

**First Presbyterian Church
of Ithaca, Michigan**



**Sunday, November 10, 2019
10:30am**

Service for the Lord's Day
22nd Sunday After Pentecost

November 10, 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>Lord, I Lift Your Name on High</i>	pg. 13
	<i>Shout to the Lord</i>	pg. 37

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive)

Choose this day whom you will serve.

We will serve and obey the Lord our God.

The Lord watches over the strangers;

God upholds those who are in need.

Stand firm and hold fast to your faith.

God will strengthen us in word and deed.

***Opening Prayer**

O God, your blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of evil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life. Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

***Hymn #552**

Give Thanks, O Christian People

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, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

Silent Confession

Sung Response

Come and Fill Our Hearts

sing twice

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

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

1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

Sermon

"Rejoice Always"

Pastor Christina

Part 2 of a 3-Part Series, "Thanks and Giving"

***Hymn #555**

Now Thank We All Our God

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

I Love You, Lord

*I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you; O my soul, rejoice.
Take joy, my King, in what you hear;
may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.*

Morning Offering

Offertory

Joyful Praise
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

***Blessing of the Gifts for Those Deployed**

Dear Lord, today we honor our veterans, worthy men and women who gave their best when they were called upon to serve and protect their country. We pray that you will bless them for their unselfish service in the continual struggle to preserve our freedoms, our safety, and our country's heritage, for all of us. Bless them abundantly for the hardships they faced, for the sacrifices they made for their many different contributions to America's victories over tyranny and oppression. We respect them, we thank them, we honor them, we are proud of them. We pray that you will watch over these special people and bless them with peace and happiness.

We ask, O God, that you continue to bless our active military personnel. Keep them safe in the work that they are doing, and help them to feel the support of those who wait for them at home. Give them courage to face the task before them, though it is not one they requested. May our gifts, small though they may be, be a blessing to them, and keep them encouraged.

We give all thanks and praise to you, Gracious God, for those who defend us, for those who protect us, and for those who give the ultimate sacrifice. We ask these things in the name of our Great Protector, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***Hymn #394**

There is a Balm in Gilead

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Today's Scripture Readings

1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

Brothers and sisters, we ask you to respect those who are working with you, leading you, and instructing you. Think of them highly with love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are disorderly. Comfort the discouraged. Help the weak. Be patient with everyone. Make sure no one repays a wrong with a wrong, but always pursue the good for each other and everyone else. Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Don't suppress the Spirit. Don't brush off Spirit-inspired messages, but examine everything carefully and hang on to what is good. Avoid every kind of evil. Now, may the God of peace himself cause you to be completely dedicated to him; and may your spirit, soul, and body be kept intact and blameless at our Lord Jesus Christ's coming. The one who is calling you is faithful and will do this.

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:

Jim & Cecille Bowen and family, on the loss of Jim's mom; Pastor Tom Whitesel; Buena Vista University, Josh Merchant, and the family of Canyon "Moose" Hopkins; Sally Nester; Jackie Hartsaw; Phyllis Schmidt and family, on the loss of her son; Karen Moore; Beth Brostrom; Stacy Bosley Mockridge; Hannah Harlow; Sharon Froom; 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:

The safe delivery of Juliette Rose Heinlein on 10/23; Miracles and healing mercies granted; 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.

Stewardship Thoughts: On Thankfulness

“I am thankful for my church because when I take my seat in the pew on Sunday morning I feel loved and supported and in turn it makes me want to help others feel that same sense of belonging. I feel God’s hand a work every time I step through the door.” – *Carolyn Gruesbeck*

“I thank God for MY CHURCH; the building in which to worship, meet, work and play; the community of believers that I consider family; and the leadership that insures that our journey is part of God’s plan to work with and serve others. My faith is renewed, my sins are forgiven, my life is declared eternal, and my Redeemer gives me the strength to carry on... Blessings that I am thankful for and am reminded of in MY CHURCH.”
– *Joy Heinlein*



Happening this Week:

- Men’s Breakfast – Tuesday, 8:30am – Hearthstone Oven
- Team Meetings – Tuesday, 7:00pm – Fireplace Room
- Food Pantry – Wednesday, 9:30am – Food Pantry
- Stamping Bingo – Wednesday, 6:30pm – Fireplace Room

Service Volunteers – November 17, 2019:

- Vickie Thum, Liturgist
- Brad & Vickie Thum, Greeters
- Joy Heinlein & Cheri Booth, Ushers
- Dale Nester & Vickie Thum, Counters
- Caring Team, Coffee Hour

Last Week By the Numbers – November 3

Attendance: 40

Offering: \$4,895

Congregational Meeting - November 17

There will be a brief congregational meeting on Sunday, November 17 following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers for the class of 2022. A luncheon will follow, hosted by the Caring Team.

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas!

Join us on Wednesday, November 20 as we deck the halls here at the church! Pizza will be served at 6, decorating starts at 7! It's a fun time for all, and there's plenty of work to be done. For more info, see Joy Heinlein or Pastor Christina.



*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.*

The Ithaca Ministerial Association presents the annual

Community Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 24 at 6:00pm

First Presbyterian Church

218 E. Newark St., Ithaca, Michigan

Join us as we gather as a community to give thanks for our many blessings in an ecumenical worship service.

All are truly welcome!



First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca
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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
Sandy Parr, Liturgist
Bob Crist, Music Director
Cynthia Smith & Joy Heinlein, Greeter
Cynthia Smith & Joy Heinlein, Ushers
Carolyn Gruesbeck & Vickie Thum, 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).