

F i r s t 

Presbyterian

Church of Monroe

November 19, 2017; 11:00 AM

108 Washington St., Monroe, Michigan 48161
734.242.1545; info@monroefirst.org
www.monroefirst.org

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

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

OPENING WORDS

Deep inside us, there is a place of faith.

Deep inside us, there is a place of trust and hope and love.

We have come here to have it released and access to it restored.

There can be no peace without that place in us recovered.

Lord, pave your way to that place, so we may be set free.

PRELUDE

“Adagio”

Tommaso Albinoni

*CALL TO WORSHIP

What does our Lord ask of us in this place and time?

To worship with our whole hearts.

What does our God seek in our lives?

To care for one another with compassion and mercy.

What service does God invite from us?

To give what we have, with open hearts.

*OPENING HYMN #645 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you bless us with all we need. And yet we are stingy. Time and time again, we hold back in our giving. We fear there will not be enough. We withhold our time. We withhold our money, saying, “Who knows what will happen?” Still, you keep on giving to us no matter what. Forgive our fears and refusals. Help us to forget ourselves more and to give our all now. Instill in us the skill to be grateful, to live a grateful life in word and posture. And let our gratitude be a witness to your grace.

SILENT CONFESSION

HYMN #579 “Lord, Have Mercy”

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord
is from everlasting to everlasting.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ,
you are forgiven.

**The Lord has forgiven our sins
and cleanses us of all unrighteousness.**

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*SONG OF AFFIRMATION #623 “I’ve Got Peace Like a River” vs. 1-2

**I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river in my soul. . . .
I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul. . . .**

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

*Children 3rd grade and younger are welcome to continue worship in the Wee
Believers Room, #159.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING – Psalm 123

OT p. 572

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING – Matthew 25:14-30

NT p. 28-29

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Talented”

HYMN #719 “Come, Labor On”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

OFFERING *Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Registry*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath" Craig Courtney
I'll praise my Maker while I've breath, and when my voice is lost in death, praise shall employ my nobler powers; my days of praise shall ne'er be past while life and thought and being last or immortality endures. The Lord pours eyesight on the blind; the Lord supports the fainting mind; he helps the stranger in distress, the widow and the fatherless; He sends the laboring conscience peace and grants the prisoner sweet release. Happy are they whose hopes rely on Israel's God! He made the sky and earth and seas, with all their train; His truth forever stands secure; He saves the oppressed and feeds the poor, and none shall find His promise vain.

*DOXOLOGY ★606

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Take, Lord, what is yours. Receive our gifts of time, talent, and tithe. And fill our hearts with the joy of knowing that whatever we offer you is bearing fruit in your kingdom on earth. Now and forever. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONIAL— Dallas and Donna Dieckmann

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #620 "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE #541 "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"
**God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.**

TODAY

About This Morning's Music: The prelude, postlude, and text of the anthem all come from the same period of history - the Baroque period (1670s - 1750s.) Tommaso Albinoni (1671 - 1750) spent most of his life working as a singer, violinist, and composer of operas (80 of them) in Venice. His favorite instrument to compose for was the oboe. Antonio Lotti (1667 - 1740) also work in Venice at the beautiful St Mark's Cathedral where he was a singer, sub-organist, choir director and composer of operas, choral and organ music. Isaac Watts, during the same time period, was a theologian and prolific hymn writer in England. He wrote some 750 hymns, earning the title "Godfather of English Hymns."

Electronic Giving

You received an electronic giving insert in last Sunday's bulletin which explains how to give your pledges to the church via online. Please prayerfully consider using this new feature for your stewardship pledges for this upcoming 2018 year.

Sunday Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

After worship, please come to the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and light refreshments due to the painting being done in Boyd Chapel.

Fruit Cake Orders

It's not too late to order fruit cakes. Please send in your order.

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.

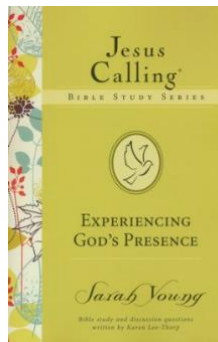
Stewardship 2017

You will receive a stewardship letter from our session and the pledge/commitment card. Please prayerfully consider your financial and volunteer commitment for next year. **November 26 is Stewardship and Christ the King Sunday**, when we will offer up and dedicate our covenants to the Lord and start a new liturgical year.

Adult Education Classes

Next Sunday, **November 26**, there will be no adult education. On **December 3**, Pastor Annemarie will begin a study on the Old Testament Prophecies of Christ.

