

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church where our motto is "Roots Down, Branches Out"
Celebrating 125 years of Ministry on Morton Hill, since 1892
"We are all meant to be mothers of God. . .for God is always needing to be born."
--Meister Eckhart

Sunday, May 13, 2018

Seventh Sunday in Easter

Announcements, Birthdays and Recognition of Visitors

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Elder Prayer Blessing

Elder Allene Smith

Prelude and Setting the Table for Worship

~ GOD GATHERS US ~

Call to Worship *(Please stand in body or spirit)*

One: This is the Good News! The Cross is Empty! The Stone is rolled away!

ALL: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

One: This is the Good News! Once we were not a people, now we are God's people!

ALL: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

One: This is the Good News! The Word of God is near to us!

ALL: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

One: This is the Good News! We are nourished by the love of Jesus!

ALL: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

One: This is the Good News! The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot comprehend it!

ALL: Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed!

Opening Hymn *(Please stand in body or spirit)*

Give Thanks

Glory to God # 647

Prayer of the Day *(please remain standing in body or spirit)* God of Love, on this day in American culture when we honor mothers, we thank you for all the women in our lives who birthed us, trained us, loved us, nurtured us, believed in us, helped us find the way when we lost our way, and more. This is a day of rejoicing in the gift of motherly love. For some, this day is wrought with pain as well. Pain born from mistakes made or from wanting to be a mother but not being able to be one. Pain born from feeling the loss of a mother who died. We hold before you the gifts, joy, wonder and pain of this day, God of Love, and ask for the grace to experience your Presence and hope. May your Holy Spirit fill us afresh that we may share Motherly Love with the world. In Christ's name, Amen.

~ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD ~

A Time for Young People

Rev. Laurie Hartzell

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

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Glory to God #469

Scripture

Psalm 67 (Read Responsively)
Acts 16:11-15

(After each scripture reading)

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks Be to God

Sermon

Open Heart, Open Home

Rev. Katie Hartwell

~ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ~

Song of Response

Take, O Take Me as I Am

Glory to God #698

Minute for Minute -- Crop Walk 2018

Aaron Stone

Offering *Nursery children collect quarters for our "Open Wide Our Front Door" and Ghana Mission. Youth Leave for ICE Class with Gentry; Children leave for Kids' Time with Robyn Neumann.*

Offertory

Sinfonia, by J.S. Bach

Isabel Jackson, Organ

Doxology *(Please stand in body or 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

Joys and Concerns

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

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Glory to God # 837

Benediction

Participants in Today's Service

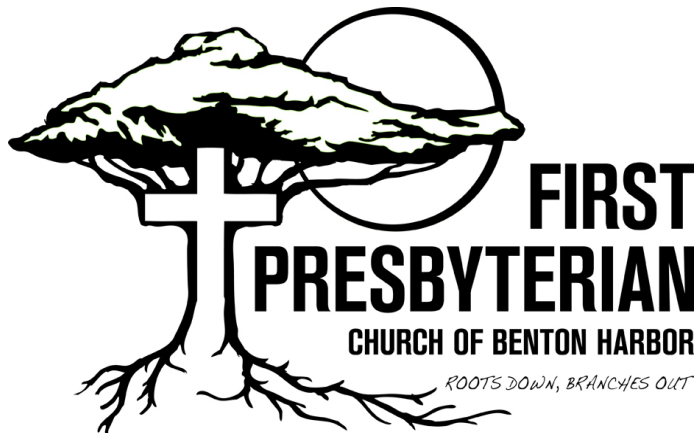
Worship Leader: Rev. Katie Hartwell
Musicians: Susan Burkholz and Nancy Thompson
Children's Sermon: Julie Brien
Worship Assistant: Rev. Laurie Hartzell
Nursery: Annabelle Lopez
Greeters: Gordon and Mary Helm
Audio: Bob Ziebart, Gordon Helm and Ben Schadler
Ministers: All the Church Members

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 and 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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