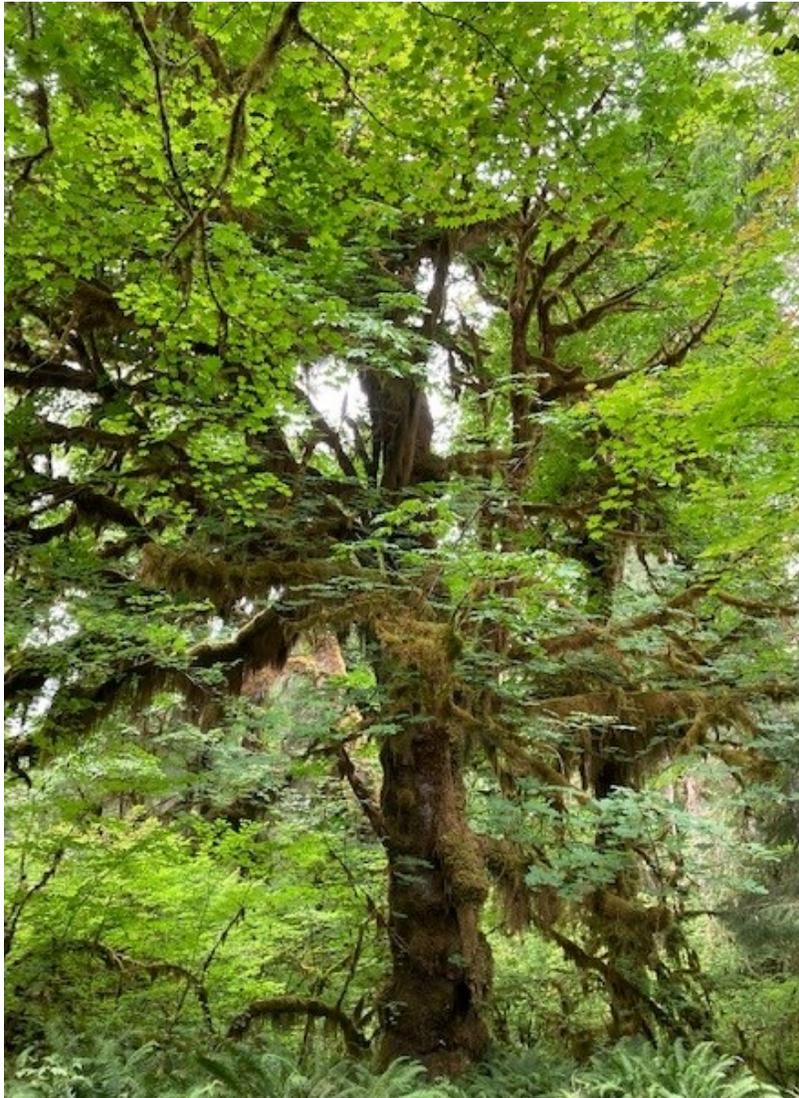


 KALAMAZOO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"A Sanctuary in the City... Living Faith"



“Anyone who takes the spiritual life seriously and wants to enter more deeply into the encounter with God realizes immediately the need for formation and direction. Taking this inward journey demands looking at the movements of the heart with all its polarities, but taken in a time– and tradition-honored way. Just as we wouldn’t set out on a long physical journey without planning for periods of rest and refreshment and checking out maps and directions, we can’t expect to be formed in faith without committing to living a spiritual life with regular spiritual disciplines or practices.”

~ Henri Nouwen

FEBRUARY 13, 2022

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

THE GATHERING

*Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here—with whatever joys, questions,
or tears you bring today—as we worship God, who welcomes us all!
You are invited to listen for God's Spirit speaking to you through the music of the Prelude,
as we prepare our hearts for worship.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.
Let us worship God.

PRELUDE

"Lied"

Louis Vierne

* DOXOLOGY (tune #607)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

* OPENING RESPONSES

from Psalms 1 and 43

Blessed are all who delight in God's ways and meditate on God's love day and night.
**They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in season, and
their leaves do not wither.**

O God, send our your light and truth; let them lead us and bring us to your holy hill.
Then we will go to your sanctuary, God; and with exceeding joy we will praise you!

* HYMN

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

#394

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, you call us to root our lives in your blessedness, but often we're arid and barren.
We turn from grace in fear, anger, or selfish envy. We don't always trust in your love.
We hold onto hurts. We use resources carelessly. Our hearts get twisted by bias.
So we hurt others, stay silent in the face of abuse, and share complicity with harm to
our community and creation. In your mercy, search us, know us, and forgive us.
Heal and nurture what brings new life and makes it flourish among us here and now,
in the name of Christ.**

Prayer continues in silence.

