

First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan



Sunday, October 27, 2019
10:30am

**Service for the Lord's Day
20th Sunday After Pentecost**

October 27, 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

How Great is Our God

pg. 31

Better is One Day

pg. 33

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive)

The Lord is our eternal dwelling place;

from age to age, the Lord is our God.

God has done great things for us;

therefore, we rejoice in the Lord.

Be glad and rejoice in the Lord our God,

who pours down grace in abundance.

***Opening Prayer**

Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, Almighty God, to rule and direct us according to your will, to comfort us in all our temptations and afflictions, to defend us from all error, and lead us into truth; that we, being steadfast in the faith, may increase in love and in all good works, and in the end obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn #457** *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

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)

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.

Silent Confession

Sung Response

Rain Down

***Rain down; rain down; rain down your love on your people.
Rain down; rain down; rain down your love, God of life.***

Assurance of Pardon

If we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. Therefore, consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. 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

Romans 8:31-39

Sermon

"For I Am Convinced"

Pastor Christina

Part 4 of a 4-Part Series, "Who Can Be Against Us?"

***Hymn #361**

How Firm a Foundation

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Reception of New Members

Presentation

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Hear also these words from holy scripture:

There is one body and one Spirit,
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
**one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.**

Presentation for Baptism

Tina Castillo & Samantha Thum

On behalf of the session, I present Tina Castillo and Samantha Thum to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Putting your whole trust in the grace and love of Jesus Christ, Tina and Samantha, do you desire to be baptized? **I do.**

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Tina and Samantha by word and deed, with love and prayer? **We do.**

Will you encourage them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his church? **We will.**

Presentation for Profession of Faith

Gary Vernon

Gary Vernon is presented by the session for the reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant. He now desires to profess his faith publicly and to accept greater responsibility in the life of the church and God's mission in the world.

Presentation of Transferred Members

Tom & Sally Nester

On behalf of the Session, I present Tom and Sally Nester, who have been received into the membership of this congregation by letter of transfer from New Hope United Methodist Church.

Profession of Faith

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? ***I do.***

Who is your Lord and Savior? ***Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.***

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? ***I will, with God's help.***

Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread, and the prayers? ***I will, with God's help.***

***Affirmation of Faith (unison)**

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God: In countless ways...

...Through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we
bless you, God of glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Sacrament of Baptism

Laying on of Hands and Anointing

Welcome

Sung Response

You Belong to Christ

sing twice

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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 *Bless the Lord, My Soul* sing twice
Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

Morning Offering

Offertory *Lead and I Will Follow*
Chancel Choir

***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

***Hymn #260** *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Today's Scripture Reading

Romans 8:31-39 (NRSV)

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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:

Sally Nester; The Allen Family; Jackie Hartsaw; Phyllis Schmidt and family, on the loss of her son; Karen Moore; Beth Brostrom; Stacy Bosley Mockridge; Hannah Harlow; Sharon Froom; Shelly's friend Beth; Reshawn Whetstone; Bonnie Smith; Garret Miniard; Al Bartholomew; The Rev. George Gillette; 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; An expected grand-baby 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:

- Stamp Camp – Tuesday, 6:30pm – Fireplace Room
- Food Pantry – Wednesday, 9:30am – Food Pantry
- If You Want to Walk – Wednesday, 7:00pm – Fireplace Room

Service Volunteers – November 3, 2019:

- Joy Heinlein, Liturgist
- Bill & Jackie Bowen, Greeters
- Sandy Parr & Art Faustmann, Ushers
- Sandy Parr & Art Faustmann, Communion Servers
- Rick Teal & Kathy Vanderbeek, Counters
- Potluck, Coffee Hour

Last Week By the Numbers –October 20, 2019

Attendance: 58

Offering: \$1,011

Mission Opportunity - Care and Comfort for Our Deployed Soldiers

Donations for the care and comfort for our Deployed Servicemen and women will be blessed during service on November 10. Please try to have your donations in to the church by that Sunday. Any questions, see Ken Owen.



*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
and our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ithacapres

Leading Worship Today:

The Rev. Christina L. Jensen, Preacher
Penny Arnold, Liturgist
Bob Crist, Music Director
Jim & Carolyn Gruesbeck, Greeters
Karen Emery & Cynthia Smith, Ushers
Rick Teal & Kathy Vanderbeek, 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).