



First
Presbyterian
Church *of Ann Arbor*



PEACE

by Anneke Kaai

In the Old Testament shalom indicates living in a healthy relationship with God, oneself and the environment. The heart of the light, round shape here symbolizes the inner person, the white band above pictures God, and the shape below refers to the surrounding world. Through Christ peace with God and the environment is possible, which is why the cross dominates the composition. The inner peace that results is pictured as a rising sun (the moment of peace in nature).

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - PEACE

December 15, 2024

8:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am Worship



8:30 AM WORSHIP | DECEMBER 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

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

GATHERING

Pouring of the Water

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Prayer

Advent Candle Lighting

Call to Worship

from Christine Sine

One: Alleluia the Christ child comes,

All: And we await his birth.

One: Let us throw off our distractions,

All: And allow the chaos to settle.

One: Let us watch for the signs,

All: And listen to the messengers.

One: Let us stand on tiptoe,

All: And shout aloud and sing.

One: Something new is emerging

All: Something new is being birthed.

PROCLAMATION

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

from Beth Merrill Neal

Holy God, we confess that we are busy with many preparations. We are busy with parties, with feasts, with giving. We are busy cleaning house and wrapping presents. We are busy with the stuff of the holiday. And we confess that our busyness may be misplaced, that we spend more time preparing for things than preparing for You. Draw us back to the center, which is You. Remind us that our hearts and souls have work to do, too. Enable us to let go of that which does not matter, and to see what does matter.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

THE WORD

Scripture Reading

God's word for God's People.

Thanks be to God!

Psalm 25:1–10

Meditation

RESPONDING

Invitation to the Table

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.

by Tom Cramer

Words of Institution

Communion

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Charge and Benediction

Passing of the Peace

(Share a sign of peace with one another.)



Please join us in the Welcome Center immediately following this service
for a cup of coffee, a cookie, and good fellowship.



9:30 AM WORSHIP | DECEMBER 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

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

GATHERING

Opening Voluntary *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* arr. Julie Turner
Sanctus Ringers

Pouring of the Water

Welcome and Life in the Church

Bell Peal *Christ, Be Our Light*

Advent Candle Lighting The Pipe-Sienko Family –
Kevin, Kathleen, Henry, Elizabeth, Katherine, and Eleanor

One: Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

All: Christ, be our light!

One: A voice cries out; a prophet speaks:

All: In the wilderness, prepare the way.

One: Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice.

All: Christ, be our light! Shine in your church today.

One: On this third Sunday of Advent, let us light a candle of peace.

*Hymn 362 *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers* LLANGLOFFAN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of good news, God of joy, God of peace,
your Spirit is always at work in our midst.
Help us feel it.**

**Your nearness brings life and salvation.
Help us trust it.**

**May we join in the songs of our ancestors
who have declared your mighty works
through the generations.**

**Let our praise arise with theirs
as we rest in the peace of your arriving presence.**

(Continue to offer prayers in silence.)



Come, Lord Je-sus, soon in__ mer - cy, bring us to your sav - ing__ grace;



Light-en all the world a - round us with the rad-iance of your face.



Fill us with your love, re - new _____ us, here and when we leave this place.

Assurance of Forgiveness

***Passing of the Peace**

***Congregational Response**



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to - day. _____

Invitation to Young Disciples to Come Forward

Please join in singing as the children come forward.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 3:7-18

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

The grass withers, the flower fades;

The word of the Lord endures forever.

Sermon

RESPONDING

*Hymn 96

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

WINCHESTER NEW

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

In the Bleak Midwinter

arr. Steve Pilkington

Chancel Choir and Tyrese Byrd, Tenor

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter time, long, long time ago.

Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
But only his mother, in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him poor as I am,
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what can I give to him, give my heart.

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**All praise, eternal Christ, to thee;
Whose Advent sets thy people free;
Once more upon thy people shine;
And fill the world with love divine. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and 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.**

SENDING

*Hymn 163

Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

ABERYSTWYTH

*Charge and Benediction

***Benediction Response**

Christ, Be Our Light

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to - day. _____

Closing Voluntary

Processional in E-flat

David Johnson



Join us in the Social Hall immediately following this service for a cup of coffee, a cookie, and good fellowship. Today, Fair Trade coffee will be sold for use at home or for holiday gifts.

A warm cup of coffee in our hands is perhaps the most tangible daily connection we have with farmers around the world. It represents warmth, hospitality, fellowship, hard work and life’s pleasures both fine and simple.

Buying fair trade through the Presbyterian Coffee Project ensures that more of the money we spend on coffee reaches the hardworking farmers who actually grow it.

Special Offerings During Advent

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

The Christmas Joy offering will be received today. This offering supports the wider-church through the PCUSA special offerings. We celebrate God’s perfect gift to us, with generous support of leaders among us—past, present, and future—who point us to God.

