

**First Presbyterian Church
of Ithaca, Michigan**



**All You Need Is
LOVE**

**Sunday, February 24, 2019
10:30am**

Service for the Lord's Day
7th Sunday After Epiphany

February 24, 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 Sing of My Redeemer*

*I will sing of my Redeemer and His wondrous love to me;
On the cruel cross He suffered from the curse to set me free.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me.
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and set me free.*

*I will tell the wondrous story how, my lost estate to save,
In his boundless love and mercy he the ransom freely gave.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me.
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and set me free.*

*I will praise my dear Redeemer; his triumphant power I'll tell,
How the victory he giveth over sin and death and hell.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me.
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and set me free.*

*I will sing of my Redeemer, and his heavenly love for me;
He from death to life hath brought me, Son of God, with Him to be.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me.
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and set me free.*

Welcome & Announcements

*Call to Worship (responsive)

Come and learn the ways of life.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who persecute you.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

We have come to follow Jesus.

*Opening Prayer (unison)

Inexhaustible source of love and life, be with us in our time of worship as we seek the love it takes to walk in the ways of your Son. Help us love our enemies and bless those who wrong us, for we cannot do so alone. Teach us the joy of treating others with all the same respect and goodness with which we hope to be treated. May our every word and deed make known that we are your beloved children and vessels of your love. Amen.

*Hymn #326 (blue)

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

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)

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

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

Luke 6:27-36

Sermon

"Love Gives"

Pastor Christina

Final in a series, "All You Need is LOVE!"

***Hymn #367 (blue)**

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

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 #422 (blue)**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Today's Readings

Luke 6:27-36

“But I say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don't withhold your shirt either. Give to everyone who asks and don't demand your things back from those who take them. Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you. “If you love those who love you, why should you be commended? Even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, why should you be commended? Even sinners do that. If you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, why should you be commended? Even sinners lend to sinners expecting to be paid back in full. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend expecting nothing in return. If you do, you will have a great reward. You will be acting the way children of the Most High act, for he is kind to ungrateful and wicked people. Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate.

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:

Al Bartholomew; Cecille Bowen; Paul Speranza; Brad Thum and family on the loss of his dad, Marvin; Tina Castillo and her mom, Gayle; 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:

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; 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:

- Men's Breakfast – Tuesday, 8:30am – Hearthstone Oven
- Food Pantry – Wednesday, 9:30am – Food Pantry

Next Week's Volunteers – March 3, 2019:

- Joy Heinlein, Liturgist
- Tom & Sally Nester, Greeters
- Brad & Vickie Thum, Ushers
- Brad & Vickie Thum, Communion Servers
- Potluck, Coffee Hour



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.
Some of the prayers and responsive readings came from Ministry Matters.*

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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
Sandy Parr, Lay Leader
Bob Crist, Music Director
Tom & Sally Nester, Greeters
Cynthia Smith & 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).