

**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church where our motto is "Roots Down, Branches Out"  
Celebrating 125 years of Ministry on Morton Hill, since 1892**

*"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." -- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

*"Those who are happiest, are those who do the most for others." -- Booker T. Washington*

**Sunday, February 4, 2018**

**5th Sunday after Epiphany**

**Announcements, Birthdays and Recognition of Visitors**

**Passing of the Peace of Christ**

**Elder Prayer Blessing**

Allene Smith

**Prelude and Setting the Table for Worship**

**~ GOD GATHERS US ~**

**Call to Worship** *(Please stand in body or in spirit) based on Psalm 147*

One: Praise the Lord! God is gracious and a song of praise is fitting!

**ALL: The Lord builds up Jerusalem; God gathers the outcasts and the brokenhearted**

One: Great is our God and abundant in power; God's understanding is beyond measure.

**ALL: The Lord lifts up the downtrodden; God casts the wicked to the ground.**

One: So let's sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to God with our whole hearts

**ALL: God takes pleasure in those who fear God; in those who trust in God's steadfast love**

One: So, let's praise the Lord, brothers and sisters! God's steadfast love never ends!

**ALL: Holy and awesome is the name of God! Praise to our God whose love endures forever!**

**Opening Hymn** *(Please stand in body or in spirit)* *How Great Thou Art*

Glory to God #625

**Prayer of the Day**

*Merciful and Loving God, we confess that we carry places of private pain deep within. We carry wounds from our cultures, families, friends, and mistakes. We are broken people living in a broken world. We thank you for your never ending love which always reaches for us even amid the brokenness of our lives. We ask for the grace to meet you in the empty and pain filled places of our lives, receive your love in deeper, transforming ways, and live into greater service. Fill us with healing, hope and new life, we pray. May we be agents of your love and healing and justice in our world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.*

**~ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD ~**

**A Time for Young People**

Peter Helm

*Children 5 & under can go with Mrs. Lopez to the nursery. Kids K+ can get worship bags from coat rack at this time.*

**Song of Illumination**

*Mah God is So High*

Songs of Zion #105

**Scripture**

**Isaiah 40:21-31**

**Mark 1:29-39**

*(After each scripture reading)*

One: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks Be to God**

**Sermon**

Private Miracles

Rev. Laurie Hartzell

**~ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ~**

**Song of Response**

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Glory to God #834

**Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed, pg. 35

**The Lord's Supper**

**Preparing for Black History Month/Moment in Black History**

Elder Lois Peoples

**Offering & Offertory** *Nursery children collect quarters for our "Open Wide Our Front Door" and Ghana Mission Youth Leave for ICE Class with Julie; Children leave for Kids' Time with Claudia Pozo*

**Doxology** *(Please stand in body or in spirit)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

Praise Christ, all creatures here below

Praise Holy Spirit evermore

Praise Triune God, whom we adore, Amen

**Special Music**

Sharon Hurse

**Joys and Concerns** (Share your concerns on a sheet of paper. . . )

**The 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 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.*

**~ WE ARE SENT ~**

**Closing Hymn**

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

Glory to God #339

**Benediction**

### Participants in Today's Service

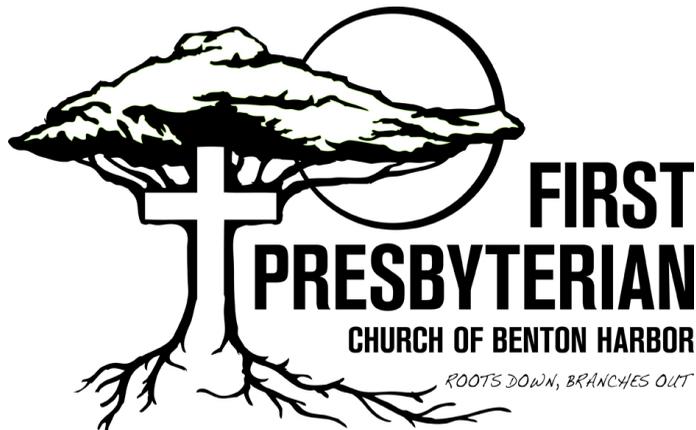
Worship Leader: Rev. Laurie Hartzell  
Musicians: Susan Burkholz and Nancy Thompson  
Children's Sermon: Peter Helm  
Worship Assistant: Joan Judd  
Nursery: Annabelle Lopez  
Greeters: Bob Judd, Cathy and Jan Shaw  
Audio: Bob Ziebart, Gordon Helm & Ben Schadler  
Ministers: All the Church Members

### Church Staff Members

Pastor: Rev. Laurie Hartzell  
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Doug Peterson  
Church Pianist: Susan Burkholz  
Music Minister: Nancy Thompson  
Youth Missioner: Julie Brien  
Youth Teacher: Gentry Phillips  
Custodians: Lee Hamilton & Charase Dorsey

### MISSION STATEMENT

*We of First Presbyterian Church of Benton Harbor are a small family of believers committed to bridging the gulf of racial and class separation. As a part of the body of Christ in Benton Harbor and acknowledging Christ's claim on our lives, our congregation is called to proclaim the Gospel and witness to Christ's love, both within the faith community and in our larger community. In doing this we will share our faith with openness, love, warmth and respect for the dignity and individuality of all people; we will welcome and value diversity; we will strive to meet the needs of people in our community for sustenance and nurturing and we will seek to deepen and broaden our own faith as we journey. We will do these through the doctrine and structures of the Presbyterian Church (USA).*



### Contact Information

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**FIRSTPRESBH.ORG**

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