



First  
Presbyterian  
Church *of Ann Arbor*



REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY  
November 24, 2024  
8:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am Worship



8:30 AM WORSHIP | NOVEMBER 24, 2024

# Reign of Christ Sunday

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*\* Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,  
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.*

*“Today’s call to worship, prayer of confession, and communion liturgy comes from Beth Merrill Neel, written on her blog “Hold Fast to What Is Good.”*

## GATHERING

### WELCOME AND CENTERING

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

A love that never ceases,

**A creativity that designed the universe,**

A hope that cannot be quenched,

**A pursuit of reconciliation no matter the cost:**

These are the things that are of God,

**Then let us worship God.**

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy One, we believe that we were created in love; yet, when we face ourselves in the mirror, too often we do not see love. For our prejudice, for our hatred, for our pride, for our apathy, for our cruelty, for our blindness: Lord, have mercy.**

*[Silence is Kept]*

#### ASSURANCE OF GRACE

#### THE WORD

#### READING

Luke 7:36-50

#### MEDITATION

## RESPONDING

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

#### Invitation to the Table

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.**

#### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

#### The 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.

#### Words of Institution

#### Communion

#### Prayer After Communion

## SENDING

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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9:30 AM WORSHIP | NOVEMBER 24, 2024

# Reign of Christ Sunday

\* Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,  
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.

## GATHERING

Opening Voluntary

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*  
FPC Orchestra

Adriaan Valerius

Pouring of the Water

Welcome and Life in the Church

Faith in Action

Rotating Shelter

\*Call to Worship

Through the power of God,

Christ our Lord sits on the throne of truth.

**As we worship, may this truth guide our thoughts.**

Christ our Lord sits on the throne of love.

**May this love guide our hearts.**

Let us worship our Lord who leads the way.

\*Hymn 268

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

DIADEMATA

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**All-powerful God, as we recognize Christ's reign, we also recognize the earthly powers that compete for our loyalty. In the confusion of competing powers, help to know the difference between the love of limitless power and the power of your limitless love. Guide us, Lord, as we engage in the ordering of these days. Train our hearts on your truth, that your voice might lead us in all that we do...**

Silent Prayer

Kyrie

PARDINI

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us;

## Assurance of Forgiveness

### \*Passing of the Peace

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

### \*Congregational Response

BEECHER

**Called as partners in Christ's service,  
called to ministries of grace,  
we respond with deep commitment  
fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing,  
side by side and friend with friend,  
equal partners in our caring  
to fulfill God's chosen end.**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### Prayer for Illumination

#### First Scripture Reading Psalm 132 :1-10

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### A Conversation with Young Disciples

*Please join in singing as the children come forward.*

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

#### Second Scripture Reading Revelation 1:1-8

Holy Wisdom, Holy God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

## RESPONDING

### \*Hymn 149

*All Hail to God's Anointed*

ROCKPORT

### Offering of Tithes and Gifts

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.  
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
You, peace-maker and sword-bringer  
of the way you took and gave.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
you, whom we both scorn and crave.

Clothed in light upon the mountain,  
stripped of might upon the cross,  
shining in eternal glory,  
begged by a soldier's toss,  
you, the everlasting instant;  
you who are both gift and cost.

You, who walk each day beside us,  
sit in power at God's side.  
You, who preach a way that's narrow,  
have a love that reaches wide.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
you, who are our pilgrim guide.

Worthy is our earthly Jesus!  
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!  
Worthy your defeat and victory;  
worthy still your peace and strife.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
you, who are our death and our life.

Alleluia! You who are our death and  
our life.

\*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Praise God above ye heavenly host.**  
**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

\*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

... in a moment of reflective quiet, we write or draw the ways we are grateful.

*[Quietly write/draw your gratitude on your card.]*

We lift these prayers of praise to you, O God.

**Thanks be to God.**

...in a moment of reflective quiet, we write or draw our prayers of petition.

*[Quietly write/draw your prayer on your card.]*

We lift these prayers to you, O God.

**Lord, hear our prayers.**

We use the words of others, based on the words Jesus taught us saying together:

**O Great Spirit, our Father from above,  
we honor your name as sacred and holy.  
Bring your good road to us,  
where the beauty of your ways in the spirit world above  
is reflected in the earth below.  
Provide for us day by day - the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.  
The corn, the squash, and the wild rice.  
All the things we need for each day.  
Release us from the things we have done wrong,  
in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.  
Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good  
road, and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways.  
May it be so!**

## SENDING

\*Hymn 299                      *You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*                      HANOVER

\*Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary                      *Be Still, My Soul*                      Jean Sibelius - FINLANDIA  
FPC Orchestra



Worship Note: The version of the Lord's Prayer used in worship today is  
*The Lord's Prayer from the First Nation's Version: An Indigenous Translation  
of the New Testament.*

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*First Presbyterian worship services are filmed, recorded, and broadcast online.  
If you do not want to appear in any videos or photos, please speak with an usher.*

Join us in the Social Hall immediately following this service for a cup of coffee, a cookie,  
and good fellowship. Presbyterian Women sponsor our social hour today with a “PW  
Thanks for Giving Celebration.” Stop by their table to learn how your gifts have enabled  
PW to assist mission partners. P.S. – there WILL be cake!



