

**First Presbyterian Church
of Ithaca, Michigan**



**All You Need Is
LOVE**

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

Service for the Lord's Day
6th Sunday After Epiphany

February 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 Will Celebrate

***I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord; sing to the Lord a new song.
I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord; sing to the Lord a new song.***

***With my heart rejoicing within, with my mind focused on Him;
With my hands raised to the heavens, all I am, worshipping Him.***

***I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord; sing to the Lord a new song.
I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord; sing to the Lord a new song.***

Better is One Day

***How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord almighty.
For my soul longs and even faints for you.
For here my heart is satisfied within your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of your wings.***

Refrain:

***Better is one day in your courts, better is one day in your house,
Better is one day in your courts than thousands elsewhere.
Better is one day in your courts, better is one day in your house,
Better is one day in your courts than thousands elsewhere.***

*One thing I ask and I would seek: to see your beauty,
To find you in the place your glory dwells.
One thing I ask and I would seek: to see your beauty,
To find you in the place your glory dwells.
(refrain)*

*Bridge:
My heart and flesh cry out for you the living God.
Your Spirit's water to my soul.
I've tasted and I've seen. Come once again to me.
I will draw near to you, I will draw near to you, to you.
(refrain)*

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship (responsive)**

Love never gives up.

Love cares more for others than for self.

Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.

Love doesn't strut,

Doesn't have a swelled head, doesn't force itself on others,

Love is never "me first,"

Doesn't fly off the handle, doesn't keep score of the sins of others,

Doesn't revel when others grovel,

Love takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,

Puts up with anything, trusts God always,

Love always looks for the best,

Never looks back, but keeps going to the end.

Love never dies.

We have faith, hope, and love, but the greatest of these is love.

And we come to worship the One who teaches us to pursue love.

***Opening Prayer (unison)**

God of Love: We come to worship today to hear your good news, to hear of faith, hope and love ringing out from your kingdom. We know that doubt, fear and hatred can shake even the strongest. Shape us into faithful hopeful people, fill us with your love that passes all understanding. We pray this together in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

***Hymn #315 (red)**

Where Love Is, God Abides

Call to Confession

The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in Christ, we dare to approach God with confidence. Let us admit our sins before God.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Sung Response

Think About His Love

***Think about his love, think about his goodness,
Think about his grace that's brought us through.
For as high as the heavens above,
So great is the measure of our Father's love.
Great is the measure of our Father's love.***

Assurance of Pardon

Even before we were born, God knew us. God has always been with us. Place your trust in God's presence and forgiving love. Rejoice! In the name of Jesus Christ, we all are forgiven! 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 Corinthians 13:1-13

Sermon

“Love is Patient and Kind”

Pastor Christina

Third in a series, “All You Need is LOVE!”

***Hymn #335 (blue)**

Though I May Speak

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 the 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

***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 Apostle's 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 #366 (blue)**

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Today's Readings

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don't have love, I'm a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and I know all the mysteries and everything else, and if I have such complete faith that I can move mountains but I don't have love, I'm nothing. If I give away everything that I have and hand over my own body to feel good about what I've done but I don't have love, I receive no benefit whatsoever. Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't brag, it isn't arrogant, it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of complaints, it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things. Love never fails. As for prophecies, they will be brought to an end. As for tongues, they will stop. As for knowledge, it will be brought to an end. We know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, what is partial will be brought to an end. When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, reason like a child, think like a child. But now that I have become a man, I've put an end to childish things. Now we see a reflection in a mirror; then we will see face-to-face. Now I know partially, but then I will know completely in the same way that I have been completely known. Now faith, hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love.

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:

Brad Thum and family on the loss of his dad, Marvin; Tina Castillo; Johnathan Jensen; Bill Brostrom; Bob Crist, recovering from surgery; Penny Arnold, recovering from surgery; Jan Felton; Ilona Bertsch; The Rev. George Gillette; Karen, Kathy Vanderbeek's sister; Mackenzie Brown; Susie Page; Bonnie Smith; Barb Pharr; Pat MacDonald; Peggy Ronk; Brenda Bollman; Rhonda Handley; Karen Rozen; Randy Jenison; Geneva Foster; Sandy Parr's sister Barb Elliot; 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:

Ithaca First Presbyterian Church's 149th anniversary on February 16; 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:

Geneva Alasadi & family; John & Nancy Allen; Penny Arnold; Marian Bouchey; Lou Dellinger; Art Faustmann; Christina Latoski & family; Karen Rozen; Shelly & Jamie Sanders; Randy Smith, David Thum; 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:

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

Next Week's Volunteers – February 24, 2019:

- Sandy Parr, Liturgist
- Tom & Sally Nester, Greeters
- Chuck & Karen Emery, Ushers
- Nester Family, Coffee Hour



A Note from Our Custodian...

Please note that the blue receptacle in the hall outside of the sanctuary is for recycling only! It is not a trash can. Please help us help the environment by being mindful of what goes in the blue can. Thank you!

Save the Date: Festival of Church Music - March 17 at 3:00pm

Where: Alma First Church of God.

What: Concert by local church musicians: organists, pianists, choirs, ensembles, soloists.

Why: A fundraiser for Love in the Name of Christ (Love INC) in Gratiot County! Free will offerings will be received.

Goal: To gather the congregations of partner churches to celebrate the work being done by Love, INC of Gratiot County!

Snow Day? The Office is Closed!

This is a friendly reminder that if the Ithaca School District has a snow day due to the amount of precipitation (snow and/or ice) we've had dumped on us, the church office will be closed. If schools are closed because the back roads are a mess, but the roads here in town are fine, then we will probably be open. We hope and pray that everyone will be safe this winter. **PLEASE NOTE:** If the Ithaca Public Schools are closed on a Wednesday, the Pantry is also closed, regardless of the church office status.

Blue Presbyterian Hymnals - Do You Want One?

We are thankful for Fort Street Presbyterian Church's gift of the blue Presbyterian Hymnals - and we have an abundance of them! If you would like to take one home, or know someone who would like one at home, please take one (or two)! We have plenty. Thanks!

We Need YOU...

...to sign up to be a worship leader! You can sign up to be a liturgist/lay leader, or team up with a friend and be greeters or ushers. Leading in the sanctuary not your thing, but you love to feed people? Sign up to host coffee hour! Sign up sheets are on the table in the hall, just outside of the fireplace room. We - the church family - can't do what we do without your help!



*The music printed in this bulletin is covered under CCLI #11388530.
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Common Worship 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, Pastor
Karen Emery, Lay Leader
Bob Crist, Music Director
Chuck & Karen Emery, Greeters
Chuck Emery & Sandy Parr, Ushers

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).