

4th Sunday After Epiphany
January 31, 2021



"Whole Heart Hallelujah"

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

Let us seek to simplify this moment, slow down for a time. Let us worship, leaning on prayer, reflection and music. Let us worship God, who is holding our lives.

Threshold Moment
"God is Holding Your Life"

**Venturing out or coming home,
'neath heat of day or cool of night,
We call the one who hears your voice
and comes to heal and keep your life.**

**God is holding your life
God is holding your life
God is holding your life, we believe**

[repeat refrain]

Opening Collect Prayer

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

Leader: Amazing God,
You do wonderful things—big and small—every day.
Open us this day to recognize the miracles of life all around us
so that we might stay resilient and ready to create
your reign on earth as it is in heaven.

***People:* We praise you for your continued good works,
holding our lives together each day. Amen.**

Hymn

“O Beauty Ever Ancient”

GTG 650

- 1 O beauty ever ancient, O beauty ever new, divine and Holy Presence, my being sings to you, in gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!
- 2 O beauty in creation, in world of sound and sight, O beauty in the silence, in darkness as in light, in gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!
- 3 O beauty that is movement in liquid line of grace, O beauty that is stillness in lovely form or face, in gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!
- 4 O beauty of the Spirit where love is shining through, O beauty ever ancient, O beauty ever new, in gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!

Psalm Reading

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

Psalm 111

Lukan Psalter translation

Alleluia!

I will thank you, ADONAI, with all my heart
in the meeting of the just and their assembly.
Great are your works,
to be pondered by all who love them.

Majestic and glorious are your works,
and your justice stands firm forever.
You make us remember your wonders—
you are compassion and love.

You give food to those who revere you,
keeping your Covenant ever in mind.
You reveal to your people the power of your actions
by giving them the lands of the nations
as their inheritance.

The works of your hands are truth and justice,
and all your precepts are sure,
standing firm forever and ever,
and carried out uprightly and faithfully.

You have sent deliverance to your people
and established your Covenant forever.
Your Name is holy and awe-inspiring!

Reverence for ADONAI
is the beginning of wisdom—
those who have it prove themselves wise.
Your praise will last forever!

Psalm Song

**Introduction from Richard Bruxvoort Colligan
and
Song: “Whole Heart Hallelujah”**

Reflection

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

Instrumental Music

Offering

Diane Adams, Liturgist

“Selah” Moment

Diane Adams, Liturgist

A “Selah” pause can also mean taking a moment to breathe a prayer of thanksgiving in a random moment in our day, as we come across a flower or a breeze that reminds us to be grateful. As we have done every week in this series, we pause now for a moment. We will hear [the sound] and then have some silence. Feel free to close your eyes if you like. Imagine yourself held in safety and love and care. When you hear [the sound] again, open your eyes.

Time of Silence

Prayers of the People

Diane Adams, Liturgist

Let us take a moment to write prayer concerns on small pieces of paper—perhaps this week be sure to include prayers of thanksgiving, no matter the circumstances. We will then place these prayers in a container [*bowl, box, etc*]—a symbolic action of placing them in God’s hands, God’s care.

Time for Writing Prayer Concerns

Liturgist: Let the people say, “Selah”

People: Selah!

Liturgist: Let us continue our prayers. As a prayer posture for this worship series, I invite you to cup your hands, ready to receive God's love and peace, and in preparation to be God's love and peace in the world.

Let us pray for the needs of the church, the whole human family, and all the world, saying:

O God, hear our prayer.

That churches of all traditions may discover their unity in Christ and exercise their gifts in service of all, we pray to you:

O God, hear our prayer.

That the earth may be freed from war, famine, disease, and the air, soil and water cleansed of poison...we pray to you:

O God, hear our prayer.

That you will strengthen our nation to pursue just priorities so that the races may be reconciled; the young and old cared for; the hungry, filled; the homeless housed; and the sick, comforted and healed, we pray to you:

O God, hear our prayer.

That you will preserve all who live and work in this community in peace and safety, we pray to you:

O God, hear our prayer

That you will comfort and strengthen, those who face any difficulty or trial: the sick, the poor, the oppressed, those who grieve and those in prison, we pray to you:

O God, hear our prayer.

God, our Potter, form us into a new creation. Shape us day by day, until we pray as continually, as we breathe and all our acts are prayer. Amen.

Now we are bold to pray the prayer Jesus taught his disciples to pray:

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

Diane Adams, Liturgist

[People sing]

Sung Prayer Response
“Put Peace Into Each Other’s Hands”

**Put peace into each other’s hands and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle flame, with tenderness enfold it.**

**Put peace into each other’s hands with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways,
in touch with God’s creation.**

Passing the Peace

Diane Adams, Liturgist

Will you make a gesture of extending your cupped hands toward others who may be with or near you as a sign of offering the peace that Christ gives us? If you are alone, place your cupped hands over your heart, as a sign that you send your heartfelt peace out to the world.

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

[People sing]

**Give thanks for strong yet tender hands
held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short let hands speak out;
the heights of love expressing.**

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

Now go in the knowledge that God is holding your life
even as we hold each other.
You are not alone.
You are loved. Amen.

Postlude

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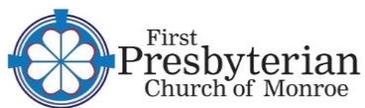
Prayers of the People adapted. [Book of Common Worship](#). Westminster John Knox Press. Louisville.2018. p. 93-94

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FPC Monroe Worship Team

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler, Pastor
Rob Edwards, Minister of Music
Diane Adams, Liturgist
Isaac Fankhauser, Sound Team
Josh McMann, Sound Team
Randy Stiffler, Sound Team



108 Washington Street
Monroe, Michigan 48161
734-242-1545