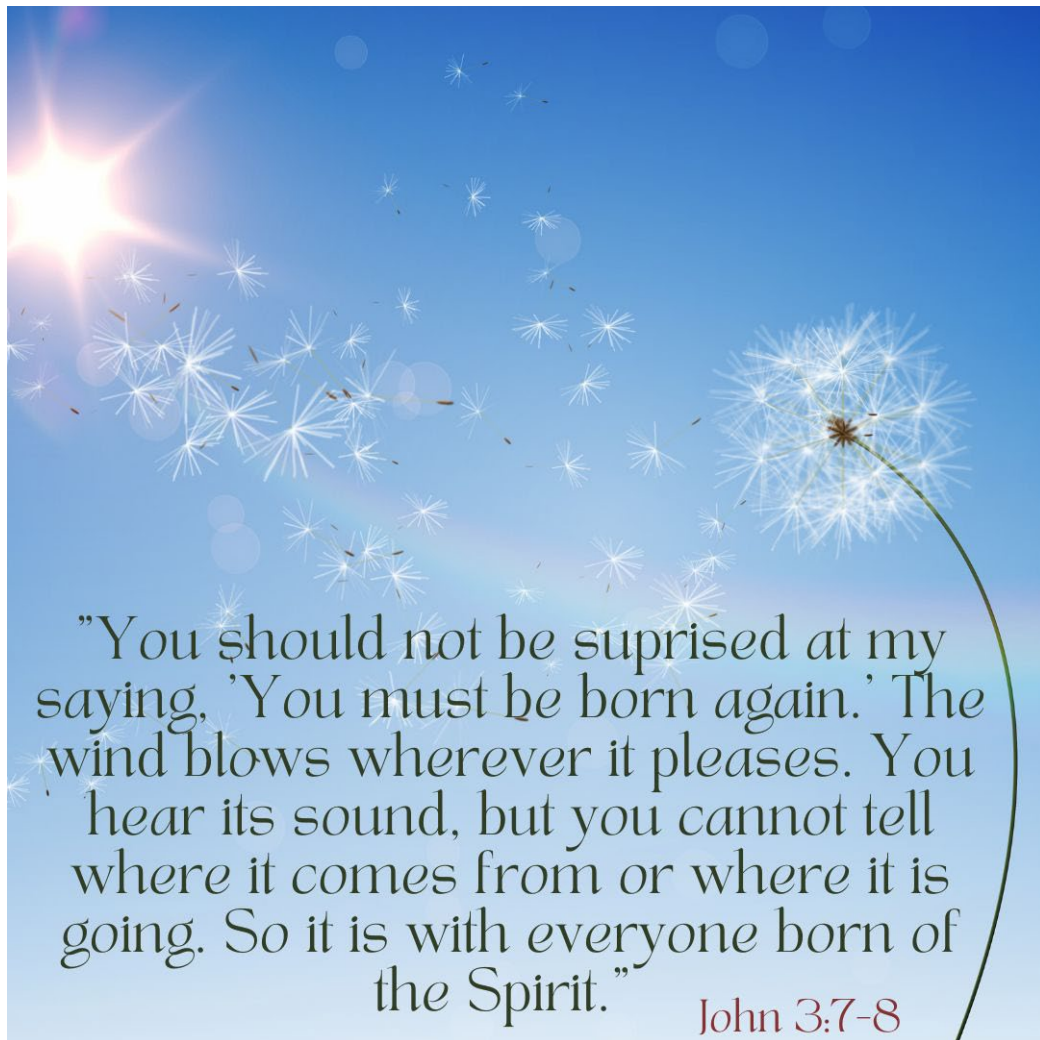


WELCOME TO THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF PORT HURON



"You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." *John 3:7-8*

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 26, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Pastor Roxie Davis

~Let Us Prepare Our Hearts and Minds for Worship~
(The Chosen—Nicodemus)

PROCESSIONAL AND PRELUDE

(During the Prelude, please quietly take time to prepare your heart and mind for God's presence in worship)

O Sacred Head

Music by Hassler
Setting by Brahms

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Roxie Davis

Please remember to sign the Friendship Register, so we know you are here. Please pass it to others in your pew and greet each other after worship. Giving us your contact information is very helpful so we can stay in touch with you, especially if you are a visitor and this is your first time worshipping with us. Welcome to all of you, if you are new, or have been here several times before. We are glad you have chosen to worship God this morning.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist Judith McLean

Hope in the Lord.

