

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF IONIA
SEPTEMBER 24, 2017
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Loving God, you have so made us that we cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from your mouth. Give us a hunger for your Word, and in that food satisfy our daily need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PRELUDE

CHIMES OF THE HOUR

INTROIT (INSERT)

“Good Soil”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: “I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord,
“plans to prosper you, plans to give you hope and a
future.”

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

**Congregation: SURELY GOD IS GOOD AND EVER TO
BE PRAISED.**

Pastor: “You will seek me and find me when you seek me
with all your heart.”

**Congregation: SURELY GOD IS GOOD AND EVER TO
BE PRAISED.**

*HYMN (INSERT)

“Sing Out, Earth and Skies”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(in Unison)

**O God, the author of peace and the lover of concord, to
know you is eternal life, to serve you is perfect free-
dom. While we claim to know your peace, we also
allow worry to dominate our thinking. We would like to
touch the world with goodness, but we often withdraw
in anxiety and self-concern. We would like to warm the
lives of others with our love, but we hesitate, wonder-
ing if they will love us in return. We need your strength**

and confidence, O God, if we are to be what we want to be. Let our worship be a new beginning, this day, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

KYRIE HYMN 572

*“Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us,
Lord have mercy upon us.”*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Liturgist: Almighty God freely pardons all who repent and
turn to him.

**Congregation: He fulfills now in every contrite heart
his promise of eternal life.**

Liturgist: He forgives us all our sins and delivers us from a
guilty conscience.

**Congregation: Through the perfect sacrifice of Christ
our Lord. Amen**

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!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kathy VanSyckle

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Leader: Let us pray together for God's Spirit to illumine our
minds and open our hearts.

**Congregation: God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, may
we be led into your truth and taught
your will as the Scriptures are read and
your Word proclaimed.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament Lesson: *Jonah 3:10-4:11 Page 801 Pew Bible*
Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 20:1-16 Page 854 Pew Bible*

SERMON

"God's Generosity" - Rev. John R. Curphey

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Page 14 - Hymnal
The Apostles' Creed

*HYMN 369

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ending with "The Lord's Prayer"
Page 16 in Hymnal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 394

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

*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 phone number, we will keep you informed about upcoming events.

Serving in Worship Today:

Guest Minister: Rev. John R. Curphey; ***Liturgist:*** Shelly Reglin

Greeters and Ushers: Jim and Kathy VanSyckle, Linda Hood

Children's Message: Kathy VanSyckle

Fellowship: Pat Gustafson, Beryl Bishop

Serving in Worship next Sunday:

Guest Minister: unknown; *Liturgist:* Lee Hunsberger

Greeters and Ushers: Pat Gustafson, Leon and Oscar Johnson

Communion Preparer: Jim and Kathy VanSyckle

Communion Servers: Lee Hunsberger, Norma Kilpatrick and Sue Thompson; *Fellowship:* Linda Heinicke

Elders serving on Session: Dr. Jan Arnold, David Hanson, Lavonna Hoover, Evelyn Ransom, Sue Reglin, Cindy Rozich, Dr. Keith Sterner, Dr. Warren Thompson, Kathy VanSyckle

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

Music Leader

Mike Kaufman

Harkness Handbell Choir Director

Cindy Rozich

Administrative Assistant

Deb Montgomery

Custodian

Steve Slaughter

COME ENJOY!

Retirees Fellowship: Norma Kilpatrick, President (527-4144)

good friendship, good activities, 3rd Thursday

Quilters Fellowship: Carol Shier, Chairperson (616-755-0963)

fun, fellowship, and helping hearts 9:30 a.m. Wednesday

Prayer Shawl Group: Evelyn Ransom and Mary Williams, Co-

Chairs Making lap robes and shawls for those who need them

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Bless, O Lord, the one you are sending to be our next pastor.

When that person is joyful, guide that person to be prayerful.

When that person is tempted, stay by that person. In all seasons send that person the companions you intend and the good judgment and good heart to embrace them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our pastor this week is Rev. John Curphey. You may have already had a chance to meet him last month as he presided over our communion on the 6th. He and his wife Barbara have recently moved to East Grand Rapids after 37 years of ministry, most recently having served in the Palo Park Presbyterian Church in Palo Park, Illinois, a southwest suburb of Chicago. He has semi retired at this point but is a potential candidate for becoming our pastor at 1st PC and is in the process of discernment. Please make him feel welcome and show him why we are more than worth his consideration in serving as our pastor in his “retirement”.

Our Christian Education Committee hopes to receive your cans and bottles to redeem for their deposits, as well as your exhausted ink cartridges.

Your help is needed for Sunday Fellowship hour and altar flowers.

Please remember to sign up.

CALENDAR

- 9/24 10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest Speaker, Rev. John Cuphrey
 11:00 A.M. Fellowship and Refreshments
- 9/27 9:30 A.M. Quilters
- 9/28 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 10/1 8:30 A.M. Harkness Hand Bells practice
 10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest Speaker
 Communion and Missions Offering
 11:00 A.M. Fellowship and Refreshments

- 10/3 5:30-7:30 P.M. Family Night– Guest Speaker, Ron Wilson
- 10/4 9:30 A.M. Quilters meet
- 10/5 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 10/8 8:30 A.M. Harkness Hand Bells practice
10:00 A.M. Worship
11:00 A.M. Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10/11 9:00 A.M. Set up for rummage sale
- 10/12 9 A.M.-4:00 P.M. Rummage sale
- 10/13 9 A.M. –12:00 P.M. Rummage sale

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

March Into Reading

books we give to Head Start youngsters

Faithful Friends

Head Start classroom volunteers & family support

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