

F i r s t 

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Presbyterian

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Church of Monroe

September 9, 2018; 11:00 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.

# Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost and Christian Education Rally Day

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

## OPENING WORDS

Let us wake up from our deep night of the soul.

**For God is dawning on the world like morning light.**

Let us turn to the east with joy on our lips.

**For God's face shines upon us and gives us peace.**

## PRELUDE

“Praeludium from Partita No. 1”

J.S. Bach

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

We rejoice, O God, that you call us to this place.

**We rejoice, O God, that we can sing your praise and offer our lives.**

You strengthen us and call us to serve.

**You appointed us to service in Christ.**

**To you, Immortal and Invisible One, be all honor and glory, forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## \*OPENING HYMN #12

“Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise”

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, in the week that is past we each have let go of the rope of our good intentions. We have averted our eyes from the sorrow or pain of someone else. We have failed to renew our own physical, emotional, and spiritual resources. We have made a decision without the guidance of prayer. And while we are generous in forgiving ourselves these sins, we are harsh when we see them in someone else. Forgive us and make us newly self-aware. And plant a bothersome conscience in the middle of our lives.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

### HYMN #579

“Lord, Have Mercy”

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

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God speaks again and again to us the words of forgiveness: “You are my child; with you I am well pleased.” Hear then again these words of joy and hope. And know that through Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. **Amen!**

## \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## \*SONG OF AFFIRMATION #634

“To God Be the Glory”

*To God be the glory; great things he has done!*

*So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,*

*who yielded his life an atonement for sin,*

*and opened the lifegate that all may go in.*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!*

*O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,*

*and give him the glory; great things he has done.*

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING

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

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING — James 2:1-10

NT p. 229

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING — Mark 7:24-37

NT p. 42-43

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Agents of God”

HYMN #700

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

“Sarabande from Partita No. 1”

J.S. Bach

\*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

**The Holy Spirit is the Lord and Giver of all life, everywhere present, and is the source of all good thoughts, pure desires, and holy counsels in people. By him the prophets were moved to speak the Word of God, and all the writers of the Holy Scriptures inspired to record infallibly the mind and will of God. The dispensation of the gospel is especially committed to him. He prepares the way for it, accompanies it with his persuasive power, and urges its message upon the reason and conscience of people, so that they who reject its merciful offer are not only without excuse, but are also guilty of resisting the Holy Spirit.**

--The Westminster Confession of Faith (1958), from the *Book of Confessions*

MISSION MINUTE

PASTORAL PRAYER 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*HYMN #749

“Come! Live in the Light!”

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Gigue from Partita No. 1”

J.S. Bach

## **TODAY**

### **About our Guest Musician**

Joshua Marzan is a freelance pianist in the Southeast Michigan area. He currently works for the University of Michigan as a staff pianist, playing with instrumentalists and coaching singers. He plays for various auditions, competitions, and concerts, including recitals with DSO members. Before coming to Michigan, Joshua received a BM in Piano Performance from Virginia Commonwealth University and a MM and GD in Collaborative Piano from the New England Conservatory. He recently graduated with a DMA in Collaborative Piano from the University of Michigan under Martin Katz.

### **Chili Dinner after Worship**

After worship this morning, please join us at 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, the Martha Mary Circle and Congregational Life will have a Chili Dinner to aid the Bed Ministry! We will provide the chili for everyone.

### **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, wheel chairs, and walkers are also available.

### **Worship Time Change**

We have begun to worship again at 11:00 a.m. for the autumn and winter months. Please mark your calendars.

### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

On Thursdays, at 10:00 a.m. Cindy Morgan is facilitating a study on the Gospel of Mark based on N.T. Wright's Bible study series in the Cairl Room. This is open to everyone. Each week we are growing in the word of Christ. Please join us!

### **Martha Mary Circle**

The Martha Mary Circle would like to invite all ladies of the church to their meeting on tomorrow, **September 10** at 1:00 p.m. in the Cairl Room.

