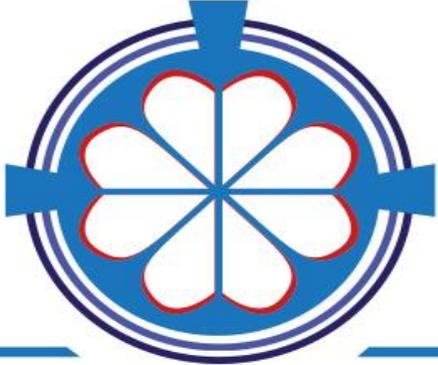


F i r s t 

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Presbyterian

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Church of Monroe

February 3, 2019; 11:00 AM

108 Washington St., Monroe, Michigan 48161  
734.242.1545; [info@monroefirst.org](mailto:info@monroefirst.org)  
[www.monroefirst.org](http://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.

# Fourth Sunday after Epiphany and Communion Sunday

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

## OPENING WORDS

Doors open. Hearts ready. God beckons.

**We are looking for a center point to life, for a union of all the scattered and torn edges.**

## PRELUDE

“Lord, I Want To Be a Christian”

D. Bish

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

May your soul find communion here.

**Searching for honesty, for truth spoken in love.**

May your faith be challenged here.

**Looking for a place to offer our time and talents;**

May your spirit enrich this community.

**May our songs reach the heavens, touch our hearts, and spread into the world.**

## \*OPENING HYMN #366

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, so often we have allowed the demands of daily life to be so important to us that we have forgotten to share Your Word with others. We have been so busy that we have not come to You ourselves and we have let the hopelessness of the world drain away the hope You gave us. Forgive us, Lord, and give us the courage to speak out boldly of Your love. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

## HYMN #579

“Lord, Have Mercy”

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

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**\*SONG OF AFFIRMATION #834**      “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

**Precious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light; take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near; when my life is almost gone, hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall; take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

*Winnie Findley*

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

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST READING – Jeremiah 1:4-10**

OT p. 698

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING – Luke 4:21-30**

NT p. 61-62

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“The God of Today”

Rev. Alex McLean

**HYMN #187**

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

**CALL TO OFFERING**

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

**OFFERTORY**

Choral Performance

*Chancel Choir*

**\*DOXOLOGY ★606**

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts and the giving of this offering all show our thankfulness to you, O God our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**God has created man in a personal relation with himself that man may respond to the love of the Creator... Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. Man is free to seek his life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use his creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.**

*—The Confession of 1967: The Love of God.*

**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:

“Holy, Holy, Holy” #552

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

And so in remembrance of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves with thanksgiving as a living sacrifice.

In union with Christ’s offering for us, we live out the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## 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 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

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all you people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*HYMN #451

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Boléro De Concert”

L. Lefébure-Wély

## TODAY

### **About our Guest Minister**

Rev. Alex McLean, is our guest minister this morning! He is a retired Presbyterian minister who has served over 20 years in churches located in Michigan, New York, North Carolina, and Ohio. Please give him a warm welcome this morning!

### **Annual Meeting after Worship**

Our Annual Meeting will follow after worship this morning in the sanctuary. Please join us for this important meeting. The Annual Report is available on the table in the Narthex and small round table in the C.E. Lobby. Please pick up a copy.

## 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.

## Proposed Church By-Law Change

At the annual meeting this morning, the Session will be proposing the following change to the bylaws regarding the number of elders to serve on Session. The bylaw is listed below for you to review and the verbiage to be changed in the bylaws is reflected below in italics and is underlined.

### Part III – Officers Section 1. The Session

The Session shall consist of the pastor and *no less than nine (9) elders* in active service. The elders shall be divided into three (3) classes with *a minimum of three (3)* in each class, one of whom shall be elected each year for a full three-year term to begin at their ordination and/or installation. No elder shall serve on the Session for more than two (2) consecutive full terms and shall be ineligible to be elected to a new term until one (1) year shall have elapsed, provided, an elder may be elected to serve two (2) consecutive terms, the first of which was a partial term to fill a vacancy.

