

First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan



Sunday, March 3, 2019
10:30am

Service for the Lord's Day
Transfiguration of the Lord

March 3, 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

Surely the Presence

***Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can hear the brush of angels wings,
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.
(repeat)***

Find Us Faithful

***O may all who come behind us find us faithful;
May the fire of our devotion light their way.
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe,
And the lives we live inspire them to obey.
O may all who come behind us find us faithful.
(repeat)***

Welcome & Announcements

*Call to Worship (responsive)

The Lord reigns.

Let the nations tremble.

The Lord reigns.

Let them praise God's holy name.

The Lord reigns.

Let the peoples rejoice in awe and wonder.

The Lord reigns.

Let them shout in exaltation!

*Opening Prayer (unison)

Radiant Lord, you shine with purity, power, and truth. Your mercy reflects your compassion, your care, and your love. Transform us into your image as we seek to follow you. Use us to make your presence known throughout the world. In your strong name we pray. Amen.

*Hymn #73 (blue)

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

Call to Confession

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Lord, you call us to draw near, yet we fail to hear your voice. We sleepwalk through life, ignoring the needs of people all around us and worrying about our own desires. Forgive us: when we shut out the call to climb into your presence; when we make excuses to put off that journey. Have mercy on us, O Lord, as we silently open our hearts and confess our sins.

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

We worship a forgiving God, whose mercy is never ending, whose heart abounds in steadfast love. Because of the love of Jesus Christ, nothing can separate us from the love of God. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!

***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!

***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.

GOD'S WORD IS SEALED IN US

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayers of the People

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your Glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ...

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...

...Through your son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.

***Sharing the Bread and Cup**

Prayer After Communion (unison)

In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to You. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

***Hymn #510** (blue) *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*

***Benediction**

***Postlude**



Today's Reading – Luke 9:38-36, 37-43a

About eight days after Jesus said these things, he took Peter, John, and James, and went up on a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed and his clothes flashed white like lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, were talking with him. They were clothed with heavenly splendor and spoke about Jesus' departure, which he would achieve in Jerusalem. Peter and those with him were almost overcome by sleep, but they managed to stay awake and saw his glory as well as the two men with him. As the two men were about to leave Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it's good that we're here. We should construct three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—but he didn't know what he was saying. Peter was still speaking when a cloud overshadowed them. As they entered the cloud, they were overcome with awe. Then a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, my chosen one. Listen to him!" Even as the voice spoke, Jesus was found alone. They were speechless and at the time told no one what they had seen.

The next day, when Jesus, Peter, John, and James had come down from the mountain, a large crowd met Jesus. A man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to take a look at my son, my only child. Look, a spirit seizes him and, without any warning, he screams. It shakes him and causes him to foam at the mouth. It tortures him and rarely leaves him alone. I begged your disciples to throw it out, but they couldn't." Jesus answered, "You faithless and crooked generation, how long will I be with you and put up with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon threw him down and shook him violently. Jesus spoke harshly to the unclean spirit, healed the child, and gave him back to his father. Everyone was overwhelmed by God's greatness.

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:

Randy Jenison's Aunt Janet; Brenda Helman; Al Bartholomew; Cecille Bowen; Paul Speranza; Brad Thum and family on the loss of his dad, Marvin; Tina Castillo and her mom, Gayle; Bill Brostrom, recovering from surgery; 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; 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
- Tabitha Circle – Tuesday, 7:00pm – Downstairs Lounge
- Food Pantry – Wednesday, 9:30am – Food Pantry
- Ash Wednesday Supper – Wednesday, 6:00pm – Fireplace Room
- Ash Wednesday Service – Wednesday, 7:00pm – Sanctuary

Next Week's Volunteers – March 10, 2019:

- Cynthia Smith, Lay Leader
- Barb Litwiller & Joy Heinlein, Greeters
- Cynthia Smith & Cheri Booth, Ushers
- Barb Litwiller & Joy Heinlein, Coffee Hour
- Kathy Vanderbeek & Dale Nester, Counters

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.
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www.ministrymatters.com.



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
Joy Heinlein, Lay Leader
Bob Crist, Music Director
Tom & Sally Nester, Greeters
Brad & Vickie Thum, Ushers
Brad & Vickie Thum, Communion Servers
Joy & Tom Heinlein, 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).