

First 
Presbyterian
Church of Monroe

March 17, 2019; 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.

Second Sunday in Lent

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

OPENING WORDS

As a mother hen comforts her chicks,

God's love brings us peace!

As stars fill the sky with heavenly light,

God's blessings fill our lives with love!

PRELUDE

“Elevation”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather this morning to sing God's praises.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

We bring our brokenness and seek God's peace.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

We come to worship the God of love.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN #35

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we are like lost chicks running away from your loving presence. We fail to trust your promises. We fear the dangers of the world. We lack the courage to fight injustice. We live as enemies of one another, rather than as sisters and brothers in Christ. Forgive us, we pray, and keep us safe. Give us courage to walk into the future with confidence.

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 #649**

“Amazing Grace”

vs. 1 and 2

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

CHILDREN'S TIME

Winnie Findley

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING – Philippians 3:17-4:1

NT p. 198

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING – Luke 13:31-35

NT p. 77

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“God’s Unrelenting Grace”

Rev. Ellen McGormley

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

---- A Brief Statement of Faith

HYMN #440

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

CALL TO OFFERING

Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Registry.

OFFERTORY

“Brethren We Have Met”

*DOXOLOGY #606

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God does not give as the world gives. God gives unrelenting grace and mercy through his Son, Jesus. Even so Jesus asks us to give to God that which is God's. Is not all of life a gift from God? Is not everything we own and everything we are and everything we have somehow a gift of God? Indeed we are the stewards of these amazing gifts. Just as we have received in great abundance the gifts of love and grace of God, let us give generously. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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 #442

“Just as I Am, without One Plea”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Of the Cross”

TODAY

Altar Flowers

This morning the altar flowers have been given by Judy Statti of Lakewood, California, in memory of Bill and Eunice Benriter's Wedding Anniversary on March 18.

A Lenten Study Group after Worship

After worship this morning please join us for a Lenten Study Group which is being led by Winnie Findley. We are studying the book, "Forgiveness, a Lenten Study", by Marjorie J. Thompson.

Welcome to FPC of Monroe!

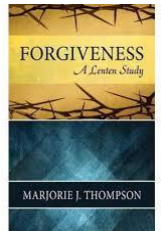
We are glad you are here today! We hope you find this a community of faith where you experience God in Jesus Christ. Childcare is always provided on Sunday mornings and the nursery is located near the parking lot entrance of the church. Hearing assistance, wheel chairs, and walkers are also available.

Session

The Session will meet a week early this month on Monday, **March 18** at 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Studies

Our three Lenten Study groups have begun studying "Forgiveness, a Lenten Study" by Marjorie J. Thompson. The classes are held on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. with Cindy Morgan leading; on Sundays after Worship with Winnie Findley leading; and on Wednesdays, at 6:00 p.m. with Rev. Dr. Ellen McGormley leading. The classes will last approximately 45 minutes. If you wish to purchase a book, please see Judy Chesman. The cost is \$9.00. There will be no Adult Education on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. during the Lenten Study Series (March 10 through April 14). Please join us as we journey through this season of Lent and practice forgiveness in our lives!



Newsletter Deadline

Please submit your newsletter items for April to the Church Office by Thursday, **March 21**.

Project Day!!

On Tuesday, **March 19** at 11:00 a.m. the Martha Mary Circle will be having a Project Day! Please bring any projects you are working on. We will be making mats, flannel blankets, and knitting for mission, or making prayer shawls. Yoshie Pomerville weaves mats from grocery bags (please bring some with you, if you wish). Helyn Schroeder will be providing lunch and you may leave when you need to. This is an opportunity for Christian women to share fellowship with one another. Please come and invite a friend!

200 years of Faith and Service

The Bicentennial Committee will meet Monday, **March 25** at 7:00 p.m. (Cairl Room).

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Your gifts support God's people experiencing need in supporting ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance, resettlement, food for the hungry, community development that helps people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen families and communities. Please pick up a "fish" offering box to place your coins in during the Lent season and on Easter Sunday, April 21 we will take up the "One Great Hour of Sharing" Offering during Worship.



Cookbook Update

We plan to still have a Cookbook for our 200th Anniversary which will be put together by the Martha Mary Circle. Please keep submitting your recipes until the end of May. If you have any questions, please see Alice Kostoff or Helyn Schroeder.

Oaks Needs Ranch Salad Dressing

The blue bin is out so that Deacons can collect donations of Ranch Dressing for Oaks. It is the most popular salad dressing with the residents at the shelter (as it is with many of us). Using up one bottle a night is not unusual. Let's see how many nights we can provide them with as we collect Ranch Dressing for the next three Sundays.

Pastoral Care Needs

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

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	Luke 13:31-35	Jesus' sorrow over Jerusalem
Monday	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	God's covenant with Abram
Tuesday	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Stand firm in the Lord
Wednesday	Matthew 23:37-39	Lament over Jerusalem
Thursday	Joshua 1:1-9	Be strong and courageous
Friday	1 Thessalonians 5:12-22	Paul's exhortations
Saturday	Psalms 27	A song of trust
Sunday	Luke 13:1-9	Parable of the fig tree

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	9:30	No Adult Education (Cairl Room)
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Fellowship (Boyd Chapel)
	12:15	Lenten Study Group led by Winnie Findley
MONDAY	6:00	Chair Yoga
	7:00	Session
	7:00	AA (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY	10:00	Chair Yoga
	11:00	Staff Meeting
	11:00	Martha Mary Circle Project Day (Fellowship Hall)
WEDNESDAY	6:00	Lenten Study Group led by Rev. Dr. Ellen McGormley
	6:30	Bell Choir
	7:30	Choir practice
THURSDAY		Newsletter Deadline
	10:00	Lenten Study Group led by Cindy Morgan
	6:00	Community of Need Meal (Fellowship Hall)
FRIDAY	6:00	TOPS
	9:00	TOPS
	8:00	Heroin Anonymous
SUNDAY	9:30	No Adult Education (Cairl Room)
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Fellowship (Boyd Chapel)
	12:15	Lenten Study Group led by Winnie Findley

Church Leadership

Elders

Class of 2019

Jim Heisler
Rusty Shorter
Kathy Lee

Class of 2020

Cheryl Eder
Jennifer Hueston
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:

Co-Interim Pastors: Rev. Dr. Ellen McGormley and Rev. Dean McGormley;
Ellen: (734) 652-7147 (home) and Dean: (734) 497-8069 (home)

This Week they will be in the office on Tuesday (11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.);

Wednesday (12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) and Thursday (9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)

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

Liturgist: Winnie Findley

Ushers: Jim Crammond, Helyn Schroeder, David Nielsen

Easter Flower Order Form



**Easter is just around the corner!
It's time to order flowers for the season!**

The following flower varieties will be available:

Easter Lily

1 Stem - \$ 8.50 _____

2 Stem - \$14.50 _____

3 Stem - \$19.00 _____

Tulips

\$8.50 _____

Hyacinths

\$8.50 _____

Orders must be received by **Sunday, March 31**, and will be ordered on **Thursday, April 4**. Please fill out the order form in the bulletin or call Sara in the office at 734-242-1545 to order. Please feel free to take your plant home after the 11:00 a.m. Easter Service on Sunday, April 21.

In honor of: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

In memory of: _____

Donated by: _____



Sermon Notes



An Amazing
Grace
how sweet the
Sound