

Reformation Sunday

October 29, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Welcome friends in Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today and to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ.

The Words of Welcome and Announcements

Our Approach to God

Prelude

How Firm a Foundation

arr. Doran

The Call to Worship

Let all who would worship the Lord gather together.

God has been our dwelling place through all generations.

Before the earth was formed, God existed from everlasting to everlasting.

God satisfies us in the morning with his steadfast love. We rejoice and are glad.

Let us praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

*The Hymn of Praise

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

260

*The Call to Confession

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. With the assurance of God's love and forgiveness, let us confess our sin to God.

*The Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God, you have searched us and known us. You know not only what we say, but also what we think and what we almost said. You know how quickly our thoughts rise to praise ourselves because we are well-off, good-looking, healthy, or smart. We boast of your gifts as if they were our own accomplishments. You know how slow we are to accuse ourselves even when we have turned our backs on you, and yet we are quick to accuse others. We repent of these sins and all the ways that we offend you. [Silent Confession.] O God, forgive, correct, and heal us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

It is not our good works that leads to God's forgiveness of our sins. We are saved by grace, through faith. This is not from ourselves, but it is the gift of God. In Christ, our sins are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

*The Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen

*The Passing of the Peace

The Anthem

Majestic Is Your Name

Michael Smith

The Word of God

The Time with the Children

The Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

page 231 OT

The New Testament Reading

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

page 276 NT

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:34-40

page 33 NT

The Psalm

Psalm 90:1-6, 14

page 655 OT

The Sermon

Rev. Ruth Estell

Our Response to Serve

Presentation of New Members Bob & Peggy Donaldson

*The Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed(traditional)

hymnal page 14

*The Hymn

More Love to Thee, O Christ

359

The Morning Prayers and the Lord's Prayer (using sins)

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 Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

The Offertory *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Pachelbel

*The Doxology Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow 592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all
creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*The Prayer of Dedication

*The Hymn *Hear the Good News of Salvation* 355

*The Charge and Benediction

*The Congregational Response *Go with Us, Lord* 535

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to You.**

Postlude *Toccata in D-Moll* Bach

* Congregation Standing - for those who are able.

Liturgist: Karen Kalina

Greeter:

Ushers: Pete & Ginny Brucker and Hugh Matson

Coffee Hour Host: Peggy Donaldson

Musical Talent: Laurel Taipale

The flowers today are in celebration of Chuck and Diane Kemerer's 64th wedding anniversary. Congratulations to you both.

The office will be open Monday – Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. As always, please call the office before driving to the church as unforeseen circumstances can occur.

Second Presbyterian Church

2665 Midland Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

Phone: (989) 792-1023

October 29, 2023



“Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the whole
world,
from everlasting to everlasting you
are God.”

Seeking and Serving Christ, We are a Place for Growing Christians.

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Announcements and Upcoming Events

2nd @ Second

NO 2nd @ Second today due to Trunk or Treat. Join us next Sunday, Nov 5 @ 10:15 as we continue to study *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews*. Author Melissa Bane Sevier invites us to explore major themes found in Hebrews, relate these themes to other parts of our faith tradition, and tie them together with the overarching motif of community. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Rescue Mission Lunches



Saturday, **November 4**, please join us in the church kitchen to assemble bag lunches for the Saginaw Rescue Mission. This will be a recurring event on the **first Saturday of each month**. We will meet at 9:30 A.M. in the church kitchen (Please enter from parking lot through Fellowship Hall door) to visit and share in the work of making sandwiches and lunches for those struggling with hunger. Many hands make light work! We look forward to seeing you as we gather to help those in need.

Time Change November 5th



Back!

Remember to set your clocks **back** on Sunday, November 5th as we end Daylight Savings time!

