

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



Cara B. Hochhalter, *A Parable - The Lost Coin*. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59056>

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Facebook – Lansing First Presbyterian
Church Office Hours (M-F) 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

We strive to INCLUDE ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN...
If you are black, brown, white...
If you are straight, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning...
If you are differently abled...
If you are married, single, divorced, widowed...
If you are a believer, a questioner...
We Are So Glad That YOU Are Here!

SERVICE FOR OUR LORD'S DAY

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 AT 10:00 AM

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

PRELUDE

SUSANNE HOEKZEMA

CALL TO WORSHIP

ERIN SCHOR

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
Though the strong wind of judgment blows, all is not ended.
God will renew stubborn hearts and soften stiff necks,
For Jesus welcomed sinners and ate with them,
so we boldly come to make an offering of worship
to the God of mercy, who seeks and saves the lost.
Let us rejoice in the grace of our Lord!

++ HYMN #12 [GTG] Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

CALL TO CONFESSION

ERIN SCHOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God,
you have given us a firm foundation in Jesus Christ,
yet we have chosen to build on sinking sand.
The works of our hands crumble around us,
and our best efforts are not good enough;
sin is real, and we are powerless before it.

++Indicates Congregation standing as able

**Forgive us for thinking we know best.
Mend our broken values
and create in us hearts
that seek your purposes,
so that what we build with our lives
may give you glory.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ERIN SCHOR

Jesus accompanies us on life's journey
offering abundant mercy
and bountiful forgiveness along the way.

This is good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

++ RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS #577 [GTG] KYRIE ELEISON
Kyrie eleison (four times)

++ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ERIN SCHOR

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Be still and know that I am God (three times)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MS. MEGAN

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

MS. MEGAN

50-YEAR MEMBER RECOGNITION

Today we will recognize members for their long-time membership to this church family.

Since 1972 – Denise Dickinson

Since 1973 – William Rye, Ceci Anderson, Susan Kangas, Bruce Poland

Since 1974 – Jack Toomey, Souad Toomey, Jackie Blankenship, Don Hines,
Bessie Roper, Jeffrey Mann

Since 1975 – Kim Moore, Chris DeYonke, Dan DeYonke, Elaine Scovill

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ERIN SCHOR

Faithful God, how blessed are those
 who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit
 so that we may glorify you
 in the company of the faithful;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.**FIRST READING**

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

ERIN SCHOR

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward the daughter of my people, not to winnow or cleanse, a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.

“For my people are foolish;
 they do not know me;
they are stupid children;
 they have no understanding.
They are skilled in doing evil
 but do not know how to do good.”
I looked on the earth, and it was complete chaos,
 and to the heavens, and they had no light.
I looked on the mountains, and they were quaking,
 and all the hills moved to and fro.
I looked, and there was no one at all,
 and all the birds of the air had fled.
I looked, and the fruitful land was a desert,
 and all its cities were laid in ruins
 before the Lord, before his fierce anger.

For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a desolation, yet I will not make a full end.

Because of this the earth shall mourn
 and the heavens above grow black,
for I have spoken; I have purposed;
 I have not relented, nor will I turn back.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

When Israel went out from Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,

Judah became God's sanctuary,

Israel his dominion.

The sea looked and fled;

Jordan turned back.

The mountains skipped like rams,

the hills like lambs.

Why is it, O sea, that you flee?

O Jordan, that you turn back?

O mountains, that you skip like rams?

O hills, like lambs?

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,

at the presence of the God of Jacob,

who turns the rock into a pool of water,

the flint into a spring of water.

ANTHEM "Create in Me a Clean Heart" by Matthew Culloton CHANCEL CHOIR

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be To God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:1-10

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

SERMON

“The Urgency of the Lost”

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32-33)

The life, death, resurrection,

and promised coming of Jesus Christ

has set the pattern for the church’s mission.

His human life involves the church

in the common life of all people.

His service to men and women commits the church

to work for every form of human well-being.

His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering

so that it sees the face of Christ

in the faces of persons in every kind of need.

His crucifixion discloses to the church

God’s judgment on the inhumanity

that marks human relations,

and the awful consequences

of the church’s own complicity in injustice.

In the power of the risen Christ

and the hope of his coming,

the church sees the promise

**of God's renewal of human life in society
and of God's victory over all wrong.**

**The church follows this pattern
in the form of its life
and in the method of its action.**

**So to live and serve
is to confess Christ as Lord.**

++HYMN #173 [GTG]

A Woman and a Coin

This text is a summary and interpretation of the three parables of Jesus recorded in Luke 15:3-32. The order has been partly rearranged (the second and first are interchanged) to create an ascending order of significance and to provide a context for the well-known third parable.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GWEN BOTTING

The Lord be with you

and also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Prayers continue...)

Lord's Prayer (**unison**)

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.

Amen **#554 [GTG]** Amen

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY "Lord, I'm Comin' Home"

CHANCEL CHOIR

by Anna Laura Page & Jeane Anne Shafferman

++Doxology #648 [GTG] Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of Dedication
HIGLE

PASTOR BOB

HYMN #649 [GTG] Amazing Grace

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

BLESSING AND CHARGE

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

The Lord bless you and keep
your going out
and your coming in
from this time on
and forevermore. **Alleluia!**
(from Psalm 121:8)

BENEDICTION

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

Proclaim the Good News,
be persistent in prayer,
do the work of the gospel,
and carry out the ministry
of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
(from 2 Timothy 4:2, 5; Luke 18:1)

Blest Be the Tie That Binds #306 [GTG]

***Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.***

POSTLUDE

"Fantasia on Hymn Tune Precious Lord" by Igor

Iachimciuc

SUSANNE HOEKZEMA

SOME OF THE LITURGIES WERE PROVIDED BY THE PRESBYTERIAN "CALL TO WORSHIP"
VOLUME 58.1.

