

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORT HURON



"Neighbors" by Steve Prince | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

First Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 9, 2025
Rev. Kathy Tessin

* indicates when to stand, as you are able

PROCESSIONAL

Musician Elizabeth Roe

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kathy Tessin

Welcome to all of you, whether it is your first time visiting with us or this is your spiritual home! Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad in your pew so that we can get to know you. **To all present, in-person or online, we believe God is glad you chose to worship this morning.**

PRELUDE

Musician Elizabeth

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsively)

Rev. Tessin

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

Who is my neighbor?

How can I help?

What do I have to learn?

Where is God in it all?

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

So may we listen. May we learn.

May we stay curious, and may we look for God.

This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship the God of everything.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Rev. Tessin

***OPENING HYMN**

“The Lord is God”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Liturgist Dorinne Crowell

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Liturgist Dorinne

Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we get tripped up on the details. We want to know: who is our neighbor? Do we have to love a stranger? Must we have compassion for our enemy?

Forgive our human tendency to create exceptions in the face of love. Rewire our hearts so that we might see the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass. With hope we pray ... (A moment of silent prayer to confess our own personal sins) **Amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS (Responsively)

Liturgist Dorinne

Family of faith, when we set limits on love,

God loves extravagantly.

When we forget that we are neighbors,

God claims us as God's own.

When we judge, hold back, or harm,

God surrounds us with grace.

There is nothing we can do or leave undone
that could separate us from the love of God.

This is the good news of the gospel. Thanks be to God!

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Tessin

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

***SUNG RESPONSE**

Tune # 85

**What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, What won-drous love is this,
O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss, to bear the
heav-y cross for my soul, for my soul, To bear the heav-y cross for my soul!**

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Judith McLean

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Tessin

SPECIAL MUSIC:

"God Welcomes All"

Children

"God welcomes all, strangers and friends; God's love is strong and it never ends!"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist Dorinne

SCRIPTURE READING

First Reading

Psalm 82 (NRSV) [Pew Bible, OT Pg. 542]

Liturgist Dorinne

Second Reading

Lk 10: 25-37 (CEB) [Pew Bible, NT Pg. 71-72]

Rev. Tessin

SERMON

“everything [in] between: stranger & neighbor”

MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION

***SERMON HYMN**

“I Saw a Stranger”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Church, if God asked you, “Who is your neighbor?” what would you say?

We would say,

every child, every person, every tree and bird of the air.

Every freckled face, every face in every skin shade,

every wrinkled pair of hands, every homeless creature.

We would say we are connected –

to one another, to all of God’s creation.

There are no strangers in God’s house, we are all family here.

God would delight in that answer, for it is said,

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,

with all your strength, with all your mind,

and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Tessin

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.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Music

Rev. Tessin
Musician Elizabeth

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, you heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

Rev. Tessin

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

#358

***SENDING AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Tessin

POSTLUDE

Musician Elizabeth

Credit: Affirmation of Faith, Prayers adapted from worship liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed |
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Worship Liturgy/Prayers adapted from *Feasting on the Word, Liturgies for Year C, Vol. I, Worship Companion*, editor Kimberly Bracken Long (Westminster John Knox Press: Louisville, KY, 2012)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH FRIENDSHIP: Please be sure to sign the Friendship Register, and provide your email so we can make you aware of other events happening in the church!

THANK YOU for sharing your gifts with us! Our liturgist today is Dorinne Crowell.

The greeter is Judith McLean. The tech team members running the sound board and video are Mark Schian and Ken MacBeth. The enhanced coffee hour is provided by the Membership and Outreach Committee. The sanctuary flowers to the glory of God, given by Jim and Linda Hall.

LARGE PRINT HYMNS AND BULLETINS: Large print hymnals and bulletins are available for use during the worship service. Please let an usher know if you would like one for the service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: G.I.F.T. (age 3-3rd grade) AND MOUNTAIN MOVERS (4th grade-8th grade)- Please meet us in the Christian Education wing for fun, faith, and friends following the Children’s Message.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS AND COFFEE HOUR: There are available dates in March and April. Please sign up in the book located on the office counter and in Fellowship Hall at Coffee Hour on Sundays.

