

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORT HURON



"Fig Leafing" by Hannah Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Third Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 23, 2025
Rev. Kathy Tessin

*** indicates when to stand, as you are able**

PRELUDE/PROCESSIONAL

Musician Price Smith

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.**

MOMENT OF CENTERING

Musician Price

(During this brief musical moment, please quietly take time to prepare your heart and mind for God's presence in worship.)

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsively)

Rev. Tessin

Worship is a place to rest.

We breathe deeply here.

We still our aching bones.

We sit in the quiet.

We surround ourselves with music.

Worship is a place to rest.

Worship is a place to grow.

We listen for God's word to us.

We invite it to challenge us.

We lean in with curiosity.

We ask questions.

Worship is a place to grow.

So come into this space. Come rest and grow here.

For where two or more are gathered, God is always there.

Let us worship our gracious God!

***OPENING PRAYER**

Rev. Tessin

***OPENING HYMN**

“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”

#285

CALL TO CONFESSION

Liturgist Jill Emery

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Liturgist Jill

Holy God,

There are days when we fail to rest. We stretch ourselves too thin. We say “yes” to every invitation. We run a million miles a minute. We ignore your command to rest.

There are also days when we fail to act. We wait for someone else. We take the easy road. We find excuses and justify our inaction. God forgive our imbalance. Remind us that birds rest, and they also fly. Show us how to do the same. (A moment of silent prayer to confess our own personal sins) Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS (Responsively)

Liturgist Jill

.... So join me in proclaiming the good news of the gospel:

God’s grace is deeper than the ocean. God’s love is wider than the sky.

We are seen. We are claimed. We are forgiven.

May this realization change and inspire us. 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 wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, What wondrous 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!

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Rev. Tessin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist Jill

SCRIPTURE READING

First Reading

Ps 85 (NRSV) [Pew Bible, OT Pg. 543-544]

Liturgist Jill

Second Reading Lk 13: 6-9 (NRSV) [Pew Bible, NT Pg. 76]

Rev. Tessin

SERMON “everything [in] between: rest & growth”

MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION

***SERMON HYMN** “Beneath the Soil”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in a God who loves and tends to us like a gardener.

**We believe that like the trees, some seasons are for growth,
and some seasons are for rest.**

Some days require pruning, and some require planting.

We believe our green-thumbed God sees and cultivates us.

**So may we plant roots, reach for the sky,
grow where we can, and rest when we need,**

For we believe that there is holiness in pruning and in the planting.

Thanks be to God. 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, Price

***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**

“In the Bulb There is a Flower”
(Hymn of Promise)

***SENDING AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Tessin

POSTLUDE

Musician Price

Credit: Affirmation of Faith, Prayers adapted from worship liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sactifiedart.org

Worship Liturgy/Prayers adapted from *Feasting on the Word, Liturgies for Year C, Vol. 1, 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 Jill Emery. The greeter is Judith McLean. The tech team members running the sound board and video are Ken MacBeth and Paige Cronce. The coffee hour hosts are Sue Brackenbury and Nancy Domke.

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 April and May. 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.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: The annual One Great Hour of Sharing campaign will be continuing through Easter Sunday. This offering is the single, largest way Presbyterians can join together to share God’s love with people in need around

the world, specifically within three programs Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32%), Presbyterian Hunger Program (36%), Self-Development of People (32%), sponsored by the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Last year, First Presbyterian gave \$1,559.14. The fish banks will be collected on **Palm Sunday (April 13)** while the special OGHs envelopes will be collected on **Easter Sunday (April 20)**.

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

EASTER LILIES: The Deacons will have 7 Easter Lilies available for purchase in honor or memory of loved ones. They are \$30 each and will be in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. If you would like to purchase a lily, please sign up at the office counter.

UPCOMING EVENT INFORMATION

AN AFTERNOON OF THEATER!: Enter Stage Right (609 Huron Ave, Port Huron) is presenting "Steel Magnolias" at **2:00 p.m. on TODAY**. 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. See Pastor Kathy if you have any questions.

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 RC3 (3201 Gratiot Avenue, Port Huron).

OLDE TOWNE LENTEN SERIES: This Thursday, the Olde Towne churches have a Lenten Lunch & Worship, with the theme "Giving Up" Join your sister churches in the downtown area for a soup luncheon, and a short worship and message. **12 noon to 1:00 p.m.** at St. John's UCC on 7th St. Rev. Tessin will be preaching on **Thursday, March 27th** and FPC will be providing the meal.

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 14.

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC, WILLIAM HENRY RUSSELL: On **Sunday, March 30th** during 10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship, William Henry Russell will be providing special music throughout the service.

LAY PREACHER TRAINING/PART II: Our final class of the Lay Liturgist/Preacher Training will be held on **Sunday, March 30, from 11:30-12:30 p.m.** in the church Parlor.

BRASS & SASS CONCERT: 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.**

BRASS, SASS and COOKIES: The Membership and Outreach Committee is recruiting cookie makers to help provide refreshments for the **April 4th Brass & Sass Concert** in the Fellowship Hall. Cookies and small pastries will be served along with coffee, tea and punch during the intermission. If you would like to help, a sign up sheet has been set out in the church office. Along with your name and phone number, we are asking that you list the specific cookie or pastry you plan to bring. Questions? Contact Judith McLean.

WHAT’S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sun./3-23:	Lunch at Lynch’s Tavern	12:00 p.m.
	“Steel Magnolias” Theater Outing	2:00 p.m.
Mon./3-24:	Financial Counters	9:00 a.m.
	Adult Bible Study	10:30 a.m.
Wed./3-26:	Stitch and Chat	10:00 a.m.
	Discipleship Adult Class	6:00 p.m.
Thurs./3-27:	Lenten Luncheon at St. John’s	12:00 p.m.
	Rev. Tessin preaching and FPC providing meal	

**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.*

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: @FirstPresbyterianChurchPortHuron
YouTube: 1st Presbyterian Church Port Huron
Website: fpcporthuron.org
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

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