All Saints Sunday

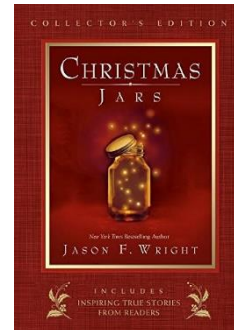
Next Sunday, November 5th, we will light a candle during the service to honor the faithful who have died during the past year in our own church community. It is a day of gratefulness and remembrance for those that have passed away. If you have someone who passed in the last 12 months and would like them honored, please let Pastor Ruth know or call the office @ 989-792-1023 by **Wednesday, November 1.**

Harvest Potluck



Enjoy some wonderful fall fellowship at the Harvest Potluck on **Sunday, November 12th**, at 5:00 p.m. The church supplies turkey, rolls, stuffing, potatoes, & gravy and you bring a dish to pass and your table service. Signup sheets are in the gathering area .If you can cook a turkey or help prepare the provided food and set the buffet please let us know on the signup sheets. Please contact Sonia Hoepfner @ 989-792-1023 or 989-781-0542 if you have any questions. (provided frozen turkeys will be at the church, for those who volunteer to cook one, by Sunday, November 5).

Random Acts of Kindness A Book Group for Christmas



To get into the holiday spirit, we are going to have our first Christmas inspired book club. The book is "**Christmas Jars**" by **Jason F. Wright**. Grab a copy or download the book, read it over the next several weeks, then we will **meet on Thursday, December 7 @ 6:00 p.m. to discuss the book, eat some treats and enjoy some holiday fellowship!** Please bring a treat to share with others. Coffee, tea, and water will be provided. No need to sign-up, just show up.



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER
ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

PDA is encouraging Presbyterians to support humanitarian efforts in Afghanistan, Libya, Israel, and Palestine. You can donate online with credit card at www.pcusa.org/GIVE or send a check to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) P.O Box 643700 Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Write the code below for which response you wish your donation to aid on the memo line of your check.

Designate gifts to:

DR999999-Libya

DR999999-Afghanistan

DR000081-Israel/Palestine

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

34 Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Mount Pisgah east of Jericho, and there the LORD showed him the whole land: the territory of Gilead as far north as the town of Dan; ² the entire territory of Naphtali; the territories of Ephraim and Manasseh; the territory of Judah as far west as the Mediterranean Sea; ³ the southern part of Judah; and the plain that reaches from Zoar to Jericho, the city of palm trees. ⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, “This is the land that I promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob I would give to their descendants. I have let you see it, but I will not let you go there.”

⁵ So Moses, the LORD's servant, died there in the land of Moab, as the LORD had said he would. ⁶ The LORD buried him in a valley in Moab, opposite the town of Bethpeor, but to this day no one knows the exact place of his burial. ⁷ Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died; he was as strong as ever, and his eyesight was still good. ⁸ The people of Israel mourned for him for thirty days in the plains of Moab.

⁹ Joshua son of Nun was filled with wisdom, because Moses had appointed him to be his successor. The people of Israel obeyed Joshua and kept the commands that the LORD had given them through Moses.

¹⁰ There has never been a prophet in Israel like Moses; the LORD spoke with him face-to-face. ¹¹ No other prophet has ever done miracles and wonders like those that the LORD sent Moses to perform against the king of Egypt, his officials, and the entire country. ¹² No other prophet has been able to do the great and terrifying things that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

2 Our friends, you yourselves know that our visit to you was not a failure. ² You know how we had already been mistreated and insulted in Philippi before we came to you in Thessalonica. And even though there was much opposition, our God gave us courage to tell you the Good News that comes from him. ³ Our appeal to you is not based on error or impure motives, nor do we try to trick anyone. ⁴ Instead, we always speak as God wants us to, because he has judged us worthy to be entrusted with the Good News. We do not try to please people, but to please God, who tests our motives.

⁵ You know very well that we did not come to you with flattering talk, nor did we use words to cover up greed—God is our witness! ⁶ We did not try to get praise from anyone, either from you or from others, ⁷ even though as apostles of Christ we could have made demands on you. But we were gentle when we were with you, like a mother^a taking care of her children. ⁸ Because of our love for you we were ready to share with you not only the Good News from God but even our own lives. You were so dear to us!

Matthew 22:34-40

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they came together, ³⁵ and one of them, a teacher of the Law, tried to trap him with a question. ³⁶ “Teacher,” he asked, “which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and the most important commandment. ³⁹ The second most important commandment is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’ ⁴⁰ The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on these two commandments.”