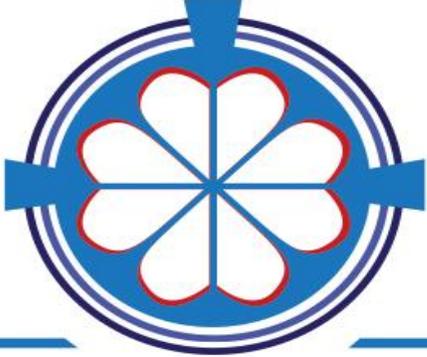


First 
Presbyterian
Church of Monroe

May 28, 2017; 11:00 AM

108 Washington St., Monroe, Michigan 48161

734.242.1545; info@monroefirst.org

www.monroefirst.org; www.facebook.com/FPCMonroe

The mission of the First Presbyterian Church is to be ambassadors for Jesus Christ and to proclaim his salvation in worship, education, and outreach.

Seventh Sunday of Easter and Memorial Day Remembrance

**We invite all who are able to stand where there is an asterisk.*

OPENING WORDS

The crowning evidence that Jesus was alive was not a vacant grave but a spirit-filled fellowship.

It was not a rolled-away stone but a carried-away church.

We are your people, Lord, filled by the power of your Spirit.

We are the people in whom you are alive and your power is at work!

Praise be to God!

PRELUDE “Be Thou My Vision”

Gordon Young

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Put aside all wants!

We put them aside so God may lead us.

Put aside all plans!

We put them aside so God can be our plan.

Put aside all that is your refuge and pride.

We put aside what makes us feel safe so God alone can be our safety and shield.

*HYMN ★2 “Come, Thou Almighty King!”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Here we are, God; we present ourselves to you. We stand up to be counted by you. We have enlisted in your service. And yet, we hesitate to fall in line with your plans. We fear the strange paths to which you lead us. We prefer the hideout and the quick retreats. Forgive us, Lord, for we continue to be prisoners of the war within. Forgive our brittle loyalty and wobbly courage. Make us obedient from the heart, generous to the people you send our way, and open to the surprises and miracles you have prepared for us.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

We greet one another with words and signs of the peace of Christ.

*SONG OF AFFIRMATION ★39 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” v. 1

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee. Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.

As thou hast been thou forever shall be. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand has provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING — Acts 1:6-14

NT p. 118

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING — John 17:1-11

NT p. 111

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Prayed For”

HYMN ★43 “You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord”

OFFERING

Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Registry

OFFERTORY “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

John Carter

*O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.*

*O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
But Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.*

*O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak and make me listen, Thou guardian of my soul.*

*O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee,
That where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be;
And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
Give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.*

*DOXOLOGY ★606

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Take from our hands what is yours, O Lord, to build up your church in worship and mission and love. And return to us your peace that we may be a walking witness of you in the world. Amen.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Apostles' Creed (traditional)

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.

RECOGNITION OF VETERANS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN ★339 “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE ★246 “Christ Is Alive!” vs. 2

*Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.*

POSTLUDE “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Michael Burkhardt

TODAY

Sunday Fellowship in Boyd Chapel

After worship, please come across the hall for a time of fellowship and light refreshments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to FPC of Monroe! We are glad you are here today! We hope you find this a community of faith where you experience God in Jesus Christ. Childcare is always provided on Sunday mornings and the nursery is located near the parking lot entrance of the church. Hearing assistance is available.

Adult Education on Sundays in May, 9:30-10:20 a.m., Cairl Room

World Religions and Other Faiths

What do we really know about other religions, even about other Christian denominations? This four-week adult ed series will try to help answer some of the more common questions regarding Islam, Judaism, and various Christian denominations and sects.

May 28--Christianity II

The United States was considered an experiment in how to organize around one's religious beliefs. This experiment spawned numerous Christian fringe groups, sects, and cults, especially during the nineteenth century. We will discuss Shakers, Mormons, and Jehovah's Witnesses.



Next Sunday is Pentecost Sunday

Please dress in red for the coming of the Holy Spirit!

