence, drama and the unexpected, choirs and banners, touching and praying, spontaneity and planning, faith and doubt, tears and laughter, leading and supporting, hugging and kneeling, dancing and stillness, applauding and giving, creativity and plodding, words and listening, holding and letting go, thank you and help me, Scripture and alleluias, agonizing and celebrating, accepting and caring, through you and through me, through Love. We believe God's Holy Spirit lives in this community of dancing, hand-holding people where lines of age and politics and lifestyles are crossed. We believe in praising God for Life. We believe in responding to God's grace and love and justice for all people. We believe in the poetry within each of us. We believe in dreams and visions. We believe in old people running and children leading. We believe in the Kingdom of God within us. We believe in Love.

*Hymn #485 (blue)

To God be the Glory

*Benediction

*Postlude

Today's Scripture Reading

Psalm 66:1-9

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth!

Sing praises to the glory of God's name!

Make glorious his praise!

Say to God:

"How awesome are your works!

Because of your great strength,

your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth worships you,

sings praises to you,

sings praises to your name!"

Come and see God's deeds;

his works for human beings are awesome:

He turned the sea into dry land

so they could cross the river on foot.

Right there we rejoiced in him!

God rules with power forever;

keeps a good eye on the nations.

So don't let the rebellious exalt themselves.

All you nations, bless our God!

Let the sound of his praise be heard!

God preserved us among the living;

he didn't let our feet slip a bit.

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:

Bob Crist; 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 – July 21, 2019:

- Vickie Thum, Liturgist
- Joy Heinlein & Cheri Booth Greeters
- Brad & Vickie Thum, Ushers
- Sandy Parr & Cheri Booth, Communion Servers
- Potluck, Coffee Hour
- Tom Heinlein & Rick Teal, Counters

About Today's Service

Many of the readings today were the works of Ann Weems. She was a noted writer, speaker, liturgist and worship leader, and had been called the "Poet Laureate" of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Among her seven published books or collections of poems, meant to be used in worship, in personal devotions, and in discussions, are *Kneeling in Jerusalem*, *Kneeling in Bethlehem* and the best-selling *Psalms of Lament*. She is also the author of the critically-acclaimed poem, *Balloons Belong in Church*, about her then four-year old son, Todd, who brought an orange balloon with pink stripes to church school one Sunday morning.

Ann Barr Weems passed away at the age of 81 on March 17, 2016, in St. Louis, Missouri, where she lived for over fifty years, due to complications from a brain tumor.

Next Sunday – An Opportunity You Don't Want to Miss!

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. **There will not be a service at Ithaca First next Sunday!**

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.

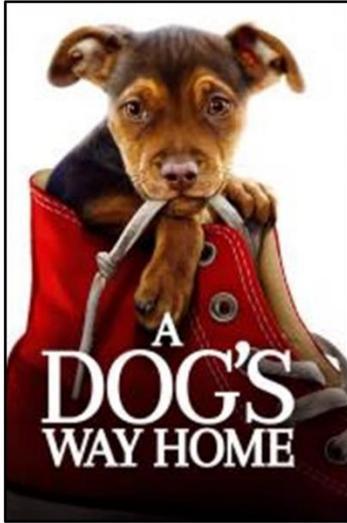
Looking for Pictures and Memories

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 were written by Ann Weems.*

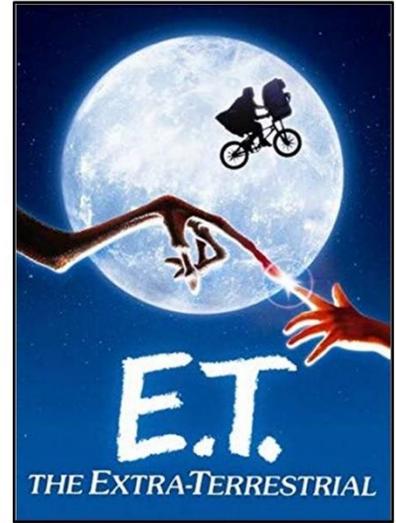
Movies on the Wall 2019



June 22



July 20



August 17

All movies start at dusk.

Parking Lot - Ithaca First Presbyterian Church
218 E Newark St. - Ithaca, Michigan

Bring your own chair
Free Popcorn! Free Hot Dogs! Free Drinks!

CVLI #504151790

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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:

Members of Session, Readers
Joy Heinlein, Liturgist
Sylvia Flegel, Guest Musician
Brad & Vickie Thum, Greeters
Brad & Vickie Thum, Ushers
Kathy Vanderbeek & Rick Teal, 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).