PRINTED SERMONS: Previous sermons are printed and available on the table near the church office desk in the Gathering Room.

A CALL FOR HELP: The Mission Committee is collecting a special offering **today** to help the national Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) agency with its efforts to help the churches and communities left devastated by the January wildfires in California. The agency's National Response Teams are providing aid to churches within the Pacific, San Gabriel and San Fernando Presbyteries damaged or destroyed by the deadly fires as well as helping match community needs with available resources. If you would like to help, please make out a check to First Presbyterian Church and put "California Wildfires" in the memo line. We will then send one check to the PDA to help with its ongoing recovery efforts.

FACEBOOK: We would love it if you would like and/or share our events and posts on Facebook!

UPCOMING EVENT INFORMATION

LENT ENHANCED COFFEE HOUR: **TODAY**, following the worship service, the Membership and Outreach Committee will be hosting an enhanced coffee hour for the beginning of Lent.

40 DAYS OF PRAYER: The community 40 days of prayer will be held on Sundays from **5:30-6:30 p.m.** **TONIGHT'S** prayer will be held at The Clearing (4311 Pine Grove Avenue, Fort Gratiot).

OLDE TOWNE LENTEN SERIES: This week the Olde Towne churches will begin their Lenten Lunch & Worship Series, with the theme "Giving Up" Join your sister churches in the downtown area for a soup luncheon, and a short worship and message. Thursday 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. at St. John's UCC on 7th St.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Come join in the in-depth reading and discussion of the Gospel of Luke. **Monday at 10:30 a.m.** in the Church Parlor. We will be looking at Luke, Chapter 13 (Chapter 15 of our workbook).

STITCH AND CHAT: A group of women meet each **Wednesday morning from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM** to Stitch and Chat. Bring your latest project or come to chat!

DISCIPLESHIP ADULT STUDY: **Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30 p.m.** We will be using the Lenten Devotional, and trying the practices of *lectio divina* and *visio divina*. Curious? Come join us and find out how these practices can enhance your engagement with God's Word! All are welcome.

INTERGENERATIONAL GAME NIGHT: The Membership and Outreach Committee and Christian Education Committees are planning an intergenerational game night from **5:30-8:00 p.m. on Friday, March 14th**. A variety of board and card

games will be set up for players of all ages. You are welcome to bring your own board and card games. Pizza and salad will be provided, but you can bring your own snacks/sodas. Please contact Mark Shian or Joan Vandawaker if you have any questions.

AN AFTERNOON OF THEATER!: Enter Stage Right (609 Huron Ave, Port Huron) is presenting “Steel Magnolias” at **2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 23rd**. Please join us prior for lunch at **12:00 p.m.** at Lynch’s Tavern (210 Huron Ave, Port Huron). Tickets for the show are \$15.00 each. Sign up at the church office counter if you’d like to attend.

SAVE THE DATE!: The local big band “Brass & Sass” will be holding a concert in our Fellowship Hall on **Friday, April 4, 2025 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** More details to come!

WHAT’S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Mon./3-10:	Financial Counters	9:00 a.m.
	Adult Bible Study	10:30 a.m.
	Deacons Meeting	4:00 p.m.
	Session Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Tues./3-11:	Worship and Music Committee	11:00 a.m.
	Marketing Committee	2:00 p.m.
Wed./3-12:	Stitch and Chat	10:00 a.m.
	Discipleship Adult Class	6:00 p.m.
Thurs./3-13:	Lenten Luncheon at St. John’s	12:00 p.m.
Fri./3-14:	Intergenerational Game Night	5:30 p.m.

**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 sit with your child in the Parlor where the service is played on the TV.*

**Our mission is KNOW the Love of God, GROW in the Christian faith,
and GO share our faith in Jesus Christ.**

First Presbyterian Church of Port Huron
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Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
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Pastor: Reverend Kathy Tessin
Financial Secretary: Kristie Lamb
Administrative Assistant: Laura Gaffney
Media/Marketing: Paige Cronce
and Laura Gaffney
Custodian/Maintenance: Bill Briscoe
Children's Christian Education Coordinator
Volunteer: Beth Shoffner
Musicians: Elizabeth Roe and Price Smith
Nursery Attendant: Elizabeth Block
Nursery Assistant: Amy Block