KYRIE

"Restore in Us, O God"

#434

**Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND PEACE from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

Jesus proclaimed God's reign: preaching, teaching, healing, eating with outcasts, and forgiving. Loving us still, like a mother who will not forsake a nursing child, and like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God redeems us and all creation.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from God's love in Jesus Christ!

In a broken world, trust in God. The Holy Spirit rules our faith and life in Christ, engages us through the Word, and gives us courage to pray without ceasing as we work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. May the peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Please stand and take a moment to share Christ's peace with others, respecting personal need for distance and levels of comfort.

* GLORIA

#583

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

THE WORD

MOMENT WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

CHILDREN'S BLESSING "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

#547

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Your word, O God, is living water, a light upon our path and wisdom for our journey. Amid all the other voices of our age, open our minds and hearts to receive your Word, that through it, we may grow toward greater joy and faithfulness in your service. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:5-10

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

“Blest Are They”

arr. Mark Hayes
Caitlin Brooks, soloist

Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God,
Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

(Refrain)

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. (Refrain)

Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God.

Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs. (Refrain)

Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours in the kingdom; shine for all to see. (Refrain)

SECOND READING

Luke 6:17-26

For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God
within us,

Thanks be to God

SERMON

Holy Hydration

“They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.”
(Jeremiah 17:8)

* HYMN

“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

#543

THE THANKSGIVING

TIDINGS OF THE CHURCH

We give thanks to God and live faith, offering ourselves through worship, work, service,
and love in all its forms.

PRESBYTERIAN SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

OFFERTORY

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Give Thanks, O Christian People” #644 v.3
**Give thanks, O Christian people, for all who love the Lord,
who live each day believing in God’s eternal word.
To share Christ’s love in living, to witness with each deed,
to use the talents given to plant the gospel seed.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION
**We look into our hearts; see the fire and love—God’s own for the world.
We look at our hands; see the touch and tenderness—God’s own for the world.
We hear our words. We walk on our feet. We seek inspiration and direction.
For this is God’s world, and we will serve Christ in it! Amen.**

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION
The Lord be with you,
And also with you.
Let us pray ...
**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.**

THE SENDING

* HYMN “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” #738

* BENEDICTION (*Our congregational response is “Alleluia! Amen!”*)

POSTLUDE Improvisation on “All Creatures of Our God and King” William Draper

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
The Rev. Chrissy Westbury
Meredith Alspach

Acolyte

Joseph Sablan

Reader

Raymond Wicks

Greeters

Don Cooney
Kathy Cooney

Sound

Sound Team members

Music

Michael Palmer, Interim Director of Music
Adult Choir
Caitlin Brooks, soloist
Joey Gottschall, Gust conductor
JJ Treadway, Choir accompanist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID UPDATE

Throughout the pandemic, the Health Ministries Committee and the Session of FPC have encouraged careful monitoring of the science, following the guidelines set forth by the experts at the Center for Disease Control. The CDC has strongly recommended that people in areas where there is Substantial or High Spread of the Covid-19 virus and its variants - regardless of vaccination status - wear masks when gathering indoors with people outside their household. For this reason, we are requiring that all people who enter the church building mask up, as long as Kalamazoo County remains in the Substantial Spread area. Let's do our part to protect one another and stop this thing before it gets out of hand again!

SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY

We invite all school-age children to join us for Sunday School after the Moment with Young Worshipers. Parents, please pick-up your children from the 3rd floor classroom immediately following Worship. The nursery is also open for all children under age three.

HOLISTIC HEALTH ONLINE CLASS

The Health Ministry team at FPC is sponsoring an Education and Outreach Effort through a virtual class/small group meeting. Our objective is to meet once a month (Every third Sunday at 6:00 p.m.) in a virtual format to discuss promoting holistic health (physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing). The general format of the class will be to log in (a Zoom link) and listen to a group speaker for a few minutes, then take some time to share and pose questions, talk about what is happening in the community and in our lives, and to maintain connection to support our well-being. Class registration is open to all.