THE CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

For decades, First’s Christmas Eve offering has helped individuals and families in need in our community and beyond. This year we continue this tradition by supporting two local mission partners: Peace Neighborhood Center and the Community Action Network (CAN) of Washtenaw County. These offerings will support two organizations working to address the needs of youth in our community. Your generosity will make a meaningful impact by providing resources and support for young people to grow, thrive, overcome challenges. Join us in giving this Christmas Eve to make a difference for youth in our community.



11:30 AM WORSHIP | DECEMBER 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

Opening Voluntary

Advent Candle Lighting

One: Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

All: Christ, be our light!

One: A voice cries out; a prophet speaks:

All: In the wilderness, prepare the way.

One: Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice.

All: Christ, be our light! Shine in your church today.

One: On this third Sunday of Advent, let us light a candle of peace.

Welcoming and Centering

Call to Worship

from Christine Sine

One: Alleluia the Christ child comes,

All: And we await his birth.

One: Let us throw off our distractions,

All: And allow the chaos to settle.

One: Let us watch for the signs,

All: And listen to the messengers.

One: Let us stand on tiptoe,

All: And shout aloud and sing.

One: Something new is emerging

All: Something new is being birthed.

*Hymn 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

from Beth Merrill Neal

Holy God, we confess that we are busy with many preparations. We are busy with parties, with feasts, with giving. We are busy cleaning house and wrapping presents. We are busy with the stuff of the holiday. And we confess that our busyness may be misplaced, that we spend more time preparing for things than preparing for You. Draw us back to the center, which is You. Remind us that our hearts and souls have work to do, too. Enable us to let go of that which does not matter, and to see what does matter.

(Continue to offer prayers in silence.)

*Assurance of Grace

PROCLAMATION

*Passing of the Peace

As you pass the peace, share an answer to this question: what is one thing bringing you peace this Advent season?

Hymn 88

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Prayer for Illumination (*sung*) *Spirit of the Living God*

LIVING GOD

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 25:1–10

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

Sermon

RESPONSE

Draw a picture of one short phrase or verse from Psalm 25, conveying a way that passage might bring peace.

Prayers of the People and 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.

SENDING

*Hymn 89

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits (stanzas 1, 4, 6)

MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

*Charge and Benediction

...we go out in peace, **to love, to serve, to imagine.**

Closing Voluntary

✠ ✠ ✠

CARRYING WORSHIP WITH US

This week, when you find yourself misinformed or tired of waiting, take a few minutes to draw an image of peace based on a phrase or verse from Scripture. You might choose a favorite psalm, look up a list of Advent passages, or pick one of your favorites.

Leading in Worship

Worship at 8:30, 9:30, & 11:30 am; Livestream at 9:30 am

LEADING IN WORSHIP

8:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Tommy Langejans, *Resident Minister*

9:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. David Prentice-Hyers, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Mark Mares, *Associate Pastor*

Rev. Tommy Langejans, *Resident Minister*

Dramatic Reading Participants:

Lector: Maverick Musser

John: Paul Smith

Person: Cael Finnane

Tax Collector: Ankie Schuitema

Soldier: Jackie Vercler

Chancel Choir

Sanctus Ringers

David Hufford, *Organist*

David VanderMeer,

Minister of Music & Fine Arts

GREETER

Bruce Thomson

PRAYER PARTNERS

John LeDuc

Elsa Stuber

USHERS (9:30)

Joe Schmidt, *Head Usher*

Bill Austin, *Head Usher Emeritus*

Dick Carlisle, *Usher Captain*

RO Andrus

Keith Bilby

Sheila Bilby

Jim Cameron

Carol Carter

Spaulding Clark

Connie Swindle

Martin Swindle

11:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. David Prentice-Hyers, *Lead Pastor*

Joshua Marzan, *Pianist*

A **yellow rosebud** celebrates the birth of George Robert Walsh Green, born November 24, 2024, to Hannah and Matt Green. Grandparents are Sue Ashford and Jim Walsh.

ADVENT 3 PAPER LACE BANNER

ELLEN PHILLIPS, ARTIST

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

Malachi 3:1

. . .the word of the Lord came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. . .

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness;

Prepare the way of the Lord. . .

Luke 3:2-3

And here, in this banner, stands John, the Baptizer. His was not the soft gentle words, but rather demanding repentance, demanding that the Jews turn around, change their ways, in preparing the way of the Lord.

The Advent paraments and wall hangings were created by Beth Taylor, fiber artist.

The color blue is used during the season of Advent.

Worship Activities

Share Hope

Sharing hope spreads joy and builds community. Mary and Elizabeth shared hope, and Mary expressed hers through song.

