

First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan



Sunday, August 25, 2019
10:30am

Service for the Lord's Day
11th Sunday After Pentecost

August 25, 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

Better is One Day
Open the Eyes of My Heart

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Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive)

Present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

This is our spiritual worship.

Jesus has the words of eternal life;

he is the Holy One of God.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in love.

***Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, you have taught us that all our deeds without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the very bond of peace and of all goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn #260**

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

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, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

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

Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. Believe this good news and give thanks: in 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 Readings

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Luke 13:10-17

Sermon

"You're Doing it Wrong"

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Pomerville

***Hymn #343**

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

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

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn #356

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Benediction

*Postlude

Today's Scripture Readings

Jeremiah 1:4-10

The Lord's word came to me: "Before I created you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I set you apart; I made you a prophet to the nations." "Ah, Lord God," I said, "I don't know how to speak because I'm only a child." The Lord responded, "Don't say, 'I'm only a child.' Where I send you, you must go; what I tell you, you must say. Don't be afraid of them, because I'm with you to rescue you," declares the Lord. Then the Lord stretched out his hand, touched my mouth, and said to me, "I'm putting my words in your mouth. This very day I appoint you over nations and empires, to dig up and pull down, to destroy and demolish, to build and plant."

Luke 13:10-17

Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. A woman was there who had been disabled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and couldn't stand up straight. When he saw her, Jesus called her to him and said, "Woman, you are set free from your sickness." He placed his hands on her and she straightened up at once and praised God. The synagogue leader, incensed that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, responded, "There are six days during which work is permitted. Come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath day." The Lord replied, "Hypocrites! Don't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from its stall and lead it out to get a drink? Then isn't it necessary that this woman, a daughter of Abraham, bound by Satan for eighteen long years, be set free from her bondage on the Sabbath day?" When he said these things, all his opponents were put to shame, but all those in the crowd rejoiced at all the extraordinary things he was doing.

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:

The Thum family on the loss of Cousin David; The Yonker Family; Sharon Froom; Fred Grasley; Nola Owen; Shelly's friend Beth; Reshawn Whetstone; Bonnie Smith; Garret Miniard; Lois Palmer; Al Bartholomew; The Rev. George Gillette; Mackenzie Brown; 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; Students and teachers going back to school

Thanksgivings:

The birth of Ellery Philip Booth on 8/15; The birth of Elijah Harrison Nester on 7/29; Miracles and healing mercies granted; Two expected grandbabies 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; Rick & Mary Rimmel; Karen Rozen; Shelly & Jamie Sanders; Randy Smith; 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 – September 1, 2019:

- Joy Heinlein, Liturgist
- Dale & Marion Nester, Greeters
- Dale & Marion Nester, Ushers
- Art Faustmann & Carolyn Gruesbeck, Communion Servers
- Dale Nester & Tom Heinlein, Counters
- Potluck, Coffee Hour

Today, We Welcome the Rev. Dr. Andrew Pomerville

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Pomerville is the chaplain and director of spiritual life for Alma College. Andrew earned his Doctor of Ministry in Reformed Theology from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and the University of Aberdeen and holds a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and a BA in History from Alma College. He directs the pre-ministry program and teaches homiletics, community organizing/service and biblical studies in the Religious Studies department at Alma College. Andrew and his wife, Rachell, have two children, Denali and Bryce, both named after National Parks. Andrew was the chaplain for Denali National Park in 2005 and has also served as chaplain for Hospice of NW Michigan, Trenton Psychiatric Hospital, and currently is the chaplain for the East Lansing Police Department. In his free time, Andrew enjoys long distance running with his border collie, Detroit sports, and cheering on his children in dance, sports, and musical events. Andrew and the children play a variety of musical instruments and the whole family loves to travel, camp, hike, bike, run, duck hunt, and fish together.

Last Week By the Numbers – August 18

Attendance: 42

Offering: \$2,190

Backpack and Workbag Blessing – September 1

Calling all backpacks, lunch bags, work bags, and satchels – and the people who carry them! We will be having our 2019 Blessing of the Bags on Sunday, September 1 during worship service. Please plan to join us!

Congregational Meeting – September 1, Following Service

Following service next week, we will have a brief congregational meeting, for the purpose of electing a Nominating Committee. Potluck will follow, so you don't want to miss it!

Simply Give – Now Through September 28

Meijer is having another Simply Give campaign August 18-September 28. Each \$10 Simply Give card purchased is a donation to the Gratiot Hunger Network, of which our pantry is a member. Double Match Days are August 30 and September 13.

Help. Thanks. Wow. New Sermon Series Begins September 1

What are the three categories our prayers can be put into? Help. Thanks. Wow. Join us in September as Pastor Christina leads us through and exploration of what these three prayers are about.

Tabitha Circle Returns September 3

Our next Tabitha Circle meeting will be on Tuesday, September 3, at 7:00pm in the downstairs lounge. We will begin a study of Psalms 23 using the book *Traveling Light* by Max Lucado. In this study we will be given a better understanding of the words of Psalms 23 and we will be guided and encouraged to release burdens that God has never intended for us to carry. There is no age restriction for Tabitha Circle nor is attendance required every month. We do have a good time studying together and invite all of our church women to join us! If you would like to have the book *Traveling Light* ordered for you, please sign the sheet by the bulletin board or call the church office on Monday morning between 9:00 and noon. For more information, see Joy Heinlein.

New Mid-Week Adult Study

For our fall mid-week adult study, we will be reading, studying, and discussing John Ortberg's book *If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to Get Out of the Boat*, which, according to Amazon, is an award-winning book that uses the New Testament account of Jesus walking on water as a conceptual framework for discussing leaps of faith and encouraging readers to make them. This 6-week class will meet Wednesdays at 7:00pm, beginning October 2. If you'd like to participate, please sign up on the sheet on the table before September 11, so we can order enough books.

*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. Dr. Andrew Pomerville, Preacher
Cynthia Smith, Liturgist
Bob Crist, Music Director
Rex & Doff Rimmel, Greeter
Cynthia Smith & Cheri Booth, Ushers
Tom Heinlein & 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).