

Sunday Morning Worship

July 16, 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. If you are visiting with us, please introduce yourself to the pastor following the service.

The Words of Welcome and Announcements

Our Approach to God

Prelude Nocturne in E-flat Major, Op. 9, No. 2 by F. Chopin

The Call to Worship

God says, "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters. Listen, my people, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Come to me, and you will have life!"

We come to the living waters. We come hungry and thirsty.

Let us seek the Lord while he may be found and call upon him while he is near.

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

*The Hymn of Praise God is Here! 461

*The Call to Confession

All of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. But if we turn to the Lord, he will have mercy on us and will freely pardon us from our sins. Let us, therefore, confess our sin before God and one another.

*The Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, for the times that we have turned away from you, forgive us. For the times that we gladly hear your message without letting it sink deep into our lives, forgive us. For the times that we have allowed the worries and temptations of this world to choke out your message, forgive us. [Silent Confession.]

Merciful God, help us to hear, receive, and understand your words to us. May our lives bear an abundant harvest of fruit. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Through Jesus 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 Anthem "The Prayer"
by Carole Bayer Sager and David Foster
(Collin and Erin Whitfield, vocals)

The Word of God

The Gospel Reading Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23 page 18 NT

The Time with the Children

The Sermon Rev. Ruth Estell

Our Response to Serve

*The Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed (Traditional) hymnal page 14

*The Hymn Lord, I Want to Be a Christian 372

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

*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 Take My Life (verses 1,3,6) 391

*The Charge and Benediction

Postlude Allegro maestoso e vivace, from Sonata No. 2, Op. 65
by Felix Mendelssohn
(We invite you to remain seated and enjoy the postlude.)

* Congregation Standing - for those who are able.

Liturgist: Genie Herter

Greeters: Pete & Ginny Brucker

Ushers: Beverly Briggs

Fellowship Hour: Genie Herter

Give Online!



We thank those of you who have utilized our new online giving option! As you have heard, we partnered with the Presbyterian Foundation for a new, easy to use, online giving tool! You can scan this QR code with your smart phone to set up online giving. You can also visit our website, www.spcsaginaw.org, and click the "Give Now" button. You can use this for one-time giving, or to set up recurring giving! Thank you for your gifts to Second Presbyterian Church

Second Presbyterian Church

2665 Midland Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

Phone: (989) 792-1023

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But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit...

Matthew 13:23, NRSV



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

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Music Director Search Committee

TODAY is the last day to sign-up for the committee to search for a Music Director. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please see Pastor Ruth immediately following worship as the session is meeting today. However, signing up does not guarantee you a position on the committee as spaces are limited.



Attention: If you are not interested in having a paper newsletter mailed to your home, please cross your name off the list that is on the sign-up table in the gathering area or call the office @ 989-792-1023. Thank You.

The church office hours for the week of July 17 – July 23 will be Monday through Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. As unforeseen circumstances may occur, please call 989-792-1023 to be sure that someone is in the office before you drive to the church.

- **Pastor Ruth is on vacation July 17 – July 24.**
- **Rev. Mike Hahn will fill our pulpit on July 23.**
- **Deadline for articles for the August Newsletter is 9:00 a.m. on Thursday July 20.**

Maintenance Custodian

This is a second custodial position that will help with a variety of regular maintenance tasks outside of the current custodian's job description and be a backup for when the current custodian is on vacation or sick. It requires a person who is flexible and on call. This task is broken down into several duties performed throughout the church interior and exterior, throughout the day or at other regular intervals. A complete list of requirements is in a folder on the stand outside the church office.



July & August Mission Project

Watch for back-to-school specials! For the months of July & August, the mission committee will be collecting school supplies for Brethren and Arthur Eddy Academy elementary school children. Any donations of backpacks, pencils, crayons, or other needed items may be placed on the table in the mission corner to be delivered before the start of school.



The Ecumenical Food Pantry at First Presbyterian Church

The Food Pantry is running low on personal care items that they give out once a month. **Trial or Travel size of any of the following products:** Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, Shampoo, Bar Soap, Hand Soap, Hand Sanitizer, Body Lotion, Hand Cream

There is a box on the table in the Mission Corner to place these items in. If you would like to send a check in support, please make checks out to *First Presbyterian Church* and indicate it is for the Food Pantry.