

F i r s t 

Presbyterian

Church of Monroe

September 3, 2017; 10:00 AM

108 Washington St., Monroe, Michigan 48161
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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.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost and Communion Sunday

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

OPENING WORDS

The Holy Spirit has given us life and pours on us the power to become new.

The Spirit has given us breath and kindles the fires of love among us.

Come here and be ready for the surprises that God's Spirit brings.

We are open now to God's presence and His holy surprises.

PRELUDE “Praise to the Lord”

J.S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise.

You discern my thoughts from far away.

You search my paths and my lying down.

You are well familiar with all my ways.

How complex to me are your thoughts, O God!

How big is the sum of all of them!

I try to count them—they are more than the sand of the earth;

I reach the end...and I am still with you.

*HYMN ★81 “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, you search us and know us. You know the secrets of our heart. You are there when no one is looking. You know what we think. You know our motives. How often we would like to run away from you, escaping your probing eyes. How often we try to hide from your searching gaze. And we imagine that we can do things our way.

In mercy, forgive and heal our tendency to wander off. Fashion us by your Spirit into vessels made for good use. Mold and shape us again into those who show your likeness and love, so that we can bring healing to a broken world.

SILENT CONFESSION

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 ★300 “We are One in the Spirit”

*We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored;
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

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 105:1-6, 23-26

OT p. 556-557

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING — Matthew 16:21-28

NT p. 18

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON “The Things of God”

HYMN ★503 “Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation”

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

OFFERTORY “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” J.S. Bach
Pamela Jackson, Soprano

Jesu, Joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, Love most bright; drawn by Thee our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light. Word of God, our flesh that fashioned with the fire of life impassioned. Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying round Thy throne.

*DOXOLOGY ★606

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We have brought to you only what is already yours, dear God. We give because you have given first. Use this offering of our hands and anoint us, the givers, for the building up of your kingdom for your glory alone. 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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE TABLE IS PREPARED

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with choirs of angels
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

*HYMN ★552 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All who profess Christ as their Lord and Savior are welcome to partake of the meal
he has prepared for us.*

COMMUNION PRAYER

All praise is yours, O God. You bring us to this table as one.

**Lead us now to that glorious day when all your children will gather in your
kingdom and sit at table.**

We pray this through Jesus Christ,
Who is our peace made flesh. Amen!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN ★726 “Will You Come and Follow Me”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE ★ 547 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" v. 3**
Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

POSTLUDE "Concerto No. 2" First Movement

J.S. Bach

TODAY

About our Guest Musician

Pamela Jackson, Soprano, joins us to sing the offertory solo. Pamela is the daughter of Tom Bajkeiwicz. She also worships at St. Timothy's in Trenton and serves as a soloist in the Monroe area. We are grateful for her sharing of her beautiful voice with us today.

Today is Communion Sunday with our Prayer Team

Today, 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.

Sunday Fellowship and Sermon Discussion in Boyd Chapel

After worship, please come across the hall for a time of fellowship and light refreshments and a 30 minute sermon discussion. Today concludes the sermon discussion.

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.

Worship Time Change

Next Sunday, **September 10**, we will begin to worship again at 11:00 a.m. for the autumn and winter months. Please mark your calendars.

Rally Day

Next Sunday, **September 10** is Rally Day. We will be having bagels, fruit, and juice at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and a Bible lesson with Alice Kostoff.

Noisy Offering

Next Sunday, **September 10** on Rally Day, we will take up the noisy offering, formerly the two cents-a-meal offering. Noisy offering invites our congregation to prayerfully contribute a few cents at each meal to help alleviate hunger and poverty. Proceeds will go to the Community of Need Meal.

Message from Property Committee

This past week, we have begun painting of the Hall of Memories, hallway to the handicap rest room, the Narthex/ Bell tower and the little kitchen. ~Property Committee

Pastoral Care

Pastor Annemarie will be preaching at Samford University's Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, AL on September 5. She will be gone September 5-6 and return on September 7. For immediate pastoral care needs during that time, please call the church office or the moderators of deacons, Donna and Dallas Dieckman (734) 242-8659.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We will begin to meet in the Library every Tuesday, at 11:00 a.m. starting on **September 5**. Yarn and patterns will be available. Shawls are given to members who are ill or hospitalized. If you are interested in knitting or crocheting and would like to take part in this ministry, please contact Becky O'Bryan.

Sanctuary Chancel Choir and Bell Choir

It is time for all who love to make music to gather together at our church and bring our musical offerings to the Lord. So, on this Wednesday night, **September 6**, at 7:30 p.m. come to the Choir Room and become a member of the Choir. If you would like to ring hand bells and we need more members, come to bell rehearsal next Wednesday, **September 13**, at 6:30 p.m.

Men's Breakfast

A Men's Breakfast will take place this Saturday, **September 9** at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please invite a friend to enjoy this time of fellowship with one another.

Martha Mary Circle

A circle meeting will take place on Monday, **September 11** at 1:00 p.m. in the Cairl Room to discuss the upcoming Public Luncheon which will be held on September 28.

Women's Bible Study

We will meet again starting Thursday, **September 14** at 10:00 a.m. to begin a new six-week series on the Bible in the Library.

Chair Yoga

The starting time of Chair Yoga with Chantelle has returned to 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday. It is open to all women and men. The cost is \$5 per class.

Birthday List

Please fill out a yellow slip so that your birthday can be added to our church's birthday list and place it into the birthday cake box in the narthex. We want to gather a list of birthdays to further congregational fellowship. The birth year will be kept confidential. A list will appear in each month's newsletter of "Your Church".

Sermons

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

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.

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 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow
Monday	Romans 12:9-21	Rules for Christian Living
Tuesday	Matthew 20:17-28	Jesus again predicts his death
Wednesday	Luke 9:51-62	The cost of following Jesus
Thursday	Philippians 3:7-16	Running towards the goal
Friday	1 Peter 4:12-19	Suffering as a Christian
Saturday	Psalms 26	The prayer of an innocent person
Sunday	Matthew 18:15-20	Seeking reconciliation

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	11:00	Sermon Discussion
	11:15	Fellowship
MONDAY		OFFICE CLOSED-Labor Day
	7:00	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY	11:00	Staff
	11:00	Prayer Shawl Meeting (Library)
	5:30	Congregational Life Committee
	5:30	Bed Ministry Board Meeting
WEDNESDAY	9:30	Chair Yoga
	1:00	Deacons Visit
	1:00	Sparklers
	7:30	Choir
THURSDAY	6:00	Community of Need Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00	TOPS
FRIDAY	9:00	TOPS
	8:00	Heroin Anonymous
SATURDAY	8:30	Men's Breakfast
	1:00	Alfred Piphio Memorial Service (Boyd Chapel)
SUNDAY	8:30	Deacons Meeting
	9:30	Rally Day Breakfast
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Fellowship

Sermon Notes

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;
Custodian: Jewelley Peters
Liturgist: Winnie Findley
Ushers: Carol Rabun, Kim Hooper, Gary and Jo-Ann Follbaum