Next Sunday is Communion Sunday with our Prayer Team

Next Sunday, members of the Prayer Team are available to pray with and for you after worship. Please feel free to stay in the sanctuary after worship and meet near the pulpit with a member of our Prayer Team in a quiet corner. All information shared will remain confidential.

Worship Time Change June 11

Please note that our worship time will change to **10:00 a.m.** starting **Sunday, June 11, 2017.**

30-Minute Sermon Discussion/Bible Reflection after Worship

Starting Sunday, June 18 after worship from **11 to 11:30 a.m.**, Pastor Annemarie will offer a 30-minute sermon discussion in a corner of Boyd Chapel. Bring your sermon notes and questions. This time is meant for a closer look at the scripture readings and preaching text of the day and the practical applications to our life.

Sermons

Printed copies of the weekly sermon are available in the church office in the mailbox labeled Sermons.

THIS WEEK

MONDAY		OFFICE CLOSED
	7:00	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY	11:00	Staff
	2:30	Charlotte Handbell Choir
WEDNESDAY	9:30	Chair Yoga
	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	6:00	Community of Need Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00	TOPS
FRIDAY	9:00	TOPS
	8:00	Heroin Anonymous
SATURDAY	11:00	Choir Rehearsal
SUNDAY	10:30	Choir
	11:00	Worship (Communion)
	12:15	Fellowship



MAY 28, 2017
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus' ascension is our call to be witnesses in the world.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.
We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	John 17:1-11	Jesus prays for his disciples
Monday	Acts 1:6-14	Jesus is taken to heaven
Tuesday	1 Peter 5:6-11	Tending the flock of God
Wednesday	Ephesians 4:1-6	Keep the unity of the Spirit
Thursday	1 Peter 3:8-12	Live in harmony
Friday	Ephesians 3:14-21	Paul prays for the Ephesians
Saturday	Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35	Praise and thanksgiving
Sunday	Acts 2:1-21	The Holy Spirit comes

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“But the Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power. Then you will tell everyone about me in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria, and everywhere in the world.” **Acts 1:8**
(CEV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Glorious and ascended Lord, give us your Holy Spirit so that we can be your faithful witnesses in all the world. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord God, thank you for loving us, feeding us, and caring for us. Your praises we shout, and your name we bless. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God make you complete, steady, strong, and firm as you witness to Christ in the world.
(1 Peter 5:10)

HYMN OF THE WEEK:

Rise, Shine, You People!

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- What do you like to talk about to your family and friends?
 - It's easy to talk about sports, the weather, and even a favorite politician. What makes it difficult to talk about Jesus?
- Tell about a time you have had a faith conversation about Jesus with someone. What was it like?

DEVOTIONS

Before Jesus was arrested, he prayed especially for his disciples, his closest friends during his time on earth (John 17:6-11). He prayed that God would protect them, and that they would be united. In today's world it is especially important that the church emphasize what unites us in our witness of Jesus to the world instead of what divides us. Be open to learn from Christians not from your own tradition. Pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in your community as well as across the globe, especially for those who are persecuted for their faith.

SERVICE

It is often forgotten that many Christians around the globe suffer for their faith, especially in parts of Africa and the Middle East. Pray for those who suffer and advocate to your politicians for just actions in the world. Consider a financial contribution to church efforts that support Christians who experience persecution.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Ascension Day is preparation for Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit. The nine days between Ascension Day and Pentecost are referred to as the novena (Latin for nine) and is used as a time to join Christians in prayer as the church awaits the giving of the Holy Spirit. In 1 Peter 5:7 it reads, "God cares for you, so turn all your worries over to him." From now until next Sunday, Pentecost Sunday, name the things you worry about then pray, **"Come, Holy Spirit, come."**

Sermon Notes:

Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder; **Director of Music Ministry:** Susan Barker;
Christian Education Director : Diane Adams; **Financial Secretary:** Sue Bondie;
Administrative Assistant: Kelly Vergowven; **Sexton:** Gary Bogedain; **Childcare:** Sue Bondie, Amy Morgan; **Custodian:** Lori Lewis

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Dean McGormley, Rev. Dr. Ellen McGormley

Worship Leadership Today:

Liturgist: Cary Vincent; **Ushers:** Jim & Sue Heisler, Randy Stiffler, George Kostoff