

# First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan



**Sunday, September 1, 2019**  
**10:30am**

Service for the Lord's Day  
12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

September 1, 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**

*Here I Am to Worship*

pg. 17

**Welcome & Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship** (responsive)

God said to Moses: I am who I am.

**This is the name of the Lord forever.**

Every generous act is a gift from God,

**who gives birth to us through the word.**

Do good and share what you have,

**for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.**

**\*Opening Prayer**

**O God, author and giver of all good things, plant in our hearts the love of your name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #220**

*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

## **Call to Confession**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

## **Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. 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**

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. 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**

**Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from Your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.**

**Scripture Reading**

Psalm 86

**Sermon**

Pastor Christina

**\*Hymn #210**

*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

## WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

### Morning Offering

#### \*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.**

## GOD'S WORD IS SEALED IN US

### Invitation to the Lord's Table

### Prayers of the People

#### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy...

... the faithful of every time and place who forever praise your name:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your Glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.***

Holy God, we thank you for Jesus Christ, your Son....

...for great is the mystery of faith:

***Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.***

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us...

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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 the glory, forever. Amen.**

## **\*Sharing the Bread and Cup**

## **Prayer After Communion (unison)**

**In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to You. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME**

**\*Hymn #539**

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

## Today's Scripture Reading

### Psalm 86

Lord, listen closely to me and answer me, because I am poor and in need. Guard my life because I am faithful. Save your servant who trusts in you—you! My God! Have mercy on me, Lord, because I cry out to you all day long. Make your servant's life happy again because, my Lord, I offer my life to you, because, my Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of faithful love for all those who cry out to you. Listen closely to my prayer, Lord; pay close attention to the sound of my requests for mercy. Whenever I am in trouble, I cry out to you, because you will answer me. My Lord! There is no one like you among the gods! There is nothing that can compare to your works! All the nations that you've made will come and bow down before you, Lord; they will glorify your name, because you are awesome and a wonder-worker. You are God. Just you. Teach me your way, Lord, so that I can walk in your truth. Make my heart focused only on honoring your name. I give thanks to you, my Lord, my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify your name forever, because your faithful love toward me is awesome and because you've rescued my life from the lowest part of hell. The arrogant rise up against me, God. A gang of violent people want me dead. They don't give a thought for you. But you, my Lord, are a God of compassion and mercy; you are very patient and full of faithful love. Come back to me! Have mercy on me! Give your servant your strength; save this child of your servant! Show me a sign of your goodness so that those who hate me will see it and be put to shame—show a sign that you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.



**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:**

Hannah Harlow; The Thum family on the loss of Cousin David; The Yonker Family; Sharon Froom; 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:**

- **Monday is Labor Day, the office will be closed**
- Tabitha Circle – Tuesday, 7:00pm – Fireplace Room
- Food Pantry – Wednesday, 9:30am – Food Pantry

## **Service Volunteers – September 8, 2019:**

- Rick Teal, Liturgist
- Cynthia Smith & Joy Heinlein, Greeters
- Rick Teal & Sandy Parr, Ushers
- Rick Teal & Tom Heinlein, Counters
- Nester Family, Coffee Hour

## **Last Week By the Numbers – August 25**

Attendance: 75

Offering: \$2,387

## **Congregational Meeting – TODAY, September 1, Following Service**

Following service today, 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**

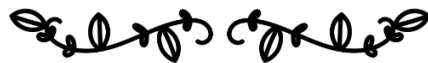
What are the three categories our prayers can be put into? Help. Thanks. Wow. Join us in September as Pastor Christina leads us through and exploration of what these three prayers are about.

## **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.  
Some 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](http://www.ithacapres.org)  
and our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/ithacapres](http://www.facebook.com/ithacapres)

**Leading Worship Today:**

The Rev. Christina L. Jensen, Pastor  
Vickie Thum, Liturgist  
Bob Crist, Music Director  
Rick & Lori Teal, Greeters  
Rick & Lori Teal, Ushers

Carolyn Gruesbeck & Art Faustmann, Communion Servers  
Rick Teal & Tom Heinlein, 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).