## Nominating Committee

Anyone who is interested in serving on the Nominating Committee for 2019, please talk to Jennifer Hueston. We will vote on who will serve on the committee this morning at the Annual Meeting.

## Men's Prayer Breakfast

The next Men's Prayer Breakfast will be this coming Saturday, **February 9** at 8:30 a.m. at the Fifth Wheel Restaurant. Please join us for this special time of prayer, fellowship, and food!

## Valentine Tea



On **February 10**, Congregational Life will have a Valentine Tea for the congregation after Worship. Please join us for a time of fellowship.

## Adult Education

Cindy Morgan will be teaching about the Tabernacle at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings until Lent in the Cairl Room.



## Thursday Morning Bible Study

Please come and join our group at 10:00 a.m. Thursday mornings in the Cairl Room for Bible Study!

## **Lenten Studies**

Congregational Life would like to have Lenten study groups again this year. If you would be interested in facilitating a group, let someone on our committee know. We have chosen a Lenten Study book entitled, "Forgiveness" by Marjorie Thompson. It has 6 chapters for the six weeks of Lent with study questions to initiate discussions for each chapter.

## **Pastoral Care Needs**

Please direct any Pastoral Care needs to the Church Office. Information shared is confidential!

## **200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbook Recipes**

We are starting to gather your best recipes for our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbook. Please remember to pick up the recipe forms located in the Narthex and C.E. Lobby.

**Sermon Notes**

## **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>Luke 4:21-30</b>	<b>The prophet Jesus is rejected</b>
Monday	Jeremiah 1:4-10	The Lord chooses the boy Jeremiah
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	The gift of love
Wednesday	2 Chronicles 34:1-7	The reign of Josiah
Thursday	Acts 10:44-48	Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit
Friday	John 1:43-51	Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael
Saturday	Psalms 71:1-6	A prayer for God's protection
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 5:1-11</b>	<b>Jesus calls the first disciples</b>

## **Church Leadership**

### **Elders**

#### **Class of 2019**

Jim Heisler  
Rusty Shorter  
Kathy Lee

#### **Class of 2020**

Cheryl Eder  
Jennifer Hueston  
Greg Hunter  
Alan Schroeder

#### **Class of 2021**

Diane Adams  
Jim Crammond  
Dale DeSloover

### **Committee Chairperson(s)**

**Building and Property:** Jim Heisler; Dale DeSloover

**Congregational Life:** Kathy Lee; Cheryl Eder

**Finance:** Alan Schroeder

**Mission and Outreach:** Jim Crammond

**Personnel and Policy:** Jennifer Hueston; Cheryl Eder

**Worship:** Diane Adams

### **Deacons**

#### **Class of 2019**

Ann Lux  
Karen Sobieralski  
Mary DeSloover  
Jeffrey Haman  
Judy Chesman

#### **Class of 2020**

Liz Cunningham  
Ann Orwin  
David Nielsen

#### **Class of 2021**

Lynn Geiman  
Gwen Peters

**Moderator of Deacons:** Ann Lux

**Vice Moderators of Deacons:** Mary DeSloover and Gwen Peters

### **Church Staff:**

**Director of Music Ministries:** Robert Edwards;

**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:** Jennifer Hueston

**Ushers:** Carol Rabun; Gary and Jo-Ann Follbaum

## THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	9:30	Adult Education (Cairl Room)
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Annual Meeting (Sanctuary)
MONDAY	6:00	Chair Yoga
	7:00	AA (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY	10:00	Chair Yoga
	11:15	Staff Meeting
WEDNESDAY	5:00	Worship Committee
	6:30	Bell Choir
	7:30	Choir practice
THURSDAY	10:00	Bible Study
	6:00	Community of Need Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00	TOPS
FRIDAY	9:00	TOPS
	9:30	Worship Planning Meeting
	8:00	Heroin Anonymous
SATURDAY	8:30	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fifth Wheel Restaurant)
SUNDAY	9:30	Adult Education (Cairl Room)
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Fellowship
	12:15	Deacons Meeting





Come  
to  
the  
Table