NEW Bible Study Group: We meet each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., studying "Experiencing God's Presence," which is part of the Jesus Calling series by Sarah Young. The group is being facilitated by Kate McCoppin. Come and join us!



Bible Study on Thursdays

We meet each Thursday at 10:00 a.m. studying "Putting Jesus First" by Sarah Young with Elder Alice Kostoff as our teacher. We are growing in number as we are growing in Christ and will meet in the Cairl Room.

Hanging of the Greens~Moved to December 3

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, **December 3** for the hanging of the greens!! Many hands make light work, so come and participate in getting the church ready for the Advent season. A soup lunch will be provided after decorating. See you there!

Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettias are available for order now! Orders must be received by **Sunday, December 3rd**. Fill out the order form in the bulletin or call Sara in the office at 734-242-1545 to order. Please submit checks together with your order form in the offering plate. Checks may be made out to First Presbyterian Church. The flowers are being furnished by Deb's Flowers & Gifts. Please feel free to take your plant home **after** the **10:00 p.m.** worship service on December 24th.

Rhythmic Ringers

Our youth handbell choir meets each Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. under the direction of Charlotte Frary. New ringers are sought and encouraged to attend.

Prayer Team

Lois Barnes is heading up the Prayer Team. Please direct any prayer requests to her. You may text or call Lois at 419-308-0262.

Community of Need Meal

Judy and Ann are looking for someone to be at the Community of Need Meal on Thanksgiving Day. You would only have to be there from 5 until maybe 7. Frenchtown Missionary Church takes care of the whole thing. Please contact Judy Chesman or Ann Lux. Thank you.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will hold their next meeting on **January 2, 2018** at 2:00 p.m. in the Manse and will meet at 11:00 a.m. beginning the week after in the Manse. The meetings have been placed on hold due to the upcoming Advent season.

Winter Room Use

Please remember to turn down the thermostat after your meetings to help conserve energy.

Sermons

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

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are from the Lectionary. We invite you to take time each day to read the Bible passages in preparation for Sunday morning.

Sunday	Matthew 25:14-30	Parable of the talents
Monday	Luke 19:11-26	A king and his servants
Tuesday	1 Peter 4:7-13	Using our gifts
Wednesday	Romans 12:3-18	We have different gifts
Thursday	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	The coming of the Lord
Friday	Ephesians 4:11-24	Christ's gifts to the church
Saturday	Psalms 90	God is eternal
Sunday	Matthew 25:31-46	The sheep and the goats

Fruit Cake Order Form ~ It's not too late to order fruit cakes.
Please send in your order by using this form.

_____ **Fruit Cake(s) at \$6.00 equals \$** _____

Thank you kindly!

Poinsettia Order Form

Christmas is just around the corner! Please help to decorate our Sanctuary with a “wave” of red this Advent for the Sundays of December 10, December 17 and December 24.



The following will be available:

A 6” potted poinsettia with a foil wrap and a bow for \$11.00.

Please submit payment with your order.

Orders must be received by **Sunday, December 3rd**. Fill out the order form in the bulletin or call Sara in the office at 734-242-1545 to order. Please submit checks together with your order form in the offering plate. Checks may be made out to First Presbyterian Church. The flowers are being furnished by Deb’s Flowers & Gifts. Please feel free to take your plant home **after** the **10:00 p.m.** worship service on December 24th.

My poinsettia is

In Honor of _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

In Memory of _____

My Name is _____

Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder; **Director of Music Ministry:** Susan Barker;
Financial Secretary: Suzanne Bondie; **Administrative Assistant:** Sara Jones;
Sexton: Gary Bogedain; **Childcare:** Suzanne Bondie, Amy Morgan;
Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Dean McGormley, Rev. Dr. Ellen McGormley
Liturgist: Kay Prucka Gawle
Ushers: Bill Barnes, Mark Eby, Jim Crammond, Helyn Schroeder

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	12:15	Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)
MONDAY	7:00	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY	11:00	No Staff Meeting
	4:00	Monroe High School Track Banquet (Fellowship Hall)
	5:00	Rhythmic Ringers
WEDNESDAY	9:30	Chair Yoga
	1:00	No Deacons Visit
	6:00	No Bible Study (Library)
	6:30	No Bell Choir
	7:30	No Choir
THURSDAY		OFFICE CLOSED-HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
	10:00	No Bible Study (Cairl Room)
	6:00	Community of Need Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00	TOPS
FRIDAY		OFFICE CLOSED-HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
	9:00	TOPS
	8:00	Heroin Anonymous
SUNDAY	9:30	No Adult Education Class
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)

Sermon Notes