

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF IONIA
JANUARY 3, 2016
ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION *(silently while you wait)*

Fill our worship with grace, Lord Jesus Christ, that every
thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to you, our
Rock and our Redeemer. **Amen.**

CHIMES OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with
loud songs of joy.

**Congregation: For the LORD, the Most High, is awe-
some, a great king over all the earth.**

Pastor: God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the
sound of a trumpet.

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

Congregation: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

*HYMN 172

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of birth, God of joy, God of life, we come to you as a people hungry for good news. We have been so dead to miracles that we have missed the world’s rebirth. We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures and have overlooked the joy you offer us. We have been so concerned with making a living that we have missed the life you set among us. Forgive us, gracious God. Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gift; open our lips and hands to share it with all humanity in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Liturgist: Hear the good news: This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore

our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: Christ has given us peace that surpasses all understanding. The peace of Christ be with you!

Congregation: The peace of Christ be with you also!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lee Hunsberger

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 31:7-14 P. 679 Pew Bible Liturgist

Psalms 147:12-20 read responsively

Liturgist: Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

Congregation: For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your sons within you.

Liturgist: He makes peace in your borders; he fills you with the finest of the wheat.

Congregation: He sends forth his command to the

earth; his word runs swiftly.

Liturgist: He gives snow like wool; he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

**Congregation: He casts forth his ice like morsels; who
can stand before his cold?**

Liturgist: He sends forth his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

**Congregation: He declares his word to Jacob, his
statutes and ordinances to Israel.**

Liturgist: He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances.

Congregation: Praise the LORD!

John 1:10-18 P. 922 Pew Bible Liturgist
Ephesians 1:3-14 P. 1017 Pew Bible Rev. Veldt

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *"People of Promise"* - Rev. Dr. Mark Veldt

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN 288

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Page 14 - Hymnal
"The Apostles' Creed"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE,

Ending with "The Lord's Prayer"
Page 16 Hymnal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Liturgist

*HYMN 339

"Be Thou My Vision"

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Please sign the red attendance folder in your pew, sharing your name with those near you and making formal your gift to God of this hour. If you give your complete address and one number, we will keep you informed about upcoming events.

Serving in Worship Today:

Liturgist: Lee Hunsberger

Communion Preparers: Judi Emlinger and Evelyn Ransom

Communion Servers: David Hanson, Lee Hunsberger, Bill Robinson; ***Ushers:*** Barb Klenk (lead), Duane and Judi Emlinger

Children's Message: Lee Hunsberger

Fellowship: Bill and JoAnn Fuhrman

Serving in Worship next Sunday:

Liturgist: Perry Gregory

Ushers: Keith Sterner (lead), Lynn Sterner, Evelyn Ransom;

Children's Message: Sue Thompson; *Fellowship:* Nobody signed up

Elders serving on Session: Dr. Jan Arnold, Judi Emlinger, David Hanson, Lavonna Hoover, Lee Hunsberger, Sue Reglin, Cindy Rozich, Dr. Keith Sterner, Dr. Warren Thompson

Music Fund: Elder Bill Robinson

Shaver Children's Fund: Elder Judi Emlinger

Head Start Initiative: Elder Sue Thompson

Margaret Gregory, Clerk

Barb Klenk and Norma Kilpatrick, Treasurer

Moderator, Bruce Mulder

Minister

Bruce Mulder

Music Leader

Mike Kaufman

Harkness Handbell Choir Director

Cindy Rozich

Administrative Assistant

Deb Montgomery

Custodian

Steve Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESBYTERIANS ON THE GO! We're planning on attending the

Senior Citizen Luncheon at Watt Auditorium on Friday, January

8th. We will meet at the Auditorium at 11:35 A.M. I will try to

reserve a table so we sit together. The cost of the lunch is \$3.20

each. You must make a reservation with Linda Hood by Tuesday,

January 5th. If you have a birthday or anniversary during the month of January please report that to Linda also. Happy New Year!

Your help is needed for Sunday Fellowship hour and altar flowers. Please remember to sign up.

Our guest today is Pastor Mark Veldt. Mark serves the Reformed Church in America in the Church Leadership Center. He and Renia have four children, and seven grandchildren. They make their home in Byron Center.

Please take note that Pastor Bruce will be on vacation From December 28-January 10. He will be back in the office on Monday, January 11, 2016. Rev. Mark Veldt will be pulpit supply for January 3 and January 10, 2016.

Our Per Capita is due on January 20, 2016. If you wish to pay your portion, the amount is \$25.37, per member. Please make

your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and on the memo line write "for per capita". Thank You.

The Annual Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 31st. All annual reports must be completed and turned into the Administrative Assistant by **9:00 A.M. January 13.**

CALENDAR

- 1/3 10:00 A.M. Worship, with Communion and Missions Offering
11:00 A.M. Fellowship and Refreshments
- 1/4 6:15 P.M. Yoga / Tai Chi
- 1/7 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 1/10 8:30 A.M. Harkness Hand Bells Practice
10:00 A.M. Worship
11:00 A.M. Fellowship, refreshments, Sunday School
- 1/11 6:15 P.M. Yoga / Tai Chi
- 1/12 9:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. Secretary Office Hours
8:30 A.M. Membership and Care meeting
10:00 A.M. Bible Study
Session Packets are due
- 1/13 9:00 A.M. Annual reports are due for annual meeting
- 1/14 9:45 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Secretary Office Hours
2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 1/17 8:30 A.M. Harkness Hand Bells Practice
10:00 A.M. Worship - Head Start Family Day
11:00 A.M. Fellowship, Refreshments, "Frozen" Movie at Ionia Theatre

SEE WHO WE ARE

Christian Service Center

clothing and household goods we donate for neighbors

Crop Walk

walking or rocking we help to feed the world

Souper Bowl of Caring

homemade soup prepared and served to collect funds for local soup kitchen

Faithful Friends

Head Start classroom volunteers & family support

March Into Reading

books we give to Head Start youngsters

Ionia County Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

groceries we collect and food we serve for a neighborhood center

Bear Buddies

near Christmas, we collect small stuffed animals for use in hospital emergency room, patrol cars of police officers, and spouse abuse center