We come, hoping to feel God's Spirit.

Hope in the Lord

We come, hoping to hear God's Word.

Hope in the Lord

We come, hoping God hears our prayers.

Hope in the Lord

We come, hoping we will go forth from here,

strengthened with God's love and forgiveness in our hearts.

***OPENING HYMN**

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

#84

CALL TO CONFESSION

Liturgist Judith

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Liturgist Judith

O Lord God, there are times when the darkness of this world overwhelms us. There are times that we just sit in the valley of despair. There are times that we become depressed, not seeing a way out of our misery. Lord God, help us to see Your power to strengthen. Help us to see Your power to love. Help us to sense Your redemption and resurrection in our lives—and in the lives of others. Forgive our defeated spirits. (A moment of silent prayer to confess our own personal sins) Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS (Responsively)

Liturgist Judith

Beloved of God, Your Lord stands ready to forgive.

We know our sins. We have confessed them.

Beloved of God, hear the Good News.

We are ready to hear God speaks.

Because of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus,

You are loved and you forgive all our sins.

Thanks be to God.

***SUNG RESPONSE**

Gloria Patri

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Roxie

SCRIPTURES

Gospel Readings

John 3: 1-8

Pastor Roxie

John 7: 45-52

Liturgist Judith

John 19: 38-42

Liturgist Judith

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Pastor Roxie

SERMON **“Pharisee Nicodemus—Chosen to Follow”** Pastor Roxie

***HYMN** **“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”** **#101**

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS Liturgist Judith
 Go to Dark Gethsemane Richard Redhead
 Setting from The 1941 Lutheran Hymnal

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above the Heavenly hos. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

THANKSGIVING PRAYER Liturgist Judith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Pastor Roxie
 Sharing of 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 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.

***CLOSING HYMN** **“Open My Eyes That I May See”** **#324**

***BENEDICTION** Pastor Roxie

POSTLUDE **Praise be to Thee Lord Jesus Christ** Johann Buttstedt

†††

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRIENDSHIP PADS: Please remember to sign the Friendship Register, pass it to others in your pew and greet each other after worship. A special welcome to all visitors. Please give us your preferred contact information so we can stay in touch with you. If you are sitting closest to the aisle, please place the Friendship Sheet in the Offering Plates.

THANK YOU for sharing your gifts with us! Our liturgist today is Judith McLean. Greeters today are Gail Rosales and Shelley Kamer. Coffee hour is hosted by Anne Wilton.

PNC PRAYER TIME: Every day at sunset, as you are reflecting on your day and counting your blessings, please remember to include our PNC Committee and the important task they have before them. Please pray for them by name: Steve Ahlquist, Rick Cameron, Jennie Carolan, Jacquie Green, Linda Hall, Judith McLean.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS/COFFEE HOUR/USHERING: Please sign-up in the book located in the Gathering Room for offering ushers (collecting the offering), altar flowers and/or coffee hour. Dates are available for the months of March and April.

COFFEE HOUR: Coffee hour will be held in the Fellowship Hall following worship today.

40 DAYS OF PRAYER: The Blue Water Area Churches are hosting 40 Days of Prayer daily until April 2nd. The Blue Water Area Churches' website, bwchurches.org, provides the structure and content for each meeting. With an Old Testament and a New Testament scripture, there is a biblical prayer of hope with a specific topic daily. You can find the location and prayer focus each day at bwchurches.org. We hope you can join several of the prayer times in person!

HAND BELLS: On Thursday, March 30th at 4:00 p.m. the hand bell members have a practice in the Bell Room.

LET'S GO FISHING: The fish boxes are due to be returned *next* Sunday, April 2nd. All the O.G.H.S. donations will go directly to PC-USA, specifically for earthquake victims.

MAUNDY THURSDAY PRESENTATION: On Maundy Thursday, April 6th, there will be a Last Supper Drama presentation. We will need 12 male volunteers for this presentation. Please contact Pastor Roxie if you are interested or need more information.

GOOD FRIDAY MOVIE: Faith in Film returns with “Jesus Christ Superstar” on Friday, April 7th at 6:00 p.m. This will be presented on the big screen in the Fellowship Hall. We will also be having a potluck dinner and dessert together. Please sign up at the church office.

