

First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan



**Sunday, April 7, 2019
10:30am**

Service for the Lord's Day

5th Sunday in Lent

April 7, 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)**

Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in Christ will never die.

The Lord makes a new covenant with us.

We are God's people; the Lord is our God.

Keep pressing on toward the goal:

the heavenly call of God in Jesus.

***Opening Prayer (unison)**

Almighty God, our redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn #85 (blue)**

What Wondrous Love is This

Call to Confession

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel, but we remain silent in the presence of evil. You call us to be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content to live in separation. You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression. You call us to fight pretensions and injustice, but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near. Forgive us, O Lord. Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

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

If we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. Therefore, consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. 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 126

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

then it was said among the nations,

"The LORD has done great things for them."

The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.
**Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.**

Scripture Reading

John 12:1-8

Anthem

Come Share the Lord
Chancel Choir

arr. Larson

Scripture Reading

Colossians 3:12-17

Sermon

“Don’t Give Up Love”
Fifth in a Series, “Don’t Give Up”

Pastor Christina

***Hymn #76 (blue)**

My Song is Love Unknown

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

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.

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 #438 (blue)** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Today's Readings

John 12:1-8

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, home of Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Lazarus and his sisters hosted a dinner for him. Martha served and Lazarus was among those who joined him at the table. Then Mary took an extraordinary amount, almost three-quarters of a pound, of very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She anointed Jesus' feet with it, then wiped his feet dry with her hair. The house was filled with the aroma of the perfume. Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), complained, "This perfume was worth a year's wages! Why wasn't it sold and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He carried the money bag and would take what was in it.) Then Jesus said, "Leave her alone. This perfume was to be used in preparation for my burial, and this is how she has used it. You will always have the poor among you, but you won't always have me."

Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's choice, holy and loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with each other and, if someone has a complaint against anyone, forgive each other. As the Lord forgave you, so also forgive each other. And over all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. The peace of Christ must control your hearts—a peace into which you were called in one body. And be thankful people. The word of Christ must live in you richly. Teach and warn each other with all wisdom by singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing to God with gratitude in your hearts. Whatever you do, whether in speech or action, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus and give thanks to God the Father through him.

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:

Sally Nester; Garret Miniard; Jim Elliott; Barb Elliott; Ralph Brillhart; Lois Palmer; Fred and Diana (Page) Grasley, on the unexpected death of Fred's son, Jeff; The family of Virginia Williams, who died on March 11; Ann Gabrion Hull; Al Bartholomew; Tina Castillo and her mom, Gayle; Jan Felton; The Rev. George Gillette; Mackenzie Brown; Susie Page; Bonnie Smith; Pat MacDonald; 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:

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; Randy Jenison; Christina Latoski & family; Barb Pharr; 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
- Heinlein Event – Saturday, 9:00am – Fireplace Room

Next Week's Volunteers – April 14, 2019:

- Sandy Parr, Liturgist
- Bill & Jackie Bowen, Greeters
- _____, Ushers
- Tom Heinlein & Rick Teal, Counters
- Pastor Christina, Coffee Hour

Last Week by the Numbers – March 31, 2019

Worship Attendance: 41

Offering Total: \$704

Thank you for your support!



*The music printed in this bulletin is covered under CCLI #11388530.
The prayers and responsive readings came from the
Book of Common Worship from the Office of the General Assembly.*



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

Vickie Thum, Liturgist

Bob Crist, Music Director

Phil & Cheri Booth, Greeters

Phil & Cheri Booth, Ushers

Joy Heinlein & Sandy Parr, Communion Servers

Tom Heinlein & Kathy Vanderbeek, Counters

Potluck, Coffee Hour

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).