

Everybody's Church



First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

Sunday, April 28, 2024, 10:00am, Fifth Sunday of Easter

Vision Statement

As Everybody's Church we commit ourselves to serving Christ by cultivating mission, inclusion and community.

Inclusion Statement

As Everybody's Church we strive to be a faithful, open and inclusive community. We welcome the full participation of all people of any ability, gender identity, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other life circumstance.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lou Nyiri

Please join in reading those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

INTROIT

"Glorious Is the Name of Jesus"
Chancel Choir Ensemble

Fryson

The music this morning is offered as an act of worship, therefore, please refrain from applause.

†When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or in spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Simonelli

One: God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.

Many: From the waters of death, you raise us with him and renew your gift of life within us.

One: Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of life with you, through Christ our Lord.

Many: We are Easter people and Alleluia is our song!

All: Let us worship God!

We are an intentionally inclusive congregation and value the richness of worshiping with all God's people. There are times in the sanctuary when shouts or other loud noises may occur. We accept these without judgment, unless they are signs of distress in need of attention.

†HYMN 32

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Hymntune: ELLACOMBE

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

After Time With the Younger Church, children 3 years old—5th grade will proceed to their classrooms.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rev. Bethany Peerbolte

We rejoice in the presentation for baptism: Madelyn Paige Kennedy, born March 20, 2024, daughter of Alaina and Jim Kennedy.

Amanda Willis, Elder

Question to the Congregation: Do you, as a member of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Madelyn by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of His church?

Congregation: We do.

Question to the Children: And do you, children, promise to help teach Madelyn about the love of Jesus?

Children: We will.

†CREED

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†RESPONSE 581

“Glory Be to the Father”

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word.

Many: Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit
so we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

FIRST TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 61

One: The word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God!

SECOND TESTAMENT READING

John 15:1-11

One: The word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“A Wordle of Faith?”

Rev. Lou Nyiri

“Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.—John 15:4

Confession acknowledges the reality of sin in our personal and corporate lives. This practice relieves us from the burden of sin and reminds us of the promise of God's forgiveness and grace sealed in our baptism.

Please follow along with the reading on page 526 of the Old Testament in your Pew Bible.

Please follow along with the reading on page 109 of the New Testament in your Pew Bible.

OFFERING INFORMATION

*Members and guests, please sign the Fellowship Pads
to let us know of your presence with us.*

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES AND RESOURCES

MUSICAL OFFERING

“My Hope is Built”
Chancel Choir

Trenney

†THE DOXOLOGY

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 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, forever. Amen.

†HYMN 450

“Be Thou My Vision”

Hymntune: SLANE

†BENEDICTION

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

“Walk Together Children”

André Thomas

Andrew Herbruck, Director of Music Ministries, is playing the service.

Our liturgist this morning is David Simonelli. David has served as an Elder, twice as a Deacon, and as Interim Head of Staff. David is currently serving on the Staff Relations Committee. He has been a member of FPC since 1999 and his wife, Laurie, is a third-generation member. They have two children, Dean (26 years old) and Alex (22 years old). David is an intellectual property attorney working as a solo practitioner.

The flowers today are given by Cindy and Forrest Merten to honor all the volunteers in gratitude for their service and commitment to serving Christ through mission, inclusion and community.

Visitors, thank you for joining us today. Please sign the Fellowship Pad or use this QR code to register your attendance:



Many Ways to Give at FPC

To contribute online visit the giving tab (using the QR code, go to www.everybodyschurch.org) or Text to Give.



Text “GIVE” to



248-600-4919

The service of worship concludes following the postlude. Please take this time to reflect on the day’s worship.

Welcome in Christ’s name to First Presbyterian Church! You are welcome here just as you are at whatever place in your spiritual journey that you find yourself. If you have any questions about who we are, what we believe, or what we do, please ask one of our elders or pastors. They will be pleased to visit with you. Please know that you are invited to join us for coffee and goodies following the service in Calvin Hall.

Staff

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>The Congregation</i>
<i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i>	<i>Rev. Louis Nyiri, M.Div</i>
<i>Pastoral Liaison for Stephen Ministry**</i>	<i>Rev. Joanne Blair, M.Div</i>
<i>Parish Associates**</i>	<i>Rev. Julie Madden, M.Div</i> <i>Rev. Ted Thode, M.Div</i>
<i>Foster/Adoptive Families Partnerships**</i>	<i>Rev. Kate Thoresen, D.Min</i>
<i>Director of Christian Education and All Abilities Inclusion Ministries</i>	<i>Martha Piesko</i>
<i>Education Administrative Assistant*</i>	<i>Nancy Quigley</i>
<i>Educator Emeritus**</i>	<i>Cindy Merten, M.Ed</i>
<i>Director of Music Ministries</i>	<i>Andrew Herbruck, M.Mus</i>
<i>Children’s Choir Director*</i>	<i>Jolene Plotzke</i>
<i>Music Makers Choir Director, Rejoicing Spirits Song Leader*</i>	<i>Samantha Samuels</i>
<i>Music Makers Interim Choir Director*</i>	<i>Charlotte Marjorie</i>
<i>Coordinator for Young Adults with Disabilities*</i>	<i>Hadley Moak</i>
<i>Director of FP Hand-In-Hand Early Learning Center</i>	<i>Heidi Wilkinson</i>
<i>Director of Communications</i>	<i>Dawn Swarhout</i>
<i>Office Administrator*</i>	<i>Dawn Buley</i>
<i>Financial Administrator*</i>	<i>Antonia Kokkinakis</i>
<i>Membership Coordinator*</i>	<i>Amy Zimmer</i>
<i>Building Supervisor</i>	<i>Quenten Matthews</i>
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Tony Braxton</i>

**Part-time Staff **Non Stipend Staff*

Need to Contact Us?
 First Presbyterian Church
 1669 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, MI, 48009
 248.644.2040
 Email: contact@everybodyschurch.org
 Website: www.everybodyschurch.org

Many Ways to Give at FPC

To contribute online visit the giving tab (using the QR code, go to www.everybodyschurch.org) or Text to Give.



Text “GIVE” to

248-600-4919

Use our QR code to check out the website:



To sign-up for church emails contact Dawn Swarhout at Dawn@everybodyschurch.org

Follow us on Social Media:



[@fpcbirmingham.org](https://www.facebook.com/fpcbirmingham.org)
 All Abilities Inclusion Ministry
 Everybody’s Church Music Ministry
 Everybody’s Church Youth Groups



[@fpcbirmingham](https://www.instagram.com/fpcbirmingham)



[everybodyschurch1](https://www.youtube.com/everybodyschurch1)

32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1 I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
 3 There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes thy glo - ries known.

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the loft - y
 God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them
 And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy

skies. I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day.
 good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,
 throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
 and ev - ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

450

Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F#) (A7) (D)
 Eb Ab Eb/G Bb7 Eb

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)
 Bb Eb Ab Bb

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)
 Ab Eb Gm7 Ab Bb

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F#) (G) (D)
 Cm Eb/G Ab Eb

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.