Our February topic will be *Compassion*, which is scheduled for Sunday, February 20, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom link. Register by emailing Laura Ford to receive the Zoom link invitation. Lauraford57@gmail.com

SAY MORE? ADULT ED CLASS

Today, after Worship, in Room 301

“Say More?” is an opportunity to gather and reflect on the scripture passages shared in Worship and in the sermon – to ask questions and delve a little deeper into the scriptures we read each week. Contact Pastor Chrissy if you wish to have more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Tuesdays, January 18 – February 22 at noon, meeting in the Library

Due to unforeseen difficulty acquiring the previous book, Pastor Seth Weeldreyer has altered plans for our next group reflection. We will explore Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, centering on Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*. You can find this book through your favorite local bookstore or at Amazon. Levine writes: "The Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7, contains some of Jesus' most profound and most memorable teachings. What might these teachings have meant to his disciples, and to the others who first heard them? How, if we pay careful attention to his words, does Jesus provide us a road map to living as God would have us live?" Here's a schedule for our discussion:

February 15 Chapter 5: Finding Your Treasure
February 22 Chapter 6: Living into the Kingdom

We will return to John Bell's book, *Living with the Psalms*, for the season of Lent. The book is available on Amazon. Let Pastor Seth know if you're having trouble getting it.

A RHYTHM OF PRAYER: NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CLASS

Human beings are created to live in fellowship with God! Prayer is conversation with God. When you feel a desire to pray, it's God who is stirring up that desire in you and inviting you into a conversation. Please bring a notebook or prayer journal to record your thoughts and prayers. Pat Stromsta will lead this class.

In this four-week class, we study prayer that is found in Scripture, experience new forms of prayer, and read selections of the book, *A Rhythm of Prayer*, edited by Sarah Bessey. Sarah writes, "It is my hope that you'll borrow language from these prayers and be reminded that you are held — always, fully, completely — in the Love of God." We meet at 9:30 for coffee in room 301. We will open with prayer at 9:45.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM THE GREEN PRESBYTERIANS

"Man has responsibility, not power."

- Tuscarora



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

You are welcome to visit the socially-distanced tables in the dining room and choose your chili-to-go. In addition, curbside pick-up will be available.

Instructions for how to vote for your favorite chili will be included with your to-go box.

We are socially distanced, but the competition will be close!



All proceeds from the Cook-off generously support our "One Great Hour of Sharing" offering.

*The suggested donation is \$5 per person.
Other donations are gratefully accepted.*



FEBRUARY 20
AFTER WORSHIP
(11:15)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IT'S SCHOLARSHIP TIME!

- ◆ There are several endowments that have been established at First Presbyterian Church, with portions designated to be utilized for scholarships and/or grants.
- ◆ You are considered eligible to apply for a scholarship if you or your family have been active in the spiritual and community life of FPC Kalamazoo.
- ◆ Individuals who are expecting to continue their education beyond high school OR those who are already students beyond the high school level may apply .

Scholarship applications are due March 15.

CELEBRATE THE VISION

Thanks to Elaine Johns for providing the soup and dessert for Celebrate the Vision this week!

NOW HIRING:

AN OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

We are currently looking for someone to fill our Operations Coordinator position. This person will take over many of what were Ann Johnson's responsibilities.

Check the church website or Facebook page for full job details and instructions for applying.

You may also turn in a résumé and reference list to Paster Seth or Liz Hamilton.

Seth.weeldreyer@kalamazoofirstpres.org

Liz.hamilton@kellogg.com

DROP-IN CHILD CARE— VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Kalamazoo Drop-In Child Care Center provides free, part-time child care for income eligible families in the Kalamazoo area. They are in need of volunteers who enjoy working with children aged six weeks through age five.

If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact their Volunteer Coordinator, Beth Walters.

269-382-3640

CTV VOLUNTEER COOKS NEEDED!

Can you help make soup or dessert for CtV? For more information or to sign up, contact Meredith.

WEDNESDAY NOON PRAYER

... continues! Gather in our Sanctuary for a midweek time to center and ponder on our scripture for the week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEACONS' PRAYERS

One of the great gifts of a community of faith is that we take time and intention to pray for one another. This week, we pray for **Suzanne Weeldreyer** and the parish group listed below, that they may feel God's presence and power in their lives. Next week, in the same way, we'll pray for another Deacon and parish group.

