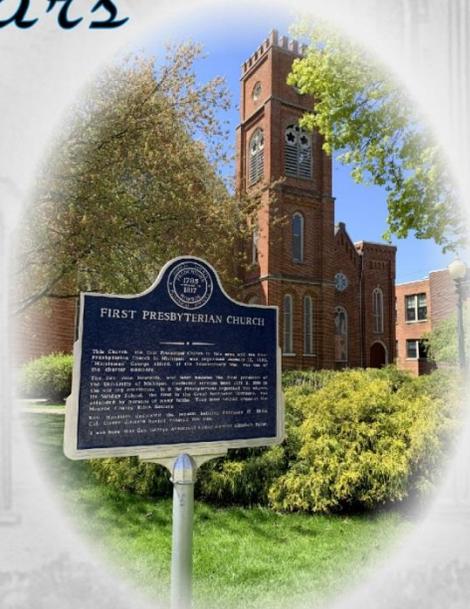




First  
Presbyterian  
Church of Monroe

1820 to 2020

Celebrating  
200 Years  
of Faith  
&  
Service



**May 31, 2020**

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

## OPENING WORDS

Listen, can you hear the wind?

**Come, Holy Spirit; come!**

Look, can you see the dancing flames?

**Come, Holy Spirit; come!**

Do you see the visions? Can you dream the dreams?

**Come Holy Spirit, come!**

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The winds of the Spirit are starting to move!

**The dry bones are beginning to rattle!**

Be ready to be amazed and astonished,

**for God's presence will fill this house of worship.**

The Spirit is here, speaking to us and through us,

**drawing us into God's praise.**

## OPENING HYMN #280 "Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us" vss. 1,3

- 1 Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; come with Pentecostal power;  
give the church a stronger vision; help us face each crucial hour.  
Built upon a firm foundation, Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone,  
still the church is called to mission that God's love shall be made known.
- 3 Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; give us words of fire and flame.  
Help our feeble lips to praise you, glorify your holy name.  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One: what mystery!  
We would sing our loud hosannas now and through eternity.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

As we celebrate the birth of the church today, we take a moment to be honest with God and ourselves about our failings. Knowing that our prayers will be met with God's love, let us confess our sins together.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, we have heard your Pentecost story: your Spirit is here, your church is born, and the day of the Lord is coming. You have gathered all people together in your Spirit, and you have brought life to all valleys of death. Still, O Lord, we cannot trust, for we fear our bones are beyond repair. Still, O Lord, we turn away, for we fear our hope is lost. Still, O Lord, we imagine isolation, for we fear we are cut off from your presence. Forgive us, Holy One. As you did for your first church, breathe the fire of life into us. As you did for your prophet Ezekiel, reveal to us your life-giving presence.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

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

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God brings us new life when our bones are dry, and hope when we are hopeless. God washes us in mercy and ignites us with the Spirit. By the grace of God through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free. **Amen.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

SONG OF AFFIRMATION # 71      “Surely, It is God Who Saves Me”

***Refrain: Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust and not be afraid.***

***For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense***

***And God will be my Savior***

***Vs. 1 Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation and on that day you shall say, “Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God’s name”***

***Refrain.***

## TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit, and fill our homes with the thunder of your boundary-breaking love. Come, Holy Spirit, and fill our reading with the fire of your call to the church. Come, Holy Spirit, and fill our hearing with the mystery of our faith. **Amen.**

FIRST READING – Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING — Acts 2:1-21

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON:           “20-20 Vision”           Rev. Dean McGormley

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Brief Statement of Faith

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!” Amen.**

HYMN #286                   “Breathe of Me, Breath of God”                   vss. 1,2,4

- 1 Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love, do what thou wouldst do.
- 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.
- 4 Breathe of me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,  
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

CALL TO OFFERING

*Please reflect on the blessings God has given you and how you might reach out. Today we receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering and will dedicate it at this time.*

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O Holy One, take the gifts that we have offered this day, and use them to ignite the world with the fire of your presence. Take the prayers that we have offered this day, and use them to breathe life into the valleys of dry bones. Take all the gifts we give this day and help them multiply to serve the poor and those facing disasters.  
**Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Pray for those who are ill and all health care workers and those in essential jobs serving us. Pray for our congregation now separated. Pray for our country's leaders as they make tough decisions. Pray for our world.)*

## 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.**

HYMN #547

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

vss. 1,3

- 1 Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.
- 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.

## CHARGE AND BLESSING

Go into the world that God so loves, ready to be amazed and astonished, for the winds of the Spirit are starting to move, and the dry bones are beginning to rattle! Go knowing that the Spirit goes behind and before you, drawing you into the heart of God and into the presence of our Savior. **Amen.**