

**First Presbyterian Church
of Ithaca, Michigan**

**LET OUR
hearts
BE FULL OF BOTH
THANKS AND
giving**

**Sunday, November 17, 2019
10:30am**

Service for the Lord's Day
23rd Sunday After Pentecost

November 17, 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'm So Glad

pg. 35

Give Thanks

pg. 39

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive)

The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

Lord, send us out into your harvest.

The kingdom of God is like a tiny mustard seed;

it grows into a great plant with many branches.

We have been crucified with Christ;

now it is Christ who lives in us.

***Opening Prayer**

Ever-living God, before the earth was formed and even after it shall cease to be, you are God. Break into our short span of life and show us those things that are eternal, that we may serve your purpose in all we do; 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 #551**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Call to Confession

We have been buried with Christ in baptism, in order that we might be raised to new life with him through faith in the power of God. Trusting in God's grace, 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 *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

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace 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 Exodus 35:4-29

Sermon "Nadib Leb" Pastor Christina
Part 3 of a 3-Part Series, "Thanks and Giving"

***Hymn #428** *We Give Thee but Thine Own*

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

In Christ Alone
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

***Litany of Commitment** (responsive)

Gracious God, you have made a world for us and given us incomparable gifts: air and water, family and friends, your steadfast love and forgiveness, and your son Jesus the Christ. For all the gifts and wonders you have bestowed on us.

We thank you and worship you with renewed gratitude.

O God, you created us to love one another as Christ has loved us. We are concerned about all your children, those who live near us, and those who live far away. We are eager to participate in the work of the whole church and to further the ministry and service of this congregation.

We are called to be your stewards. We thoughtfully shoulder our personal share of responsibility, and we pledge to witness to the good news of Christ with our hearts and hands and voices.

We are confident in your love and care for us.

We gladly give back to our Gracious God our whole lives, our time, our talents, and our financial resources.

You are invited to place your pledge card in the basket as it is passed around.

***Hymn #559**

We Gather Together

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Today's Scripture Readings

Exodus 35:4-29

Moses said to the whole Israelite community, This is what the Lord has commanded: Collect gift offerings for the Lord from all of you. Whoever freely wants to give should bring the Lord's gift offerings: gold, silver, and copper; blue, purple, and deep red yarns; fine linen; goats' hair; rams' skins dyed red; beaded leather; acacia wood; the oil for the light; spices for the anointing oil and for the sweet-smelling incense; gemstones; and gems for setting in the priest's vest and in the priest's chest pendant.

All of you who are skilled in crafts should come forward and make everything that the Lord has commanded: the dwelling, its tent and its covering, its clasps, its boards, its bars, its posts, and its bases, the chest with its poles and its cover, the veil for a screen, the table with its poles and all its equipment, the bread of the presence, the lampstand for light with its equipment and its lamps, the oil for the light, the incense altar with its poles, the anointing oil and the sweet-smelling incense, the entrance screen for the dwelling's entrance, the altar for entirely burned offerings with its copper grate, its poles, and all its equipment, the washbasin with its stand, the courtyard's drapes, its posts, and its bases, and the screen for the courtyard gate, the dwelling's tent pegs and the courtyard's tent pegs, and their cords, the woven clothing for ministering in the sanctuary, and the holy clothes for Aaron the priest and his sons for their service as priests.

The whole Israelite community left Moses. Everyone who was excited and eager to participate brought the Lord's gift offerings to be used for building the meeting tent and all its furnishings and for the holy clothes. Both men and women came forward. Everyone who was eager to participate brought pins, earrings, rings, and necklaces, all sorts of gold objects. Everyone raised an uplifted offering of gold to the Lord. And everyone who had blue or purple or deep red yarn or fine linen or goats' hair or rams' skins dyed red or beaded leather brought them. Everyone who could make a gift offering of silver or copper brought it as the Lord's gift offering. Everyone who had acacia wood that could be used in any kind of building work brought it. All the skilled women spun cloth with their hands, and brought what they had spun in blue and purple and deep red yarns and fine linen. All the women who were eager to use their skill spun the goats' hair. The chiefs brought gemstones and gems to be set in the priest's vest and the chest pendant, spices and oil for light and for the anointing oil, and for the sweet-smelling incense. All the Israelite men and women who were eager to contribute something for the work that the Lord had commanded Moses to do brought it as a spontaneous gift to the 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:

Jim & Cecille Bowen and family, on the loss of Jim's mom, Jo; Pastor Tom Whitesel; Sally Nester; Jackie Hartsaw; Phyllis Schmidt and family, on the loss of her son; Karen Moore; Stacy Bosley Mockridge; 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:

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

“We are thankful for Ithaca First in many ways. We find ourselves within a congregation of an “others first” mentality. We find ourselves within a congregation of individuals who bring a myriad of talents and spiritual gifts, all who are willing to share them with the community at large and not just within our church walls. Our membership is as varied as the daily weather in Michigan, no two are quite the same, and yet all are appreciated. Though small in number, we are strong in faith to God, this church, and each other.” – *Dale Nester*



Happening this Week:

- Women’s Breakfast – Monday, 9:00am – Hearthstone Oven
- Finance Team – Tuesday, 6:00pm – Fellowship Hall
- Session – Tuesday, 7:00pm – Fellowship Hall
- Food Pantry – Wednesday, 9:30am – Food Pantry
- Christmas Decorating – Wednesday, 6:00pm – Fireplace Room

Service Volunteers – November 24, 2019:

- Penny Arnold, Liturgist
- Jerry Clagg & Carolyn Gruesbeck, Greeters
- Sandy Parr & Marion Nester, Ushers
- Tom Heinlein & Dale Nester, Counters
- Karen Emery, Coffee Hour

Last Week by the Numbers – November 10

Attendance: 42

Offering: \$1,725

Congregational Meeting - November 17

There will be a brief congregational meeting TODAY, 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.

Community Thanksgiving Service – November 24 at 6pm

Join us for the Ithaca Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 24 at 6pm. The service will be here at First Presbyterian Church, and will include our neighbors from the other Ithaca churches.

Upcoming Fundraisers for the Good Samaritan Fund

Starting December 1, there will be a couple of ways you can support the Good Samaritan Fund. The Mission & Fellowship Team will be selling blank greeting cards with a picture of the chancel decorated for Christmas. These packs of 10 cards will be available for \$5. Also beginning December 1, there will be forms in your bulletins for you to dedicate a luminaria in memory or honor of a loved one. Luminaria are \$1 each, and will be used to line the walkways around the church on Christmas Eve. Please consider supporting the Good Samaritan Fund.



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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
Vickie Thum, Liturgist
Bob Crist, Music Director
Brad & Vickie Thum, Greeter
Cheri Booth & Joy Heinlein, Ushers
Dale Nester & 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).