

First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan



Sunday, March 10, 2019
10:30am

Service for the Lord's Day

1st Sunday in Lent

March 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

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship (responsive)**

Long ago, God rescued God's people from slavery.

We are enslaved today, in many different ways.

God can and will rescue us. Place your trust in God's love.

Our hope is in the Lord who is our refuge and our strength.

Even though temptations surround us, drawing us away from God,

We will continue to follow God and trust in God's ways.

***Opening Prayer (unison)**

In the quiet of this moment, in the stillness of this place, draw near to us, O God. As we seek the shelter of your refuge, as we celebrate the bounty of your provision, hearken to our need, Holy One. Transform this time and place into our land of milk and honey—a land where you are among us, a land where your mighty hand and your outstretched arm protect us, a land where you alone are worthy of our worship and service. We ask this in the saving name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn #81 (blue)**

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

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)

In a world which values gambling, risking, taking dares, Lord, we come to this time of temptation. We confess that we are often enticed to take the risk for the rewards, often financial, offered if you win. Just “a dollar and a dream” and we hear the glory stories of people receiving great monetary wealth; later, we discover how many lives have been destroyed by this grand prize. Forgive us when we hunger for the wealth and power the world dangles before us. Move us from greed to gratitude for your blessings. Heal our wounded spirits and lives, so that we may fully serve you. Prepare us for this journey of discipleship and healing. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Sung Response

The First Song of Isaiah

Surely, it is God who saves me;

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

***For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.***

Assurance of Pardon

God will provide for our needs; therefore, we must place our trust in God. We are not alone. God is with us always. Thanks be to God, we 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**

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.***

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.

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
**will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust."**

Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling place,
no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.

**On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.**

You will tread on the lion and the adder,
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

Those who love me, I will deliver;

I will protect those who know my name.

When they call to me, I will answer them;

I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them.

With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

Anthem

Come and Kneel at the Cross
Chancel Choir

Besig/Price

Scripture Reading

Romans 10:5-13

Sermon

"Don't Give Up Your Voice"
First in a Series, "Don't Give Up"

Pastor Christina

***Hymn #466 (blue)**

O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing

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

In His Time

*In His time, in His time; he makes all things beautiful in His time.
Lord, please show me every day as you're teaching me your way,
that you do just what you say in your time.*

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 #394 (blue)

There is a Balm in Gilead

*Benediction

*Postlude

Today's Reading

Romans 10:5-13

Moses writes about the righteousness that comes from the Law: The person who does these things will live by them. But the righteousness that comes from faith talks like this: Don't say in your heart, "Who will go up into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will go down into the region below?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (that is, the message of faith that we preach). Because if you confess with your mouth "Jesus is Lord" and in your heart you have faith that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Trusting with the heart leads to righteousness, and confessing with the mouth leads to salvation. The scripture says, All who have faith in him won't be put to shame. There is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord is Lord of all, who gives richly to all who call on him. All who call on the Lord's name will be saved.

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:

Evelyn Gilbert; Randy Jenison's Aunt Janet; Brenda Helman; Al Bartholomew; Tina Castillo and her mom, Gayle; Jan Felton; Ilona Bertsch; The Rev. George Gillette; Karen, Kathy Vanderbeek's sister; Mackenzie Brown; Susie Page; Bonnie Smith; Barb Pharr; Pat MacDonald; Brenda Bollman; Rhonda Handley; Karen Rozen; Randy Jenison; 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

Those Recovering from Surgery:

Penny Arnold; Cecille Bowen; Bill Brostrom; Bob Crist; Peggy Ronk

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; 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
- Team Meetings – Tuesday, 7:00pm – Fireplace Room
- Food Pantry – Wednesday, 9:30am – Food Pantry
- Midweek Lent Supper – Wednesday, 6:00pm – Fireplace Room
- Midweek Lent Service – Wednesday, 7:00pm – Sanctuary
- Session Retreat – Saturday, 10:00am – Nester's Cottage

Next Week's Volunteers – March 17, 2019:

- Vickie Thum, Liturgist
- Brad & Vickie Thum, Greeters
- Cynthia Smith & Joy Heinlein, Ushers
- Pastor Christina and Jamie & Shelly Sanders, Coffee Hour



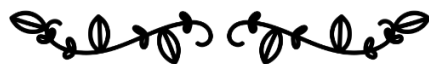
Save the Date: Festival of Church Music - March 17 at 3:00pm

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!



*The music printed in this bulletin is covered under CCLI #11388530.
Some of the prayers and responsive readings came from Ministry Matters.*



40 Days of Remembering **Lent 2019**

Ash Wednesday - March 6

Supper - 6:00p

Service - 7:00p

Midweek Services

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10

Supper - 6:00p

Service - 7:00p

Maundy Thursday

April 17 - 6:30p

Supper and Service

First Presbyterian

Lent Sermon Series:

"Don't Give Up..."

3/10: Your Voice

3/17: Your Neighborhood

3/24: Being Church

3/31: People

4/7: Love

4/14: He Didn't Give Up

Good Friday Services

April 18

First Presbyterian - 12:00p

Community @ UMC - 6:30p

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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
Cynthia Smith, Liturgist
Bob Crist, Music Director
Joy Heinlein & Barb Litwiller, Greeters
Cynthia Smith & Cheri Booth, 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).