- Watch videos of Mary’s song, “The Magnificat,” to reflect on its message of hope:
- Dance and sing to “Canticle of the Turning” or Taizé’s version of the Magnificat.
- Learn Latin phrases from John Rutter’s *Magnificat*.
- Explore movements in “Mary’s Canticle” or sing with the traditional Christmas lyrics.

PUZZLE

To find what we can share, on each shape, use the numbers or letters to connect the dots.



PRAYER

God of hope, may we, like Mary, share the hope of Jesus with the world through our voices and actions.



BIBLE STORY

Jesus is Born

(Based on Luke 2:1-7)

Hi! It’s Abe, Mary’s donkey. I’ve got more to tell you! After the angel’s visit, Mary and Joseph married. Later, a government order sent us on a long journey to Joseph’s ancestral home, Bethlehem. Mary was tired, and Joseph was nervous because her baby was coming soon.

In Bethlehem, every guest room was full until one kind innkeeper offered his stable. That night, baby Jesus was born and placed in a manger. I saw it all—the hope this tiny baby brought to the world.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

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? **Join us for Fast Track to Membership today, December 15, at 10:45AM, in the Lead Pastor's Study or contact Rev. Rogers for more information(mrogers@fpca2.org).**

FELLOWSHIP TODAY

Everyone is cordially invited to a time of fellowship following the 8:30 and 9:30AM services. Join us in the Welcome Center following the 8:30 service and in the Social Hall following the 9:30 service for conversation, coffee, and cookies.

PRAYER

If you would like someone to pray with you, stop by the Prayer & Compassion Room, 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 10:45AM, September through May. To learn more about our classes, visit our website at firstpresbyterian.org.

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, bdelancy@firstpresbyterian.org, or Stacey Pakela, 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>

Giving envelopes are available outside the Finance Office on the Second Level, Administration Wing, December 17-29, for 2025 pledgers who have requested them. If envelopes are not picked up, they will be mailed on December 30.

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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.

Today in Faith Formation

ADULTS

10:45AM

EXPLORING THE BIBLE | FRENCH ROOM

The Parables of Jesus

Host: Ed Koster

EXPLORING THE FAITH | LEWIS ROOM

The Lightness of Being in the Dark

Speakers: Sidonie Smith and

Jane Dutton

FIRST FRIENDS | LEWIS ROOM

Joining Exploring the Faith today

KERYGMA BIBLE STUDY | VANCE ROOM

Yale Bible Study of Wisdom Literature in the Old Testament

Host: Bill McPherson

CHILDCARE & NURSERY

9:15AM-12:15PM

AGES 5 AND YOUNGER | ROOM 101

CHILDREN

10:45-11:25AM

K-5TH GRADES | ROOM 300

Lemon Chapel Singers

YOUTH

10:45-11:25AM

MIDDLE SCHOOL | ROOM 300

Lemon Chapel Singers

HIGH SCHOOL | YOUTH ROOM

Faith + Creative Arts

Lemon Chapel Singers is a Faith Formation music program designed to provide a singing experience for our children in Kindergarten through 8th grade. During our rehearsal time we learn healthy singing habits, develop musical skills, learn how to be part of a choir and how singing continues to be an act of worship in our Presbyterian liturgy.

Lemon Chapel Singers' repertoire includes hymns, anthems, games, and songs that are designed to develop our young musician's skills. Lemon Chapel Singers share music in worship several times throughout the church year on their own and in collaboration with the Chancel Choir.

Lemon Chapel Singers meet in the Willam P. Lemon Chapel at the west end on the 3rd floor, on the 1st and 3rd Sundays during the program year..



Poinsettias are given...

... in honor of:

The Tanner Caverly Family
Robin Fosheim
Claudia Freedman
Nathaniel Fryer
Becky Gaffney
Matthew & Linda Hess
Bill Hyers
Kay Krein
Tommy Langejans
Mark Mares
Norma Marshall
Joyce Newcomb
Richard Parker
Heather Polikoff
Mary Polkowski
Malcolm & Marion Powers
Betty Ann Prentice
David Prentice-Hyers
Dona Reber
Ligia & Jim Reynolds
Melissa Ann Rogers
Barbara & Marvin Skubick
Tom & Holly Valent
Dave VanderMeer
Betty Willox
Thomas Arthur Woodruff

... in memory of:

Jean & Bill Allewelt
Robert & Louise Andes
Emily Ann Andrea
Evangeline Andrea
John Andrea
Patricia Arnold
Wendy Baker
Ralph W. & Joan C. Banfield
Ryne C. Banfield
Tom K. Banfield
Elias Baumgarten
Naomi Beardsley
Richard Beardsley
Elsie Bellfi
Don & Charlene Bentley
Kelly Ann & Kevin Carl Binkley
Mel, Fern, & Phil Brandt
Don & Carnation Breckle
Roland Brumitt
John H. & Barbara E. Bryant
Alexander Buchanan
Richard Buchanan
Kate Carney
Jeff Carter