**11:30 AM WORSHIP** | NOVEMBER 24, 2024

# Reign of Christ Sunday

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*We welcome you to worship at 11:30. This communal and interactive gathering allows the spirit to flow through the unique image of God within each of us. You will find space to explore, participate, and create. An order of worship will be available at the service.*



# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

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## **NEW TO FIRST PRES?**

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for worship. We would love to get to know you and help you get to know us. Please sign the Friendship Pad. Sign it then pass it down to others. Interested in membership? **Come to the next Fast Track to Membership on Sunday, December 8, at 10:45am, in the Pastor's Study.** Contact Rev. Rogers, [mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org), for more information.

## **PRAYER**

If you would like someone to pray with you, stop by the Prayer & Compassion Room, located just off the Lounge, after the 9:30am service. Elders, Deacons, and Stephen Ministers are always there to assist those seeking prayer.

## **CHILDREN IN WORSHIP & CHILDCARE**

We love to have children in worship! Age-appropriate worship activities and books are available as you enter the sanctuary or Monteith Hall. We also offer childcare for children ages 5 and younger on the First Level. Ask an usher for directions.

## **FAITH FORMATION**

Faith Formation classes are for all ages and meet on Sundays at 10:45 am, September through May. To learn more about our classes, visit our website at [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org).

## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

Are you interested in singing or ringing handbells or playing an instrument in worship with one of our choirs? Rehearsals are September through May. Contact Dave VanderMeer, [dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org), for more information.

## **PARKING**

Additional parking is located at the Forest Avenue parking structure located on South Forest Avenue between South University and Willard. Accessible parking spaces are available near the Sanctuary. A state-issued placard or license plate or a church-issued permit should be displayed while parked. If you would like a church parking permit for an accessible parking space, please speak to one of our Parish Nurses, Barb DeLancey, [bdelancey@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:bdelancey@firstpresbyterian.org), or Stacey Pakela, [spakela@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:spakela@firstpresbyterian.org).

## **GIVING**

Through your generosity, we help build a stronger, more vibrant community, extending hope, compassion, and love to those in need, while ensuring the spiritual growth and vitality of First Presbyterian church for generations to come. To give online visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/YM88/home>

# Leading in Worship

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## **LEADING IN WORSHIP**

8:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Tommy Langejans, *Resident Minister*

9:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Nathaniel Fryer, *Resident Minister*

Rev. Tommy Langejans, *Resident Minister*

Rev. Mark Mares, *Associate Pastor*

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers, *Associate Pastor*

11:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Nathaniel Fryer, *Resident Minister*

Rev. Tommy Langejans, *Resident Minister*

## **USHERS (9:30)**

Joe Schmidt, *Head Usher*

Bill Austin, *Head Usher Emeritus*

Len Rezmierski, *Captain*

Leif Anderson

Karla Olson Bellfi

Omer Bellfi

Cyndy Colton

Linda Lampman

Keith Molin

Pat Tamblyn

Bruce Thomson

Angela Yang

## **FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY**

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jackie Voss by her husband Burt Voss; and in loving memory of Lewis and Maxine Profit by Kirk and Sharon Profit and family.

## **MUSICIANS**

9:30 AM WORSHIP

Chancel Choir

FPC Orchestra,

Michael Haithcock, *Conductor*

David Hufford, *Organist*

David VanderMeer,

*Minister of Music & Fine Arts*

11:30 AM WORSHIP

Joshua Marzan, *Pianist*

## **GREETERS**

Amy Lindauer

Sara VanderVoort

## **PRAYER PARTNERS**

Nancy Fox

John LeDuc

# Today in Faith Formation

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## ADULTS

10:45AM

**EXPLORING THE BIBLE | FRENCH ROOM**

The Parables of Jesus

Host: Ed Koster

**EXPLORING THE FAITH | LEWIS ROOM**

Discussion of *Life After Doom*, a book by Brian McLaren focused on "wisdom and courage for a world falling apart". You do not need to have read the book in order to participate in this conversation.