## **Confirmation/Youth Group**

Confirmation classes will meet next on Wednesday, **September 12** from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the youth room. It includes a time of prayer, bible study, fun, and fellowship. We meet every other week in the Teen Room.

## **Confirmation Sunday~September 16**

On Sunday, **September 16** during worship we will receive our confirmands. A special session meeting will take place at 9:30 a.m. on that day. After worship there will be a tea to honor the confirmands in the Fellowship Hall. Please come to support our confirmands.

## **Adult Education**

Next Sunday, **September 16th** at 9:30 a.m. Dallas Dieckmann will continue a study on 1 Corinthians with an introduction to the Apostle Paul's life in Boyd Chapel. Nursery will be provided by Suzanne Bondie and Amy Morgan. Please join us and bring a friend!

## **Socialites**

The Socialites will be meeting at the Schroeders' on Saturday, **September 15** at 5:30 p.m. This is open to all singles, widows, and widowers. Please invite someone you know for this special time of fellowship.

## **200<sup>th</sup> Celebration Anniversary Meeting**

The next meeting is Monday, **September 17** at 7:00 p.m. in the Cairl Room. Please contact Alice Kostoff to join the group.

## **New Children's Message Series**

We have kicked off a new children's message series called "Treasure Box." Children will bring up a "treasure box" that contains one item and bring it forward. The pastor will then have to come up with a story or biblical message that's related to this item.

## **Bed Race Sunday**

The Bed Race sponsored by the Monroe County Bed Race to Aid Children will be on Sunday, **September 23**, at 1:00 p.m. There will be no Adult Education classes on that day.

## **Public Luncheon**

The Martha Mary Circle will be sponsoring a Public Luncheon on Thursday, **September 27** from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Carry Out is Available and the cost is \$7.00. Please invite your friends and co-workers to this special event during the day.

## **Aeolian Chorale Concert**

The Aeolian Chorale under the direction of Marshall Dix will be in concert with us again on Sunday, **September 30** at 3:00 p.m. They will present a selection of songs reflecting on and inspired by our lovely state entitled, "From Michigan, With Love." Please join us for this special concert and bring a friend!

## **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. Information shared is confidential!

## **Sermons**

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

### **Staff:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder; **Administrative Assistant:** Sara Jones;

**Financial Secretary:** Suzanne Bondie; **Sexton:** Gary Bogedain;

**Childcare:** Suzanne Bondie, Amy Morgan; **Custodian:** Sean Farris

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

**Liturgist:** Steven Todd and Nicholas Todd

**Ushers:** Cory and Kathy Fogle; Rusty and Cathy Shorter

## **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.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 7:24-37</b>	<b>Jesus heals the Gentiles</b>
Monday	Isaiah 35:4-7a	The return of the exiled
Tuesday	James 2:1-17	Faith without works is dead
Wednesday	Luke 18:1-8	The widow and the unjust judge
Thursday	Hosea 12:2-6	Return to your God
Friday	Mark 9:14-29	Jesus gives a boy speech
Saturday	Psalm 146	Praise for God's help
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 8:27-38</b>	<b>Taking up the cross</b>

## **THIS WEEK**

SUNDAY	12:15	Chili Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
MONDAY	1:00	Martha Mary Circle (Cairl Room)
	7:00	AA (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY	10:00	Chair Yoga
	11:00	Staff Meeting
	5:30	Congregational Life Committee
	6:00	Finance Committee
	7:00	Mission and Outreach Committee
WEDNESDAY	1:00	Deacons Visit
	5:00	Worship Committee
	6:00	Confirmation Youth Group
	7:00	Property Committee
THURSDAY	10:00	Bible Study
	6:00	Personnel Committee
	6:00	Community of Need Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00	TOPS
FRIDAY	9:00	TOPS
	8:00	Heroin Anonymous
SATURDAY	5:30	Socialites
SUNDAY	9:30	Special Session Meeting for Confirmands
	9:30	No Adult Education (Boyd Chapel)
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Special Tea for Confirmands (Fellowship Hall)