Carol Lee Charles
Anne McCrea Chase
Bingnan Chen
Gwen Christman
Guernsey Collins
Magdalena Collins
Reina Collins
Rial Y. Crandall
Bernice E. Crandall
Earl G. Crandall
Millie Danielson
Glenda Raye Daum (Gorton)
Nancy Deromedi
Charlie Doering
Melvin Donally
Rebecca Donally
David B. Dort
Roy & Betsy Downton
Thelma Duffell
Marie Dumery
Kate & George Dutton
Frances I. Earl
Dick Prentice & Erma Hyers
Ingeborg Fetterley
Frederic Filion
Suzanne D. Filion
Mae M. Fletcher
Joseph Robert Fletcher
Robert W. Fletcher
Carolyn Fogarty
Leslie Froelich
Mary Froelich
Josette Fronton
Marjorie & Edmund Galant
Wendy Garner
Mary Lou Simmons Gay & James Gay
Diane Elaine Glinka
Elizabeth & Matthew Glinka
Cheryl Gorton
Doug Gorton
Lisa Gorton
Doug Gottliebsen
Bobby Lee Haithcock
John T. Hall
Sarah P. Hall
Griffith A. & Mary Herold
Delores Hildebrandt
Arthur J. Himbeault
Madeleine D. Himbeault
Julian Hoff
Yvonne & Glenn Hoff
Amy Hofing
Paul Horan
Sharon Hoskins
Rudy Hrozencik

Eugene Ingram
Margaret Ingram
Eleanore Jackson
Donald A. & June S. Kerr
Glenn Korzyn
Andrew Jackson Krapohl
Graydon Andrew Krapohl
Dean Krein
Kay Lands
George & Grace Langen
Robert Langen
Sue Leong
Art & Mary Lindauer
John Lowry
Patrick McDevitt
Michael C. McGuire
William McKarns, Jr
June McKenny
Ellen Jane McMackin
Dean Millard
Dolly Millard
George Milroy
Dorothy McKee Mitas
Robert Leonard Mitas
Peg Molin
Henrietta Nagy
Joseph & Elizabeth Najpaver
Boyd Nixon
Grace Nixon
Cora Olson
Donald Olson
Dorothy Olson
Elaine Olson
Barbara Olson-Forrest
Delia Ouimet
Edward Ouimet
Larry Ouimet
Magdaline Ouimet
Clayton Paquette
Mary Paquette
Lynn Parker
Arthur & Helen Parker, Jr.
Arthur & Janetta Parker, Sr.
Gretchen Parr
David Perry
Rosalie Perry
Zachary Perry
Jim & Jane Pilcher
Margie Pilcher
Rev. Dr. William Polkowski
Mary Voorhorst Pott
Frank & Effie Powell
Edward David Price
Jack & Beverly Price
William Wayne Price
Margaret & Herman Primas
Lewis and Maxine Profit

Harold (Hal) Rex
Jim Rogers
John Santinga
Tom Schultz
Mike Seames
Terry Seames
Martin Sedlak
Pearl & Philip Servais
Norman Smith
Bob Snyder
JD Gay & Karen Simmons Starcher
Shirley Stein
Simon Stein
Florence & Emil Steinke
Jean & Russell Stem
Otto & Alma Stoeffler
Daryl Stone
Nan Stone
Donald V. Streu
Gernith L. Streu
Richard & Colleen Tamm
Adeline Tarter
Nick Tarter
Addie G. Taylor
Ernestine C. Taylor
Grace K. Taylor
Kenneth Taylor
Leland S. Taylor
Maxine C. Taylor
Ronald E. Taylor
Lisa Tubbs
Lois Tubbs
Lynn Tubbs
Herb Upton
Tina Van Diepen
Elaine E. Van Hoose
Ben & Marcia Van Tuyl
Edwin & Mary Ellen Vick
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Voorhorst
Stephen & Vivian Walch
Earl & Eileen Walker
Ann Weinhagen
John & Edwina Wilkinson
Anthony Willis, Jr.
Mathias & Rosina Winkler
Paul Winters
Carol B. Wood
Elsie M. Wood
William M. Wood
Doris Cummings Woodruff
Daniel Young



THE GLORIOUS SOUNDS OF
CHRISTMAS

• • • **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15** • • •
4:00 PM | Sanctuary

Share the joy of the holiday season at our festive
Christmas concert featuring the Chancel Choir,
First Presbyterian Brass, Joyful Ringers, Sanctus Ringers,
and Lemon Chapel Singers.

A strolling reception follows the concert.



First
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1432 WASHTENAW AVE. | ANN ARBOR, MI 48104

FIRSTPRESBYTERIAN.ORG