Host: Melissa Anne Rogers

**FIRST FRIENDS | CURTIS ROOM**

Program planning for Winter 2025

Host: Carole Pawloski

**FOLLOW ME: HOPE | ROOM 102**

*Word & Practice: See Hope*

Genesis 1:1-5, 31

John 1:1-5

**KERYGMA BIBLE STUDY | VANCE ROOM**

Yale Bible Study of Wisdom Literature in the Old Testament

Host: Bill McPherson

7:00 to 9:00PM

**SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY |**

**CHRIS WAHL'S HOUSE & ZOOM**

The book of Daniel. For more

information, email [cgwahl@umich.edu](mailto:cgwahl@umich.edu)

## CHILDCARE & NURSERY

9:15AM-12:15PM

AGES 5 AND YOUNGER | ROOM 101

## CHILDREN

10:45-11:25AM

**K & 1ST GRADE | ROOM 302**

*Word & Practice:*

*How the Church Tells Time*

**2ND & 3RD GRADES | ROOM 303**

**4TH & 5TH GRADES | ROOM 304**

*Word & Practice: See Hope*

John 1 1-14

## COLLEGE STUDENTS

12:30-1:30PM

UKirk | YOUTH ROOM

## YOUTH

10:45 to 11:25AM

**CONFIRMATION | YOUTH ROOM**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL | ROOM LL4**

**HIGH SCHOOL | ROOM LL1**

*Word & Practice: See Hope*

Genesis 1:1-5, 31

John 1:1-14

## YOUTH GROUP

6:00 to 7:30PM | YOUTH ROOM



The Follow Me curriculum is based on practices Jesus did and taught us to do as faithful followers. Written for people of all ages who wish to live out their faith, this curriculum examines where these practices are found in the Bible and how they have been used in Christian faith then and now.

These classes meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month for grades 2-5, middle school, high school, and adults.

Our focus practice in November and December is Hope. Hope is waiting in faith. It is not merely wishing for something to happen or hoping everything will work out if the stars align. Hope is waiting with anticipation—at times, with impatience—for what you know and believe is coming. In Hebrew, the word for rope and hope are the same. Hope is something outside of ourselves that tethers us to safety and helps us keep going, even when we can't see our way.

# Announcements

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## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE \_\_\_\_\_

### **Advent Pointsettias Order by December 6**

If you wish to donate a poinsettia to beautify our December 15 and 24 worship services, the cost is \$15. You can donate in memory or honor of a loved one. Poinsettias will be delivered to those in need by our Deacons  
Purchase online at [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org)

### **Decorating for Advent and Christmas**

We could use your helping hands to decorate the church for the Advent/Christmas seasons. Sign up at [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org)

### **Hospitality Happens... With Your Help!**

There are several ways you can support the ministry of hospitality at First Pres on Sunday mornings. Whether you are a long-time member or regular attender, your help is so appreciated! What we do helps everyone to feel more welcome. The Congregational Life Committee welcomes your help and offers training for these opportunities:

#### **Coffee Hour**

Sign up: [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org)

#### **Cookie Bakers**

Sign up: [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org)

#### **Greeters before worship**

Sign up: [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org)

#### **Ushering**

Contact Lead Usher Joe Schmidt  
[jschmidtspringvalley@gmail.com](mailto:jschmidtspringvalley@gmail.com).

#### **Serve on the Congregational Life Committee**

Contact Rev. Rogers  
[mrogers@fpca2.org](mailto:mrogers@fpca2.org).

## MISSION \_\_\_\_\_

### **Family to Family Christmas & Fostering Futures**

Learn more and sign up:  
[firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org).

### **Rotating Shelter - January 6-20, 2025**

Up to 25 men seeking safe, warm, dry accommodations will be directed here by the Shelter Association of Washtenaw. Volunteers are needed as Evening Hosts, Overnight Hosts, and Morning Drivers. Hot food donations are needed. Donations of new warm clothing and pre-packaged food snacks and juice boxes may be dropped off in the Welcome Center. Sign up at [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org). Financial donations are also welcome. For more information, contact Jim Peggs ([jpeggs@umich.med.edu](mailto:jpeggs@umich.med.edu)) or Marcey Terrien ([m2terrien@hotmail.com](mailto:m2terrien@hotmail.com)).

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN \_\_\_\_\_

### **PW Mission**

We're collecting new underwear, socks and pajamas for women and children of all sizes for House by the Side of the Road. Especially needed are XXL - XXXL women's sizes. Donations may be placed in a collection basket in the Welcome Center through November. Visit the church website to make a financial donation.



1432 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
734-662-4466 / [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org)