Andrew, Erin, Alexis, and Conner Diamond	Bruce and Annabelle Rigg
Anna, Silas, Galen, and Heidi Lee Diamond	Jeff Ross
Lisa and John Diamond	Donald Swetay
Ryan, Laura, and Luke Fouty	Charles and Nancy Thiele
Jeffrey, Wendy, Nicholas, and Samantha King	Ron and Betty Van Der Slik
Diamond Logan	Carol Walters
Matthew, Janine, Sierra, and Bennett Loughrin	Deborah Wiebeck
Ronald and Judy Marvin	Scott and Jill Wilson
James, Brenda, Ellen, Pamela, and Stacy McGruder	Brian Crabb
Dave, Meredith, Kathryn, Elizabeth, and Matthew Novak	Lauren Crabb
James and Susan Young	Beverly Crabb
Mason and Victoria B. Coleman	Marianne Crawford
James A. and Susan Weeldreyer	

NEW EMAILS AND WEBSITE

This weekend we launched our new staff emails. They are much shorter and easier to remember than the old ones. All of the new emails are listed on the back of this bulletin. All emails sent to the old email addresses will be forwarded to the new address, so don't worry if you accidentally send an email to the old address; we will still get it!

The new website will be launched in the next week or so. Until then, the old website will not be getting updated. To see the most recent church news and events, use our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/asanctuaryinthecity>

FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM "JUST SANCTUARY"

"May God bless you with anger at injustice and oppression and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace."

- A Franciscan Benediction

TENTATIVE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today, Sunday, February 13

9:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, *Gathering Place*
 9:45 a.m. Childcare, *Third Floor*
 10:00 a.m. Worship, *Sanctuary*
 10:15 a.m. Church School, *Third Floor*
 11:15 a.m. Say More? Adult Ed, *Room 301*
 11:15 a.m. Health Ministry Meeting, *Library*

Monday, February 14

9:00 a.m. Collections Counting, *Room 207*
 12:00 p.m. AA, *Room 314/315*
12:30 p.m. Presbyter Information Deadline
 7:00 p.m. Scouts, *Dining Room/ Room 102*

Tuesday, February 15

7:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship, *Archives*
 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Archives*
 12:00 p.m. Sermon on the Mount, *Library*
12:30 p.m. Bulletin Announcement Deadline
 7:00 p.m. Finance Meeting, *Archives*

Wednesday, February 16

12:00 p.m. Prayer Service, *Sanctuary*
 5:00 p.m. Celebrate the Vision, *Outside*

Thursday, February 17

9:00 a.m. Library Opens, *Library*
 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study, *Room 301*
 12:00 p.m. AA, *Room 315*
 2:00 p.m. James Welch Columbarium Committal, *Columbarium*
 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, *Room 116*
 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, *Gathering Place*

Saturday, February 19

6:00 p.m. Rickman House Bingo, *Rickman House*

Sunday, February 20

9:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, *Gathering Place*
 9:00 a.m. Congregational Life Meeting, *Archives*
 9:00 a.m. Chili Cook-Off set-up, *Dining Room*
 9:45 a.m. Childcare, *Third Floor*
 10:00 a.m. Worship, *Sanctuary*
 10:15 a.m. Church School, *Third Floor*
 11:15 a.m. Say More? Adult Ed, *Room 301*
 11:15 a.m. Chili Cook-Off, *Dining Room*
 4:00 p.m. 4-6th Grade Youth Group, *Third Floor Kzoo PFC*
 6:00 p.m. Holistic Health Class, *Zoom*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Youth Group Sledding pictures from last weekend.

The kids (and adults) sure had fun!

Thanks to everyone who loaned us sleds.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO
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The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer, Pastor, x202
The Reverend Chrissy Westbury, Associate Pastor, x203
Meredith Alspach, Director of Youth and Families, x208
Louise Taylor, Financial Coordinator, x206
Hannah Foreman, Communications Coordinator, x209
Michael Palmer, Interim Director of Music
Autumn, Organist
Shawn Smith, Building Superintendent, x213
Custodians

Library
South Lobby Receptionists, x221

The Reverend Dr. Liz Hakken Candido, Parish Associate
The Reverend Amber Nettleton, Parish Associate
The Reverend Kathleen Robertson King, Parish Associate and United Campus Ministry Pastor

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UPCOMING WORSHIP— 10:00 a.m.

February 20
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
The Rev. Chrissy Westbury
Genesis 45:3-11; Luke 6:27-38

February 27
Transfiguration Sunday
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Luke 9:28-36; 2 Corinthians 3:17-4:6

March 2
Ash Wednesday
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
*There will be both a noon and 7:00 p.m.
service today (no 10 a.m. service).*

March 6
First Sunday in Lent
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

*Grounded in living faith, receiving diversity as a gift, we seek to reflect
Christ's light in God's world. Continually discerning God's vision of grace and peace,
we share inspirational worship, spiritual nurture, compassionate service
to others, and the pursuit of justice—all to the glory of God.*