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INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

LITURGIST:

ERIN SCHOR

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

MEGAN HIGLE

ORGANIST:

SUSANNE HOEKZEMA

CHOIR:

CHANCEL CHOIR

PASTOR:

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

SOUND AND AV SYSTEM:

BILL COLLINS, ANDREW MACKOUL AND TRENTON MITCHELL

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNS are available, please see an usher.

LISTENING DEVICES are available, please see an usher.

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL TO OUR MISSION! PLEASE SCAN THIS CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE TO GIVE SECURELY ONLINE. *Take a picture with your phone and it will take you to the website to make a donation.*



Per Capita Reminder: The annual per capita payment to the Lake Michigan Presbytery for 2025 is **\$42 per member**. This is for every member to consider. The check can go to the church noting “per capita.” Please consider paying a per capita for those who cannot afford to.



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



This Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 14

50-year Member Recognition, Blessing of the Backpacks

9:00 a.m.	Children's Sunday School – Lower Level
10:00 a.m.	Morning Worship – SANCTUARY
11:30 a.m.	Adult Forum
12:30 p.m.	Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel
3:00 p.m.	Lansing Symphony – Clarinet Quintet

Monday, September 15

9:00 a.m. – 2:00	GIL Classes
10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting – Library
5:30 p.m.-6:30	Traditional Yoga – Yoga Room
6:30 p.m.	Bells of First Rehearsal

Tuesday, September 16

9:00 a.m. – 2:00	GIL Classes
6:00 p.m.	Mid MI Photo Club Officers – Library
6:30 p.m. – 9	Glen Erin Pipe Band – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m.	Capital City Chordsmen – Chapel
7:00 p.m.	Book Group – Parlor

Wednesday, September 17

8:30 a.m.	Counters – Library
9:00 a.m. – 2:00	GIL Classes
10:30 a.m.	Lectionary Bible Study
4:00 p.m. – 6:00	GIL Night Classes
4:00 p.m. – 6:30	Lansing Children's Choir Rehearsal
5:30 p.m.-6:30	Fit Yoga – Yoga Room
6:00 p.m.	Wired Word Bible Study
7:00 p.m.	Session Meeting

Thursday, September 18

7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m.	Victory in Jesus Ministries Bible Study – Library

Friday, September 19

5:30 p.m.-6:30	Restorative Yoga – Yoga Room
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Saturday, September 20

10:00 a.m.	VIJ Music Rehearsal – Chapel
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Sunday, September 21

9:00 a.m.	Children's Sunday School – Lower Level
10:00 a.m.	Morning Worship – Sanctuary
11:30 a.m.	Adult Forum
12:30 p.m.	Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

FELLOWSHIP

WOMEN OF FIRST PRES

Let's Take a Road Trip!

Join us on **Saturday, September 20th** for a fun and inspiring outing to the **Cracked Pot Studio Tour!** We'll be visiting **three local art studios**, including **Red Barn Pottery**, where our very own **Kathe Smith** will have her beautiful pottery on display.

Schedule:

- 10:00 a.m. Meet at the First Pres parking lot to carpool
- Visit Artistic Creations Plus, Red Cedar Studio, Red Barn Pottery
- Enjoy lunch together in Williamston
- Return to the church lot in the afternoon.

This is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, local art appreciation, and celebrating one of our own! **Please RSVP to Megan Higle** if you plan to attend.

MUSIC

Music Ministry at LFPC

We are excited to begin a new season of music with our fabulous choirs!

Chancel Choir

 Begins Thursday, September 4

 7:00 p.m.

 Contact: *Megan Higle* – megan.higle@gmail.com

Bells of First

 Begins Monday, September 8

 6:30 p.m.

 Contact: *Darin Showalter* – darinjshowalter@gmail.com

No prior music experience is required—just a love and passion for making music to glorify God. Megan and Darin will help you find the right place to share your gifts with our congregation!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Get Excited for Christian Education This Fall!

We're gearing up for a new season of learning, growing, and connecting—and there's something for everyone!

Here's what's happening:

- **Kids Sunday School** – Sundays at **9:00 a.m.** (*NEW TIME!*)
 - **Adult Forum** – Sundays at **11:30 a.m.**

- **Lectionary Bible Study** – Wednesday mornings in person and via Zoom
 - **Wired Word Bible Study** – Wednesday evenings via Zoom

We've got some exciting changes in store, and **YOU** are invited to be a part of it all!

Questions or want to learn more?

Reach out to **Megan Higle**, Christian Education Director.

Lectionary Bible Study

Led by Bob Higle and Terri Froemel.

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., in the FPC Library or by Zoom.

This week, Lectionary Bible Study will focus on the following passages:

Jeremiah 18:1-11
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

The Wired Word

Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m., Contact Pr. Bob Higle (bob.higle@gmail.com) for more information.

Looking to find ways to have meaningful conversation about current events through a Christian lens? Join the Wired Word this week as we discuss the rise of AI and the ethical issues it raises, and how we focus on virtuous living and becoming the people God has created us to be. Our second lesson uses the lens of changes in Antarctica to consider our responsibilities as people of faith and stewards of our planetary home.