EASTER BREAKFAST: On Easter Sunday between the 8 a.m. sunrise service and 10 a.m. worship there will be an Easter breakfast at 8:45 a.m. Please stop by the office desk to sign up if you plan on attending so we have an idea of how much food to have prepared.

ADULT CLASS: “THE CHOSEN”: Join us Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., to watch the video series “The Chosen” with discussion following the video clip (based on the Gospel of Matthew). This adult class will continue throughout April and May.

FUNERAL TEAM: Your Funeral Luncheon Team is looking for members who could be a greeter to assist/direct the family and friends as they arrive for the service. Occasionally, the team also needs help to prepare the tables for the luncheon (with tablecloths and vases of flowers). Our funeral team no longer prepares the food for the luncheon. The family works directly with a caterer who supplies everything they will need. Your Funeral Luncheon team is honored to assist our church families during their time of need. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Please call Helen Weston (810-984-2406).

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IS HIRING: With our growing attendance, we are interviewing for a Nursery Attendant. This is a paid position of considerable importance. Please consider if you know of someone who would be interested in this position. Please contact Michelle Fisher with any questions or to apply.

CHILDREN SING: Next Sunday, April 2nd, the children will sing the song “Lord I Lift Your Name on High.” There *will* be a practice *TODAY* following the worship service for whoever is available.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS: Before church service begins each Sunday, please have the children pick up their personal activity bags, with "age-appropriate" items, hanging on their hooks in the G.I.F.T. room to use during worship. Activity bags are available for visiting children- they are located in the baskets in the sanctuary.

G.I.F.T. (Grow In Faith Together): No G.I.F.T. today due to Spring Break!

PRINTED SERMONS: Pastor Roxie's printed sermons are available in the racks on a table near the church office desk.

OFFICE HOURS: Due to Spring Break, the church office will only be open from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for Monday-Thursday, March 27-30th. Thank you to those volunteering to work in the office this upcoming week. Laura will be on vacation with her family.

PASTOR ROXIE VACATION: From April 10 to April 14th, Pastor Roxie will be on vacation. Rev. Randy Bennett will be her back up, in case of pastoral needs.

**Families with children: Please be advised that our worship service, including the Children's Message, is streamed live online. If you would not like your child's face in view, please instruct them to sit in the front pew with their back facing the congregation or remain in their seats with you.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Mon./3-27:	Financial Counters	9:00 a.m.
Wed./3-29:	Adult Class "The Chosen"	7:00 p.m.
Thurs./3-30:	Adult Class "The Backstory"	10:00 a.m.
	Lenten Lunch at	12:00 p.m.
	St. John's Church	
	Hand Bells Practice	4:00 p.m.

**OUR MISSION:
KNOW THE LOVE OF GOD,
GROW IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH,
GO SHARE OUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, April 2:	Palm Sunday Worship Service (Fish Boxes Due, Children Sing, Palms, One Great Hour of Sharing, and Bells)	10:00 a.m.
Thursday, April 6:	Maundy Thursday Worship Service (Last Supper Drama)	7:00 p.m.
Friday, April 7:	Ecumenical Service at Colonial Woods Missionary Church	1:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 9:	Good Friday Potluck Dinner and Movie Sunrise Easter Service Easter Breakfast Easter Worship Service	6:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, April 16:	W.I.N. Class (Wonderful Introduction for Newcomers) Southern Gospel Concert at FPC “Justified Quartet”	11:15 a.m. 4:00 p.m.
Monday, April 17:	Deacons Meeting Dinner and Goal Setting Dinner Session (changed dates)	4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 18:	P.A.C.E. fieldtrip Mission Meeting	10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Port Huron
811 Wall St. – Port Huron, MI 48060
(810) 985-6191 / portpresby@gmail.com
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Facebook: @FirstPresbyterianChurchPort Huron
YouTube: 1st Presbyterian Church Port Huron
Website: fpcporthuron.org
Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Roxie Davis
Organist/Choir Director: Knight Vernon
Christian Education Director: Michelle Fisher
Social Media/Marketing Technician: Jim Fisher
Financial Secretary: Kristie Lamb
Administrative Assistant: Laura Gaffney
Custodian/Maintenance: Bill Briscoe