

# First Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2010

8:30 and 10 a.m.

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**The Prelude** *A time to be silent in preparation for worship. Please turn off your cell phone.*  
"Love Medley" arr. by Leatherman

## Welcome and Announcements

## Ringling Our Historic Church Bells

**\*The Opening Hymn** insert "Knowing You"

## The Call to Worship *(responsive)*

L: The Lord is my strength and my might;

**P: And has become my salvation.**

L: The right hand of the Lord is exalted;

**P: The right hand of the Lord does valiantly.**

L: I shall not die, but I shall live,

**P: And recount the deeds of the Lord.**

L: Open to me the gates of righteousness,

**P: That I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.**

L: I thank you that you have answered me,

**P: And have become my salvation.**

L: This is the day that the Lord has made;

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**The Anthem** "More Precious than Silver" & "I Stand in Awe" arr. by Larson

**Prayer of Confession *(unison)*** We are slow to trust in you, gracious God. We trust in what we see. We trust mostly in ourselves, our own power and might. But you continually call us out of ourselves. You see our frailties and failings, you understand our self-centeredness, and you invite us to a new way of living—the way of trust in you. Help us realize you are not against us. Help us recall we are not alone in facing life's pains and pressures.

Help us remember you are as near to us as our every breath. With no vision except the eyes of faith, and with confidence given by those who have gone before us, we offer ourselves to you now. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**  
*Gloria Patri #812*

## The Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

## Children's Sermon

**Offertory** As a tangible expression of our gratitude to God, we joyfully offer our monetary gifts to financially support God's work at First Presbyterian Church

**Offertory Music** "Back to Your Throne Again" by Randy Chandler  
**\*Doxology # 815**

**\*Prayer of Dedication *(unison)*** Receive these gifts, O God, offered in gratitude for all the gifts of life and for your love, and use them to serve the cause of your mission in this world. May these offerings point to Jesus' way of lovingly serving all in need and lift up his example as a guide for daily living. Bless us as we give, and bless your world with a renewed awareness that you hold us all in your loving hands. Receive also our thankful hearts. Amen.

## Prayer of Illumination

**First Readings of Scripture** Revelation 1:4-8 *(p. 245 NT)*  
8:30 a.m. LeRue Werner  
10 a.m. Doug White

**\*Hymn of Preparation #139 vs. 1 & 3 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

**Second Reading** John 20:19-31 *(p.84 NT)*  
**Sermon** *Forgiveness* Rev. Shafer

**Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed, and became a brother to all kinds of sinful people. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which all men stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all. Amen

\*The Closing Hymn #361 *“Worship Christ, the Risen King”*

\*Greeting Each Other In Christian Love

\*The Pastoral Benediction

**The Postlude** *“Worthy Medley”* arr. by Leatherman

## *The Mission Statement of First Presbyterian Church*

*SHARING, GROWING, AND LIVING OUR FAITH IN CHRIST*

*This we seek to accomplish by*

*Introducing Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him;  
Deepening the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;  
Demonstrating Christ’s way of love in service to the world*

# First Presbyterian Church

PROCLAIMING THE WORD IN THE REFORMED TRADITION SINCE 1874  
A Congregation of The Presbyterian Church (USA)

404 Spruce Street Elk Rapids, Michigan 49629  
(231) 264-8167 FAX (231) 264-0162  
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Church Email: [info@erfpc.org](mailto:info@erfpc.org)  
Website: [www.erfpc.org](http://www.erfpc.org)

**INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR**  
The Rev. Harold (Hal) Shafer

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR**  
The Rev. Sandra K. Murray

**DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**  
Pamela Bekkering

**DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY**  
Gary Bekkering

### THE SESSION

2010  
Brenda Corner  
Melvin (Mel) Matchett  
Sarah Miller  
Nancy Muhlig  
Dale Wagner

2011  
Brandon Darin  
Peter (Pete) Eckardt  
John Moore  
Ramona (Mona) Nelson  
Betty Tezak

2012  
David Branding  
William Clark  
Susan Cook  
Penny Novarro  
John West

### THE BOARD OF DEACONS

2010  
Shanna Branding  
Mary Anne Frey  
Denise Heeke  
Eleanor (Ellie) Holdsworth  
Adam Schuler

2011  
Sandra (Sandy) Davids  
Janet (Jan) Johnson  
Leonard Orzechowski  
Diane Thompson  
Margaret (Marge) Weitschat

2012  
Saundra Blackmore  
Dianne Hall  
Mark Haskell  
Phyllis Staley  
Cathy Weidman

### THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2010  
James (Jim) Goodall  
Donald (Don) Shurte  
Peter (Pete) VanDenBerge  
Kenneth (Ken) Weitschat  
Harry Widman

2011  
Loyal Cobb  
Jane Croftchik  
Charlene Hansen  
Jonathan (Jon) Heeke  
Richard (Dick) Schurch

2012  
Mark Blackmore  
Thomas Calkins  
Kenneth Cook  
James (Jim) Mottern  
David West

**PASTOR EMERITUS**  
The Rev. Dr. Daniel K. Herlein

## THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

## NEXT WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

**GREETERS 8:30**  
**GREETERS 10:00**  
**USHERS 8:30**

Mark & Jennifer Haskell  
Joe & Katie Anderson  
John & Kathy Moore  
John & Marilyn West  
Don & Sandy Davids

**USHERS 10:00**

### TODAY, April 11

8:00 a.m. Prayer Time  
8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
11:05 a.m. Sp. Cong. Meeting  
11:05 a.m. Milestones Potluck & Workshops  
1:30 p.m. Disciples Bible Study  
5:00 p.m. MS Youth @ LH  
7:00 p.m. HS Youth @ LH

### MONDAY, April 12

10:00 a.m. P.E.O. Meeting  
12:00 p.m. Newsletter Articles Due  
3:00 p.m. Confirmation @ LH  
5:00 p.m. Facilities Committee

### TUESDAY, April 13

8:30 a.m. Building Committee  
8:30 a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Place 4 Health @ LH  
Exercise  
2:00 p.m. Nurture Ministry Team  
3:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry  
7:30 p.m. Rotary Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. HS Bible Study @ LH

### WEDNESDAY, April 14

6:30 a.m. Breakfast Club @ LH  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study  
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting  
3:00 p.m. Worship Ministry Team  
4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, April 15

8:30 a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Place 4 Health @ LH  
Bible Study  
9:00 a.m. Bulletin Items Due

### FRIDAY, April 16

9:00 a.m. Bulletin Print  
9:00 a.m. Community Cupboard Del  
6:00 pm. MS Lock-in @ LH

### SUN., April 18

8:00 a.m. Prayer Time  
8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
No Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
1:30 p.m. Disciples Bible Study  
5:00 p.m. MS Youth @ LH  
7:00 p.m. HS Youth @ LH

### MON., April 19

3:00 p.m. Confirmation @ LH  
5:00 p.m. Board of Trustees

### TUE., April 20

8:30 a.m. Building Committee  
8:30 a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Place 4 Health @ LH  
Exercise  
7:30 p.m. Rotary Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. HS Bible Study @ LH

### WED., April 21

6:30 a.m. Breakfast Club @ LH  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study  
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting  
4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Investment Committee

### THU., April 22

8:30 a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Place 4 Health @ LH  
Bible Study  
9:00 a.m. Bulletin Items Due

### FRI., April 23

9:00 a.m. Bulletin Print  
12:00 p.m. Session Packet Print

### SAT., April 24

6:00 p.m. Sat. Night Praise Service  
at the Lighthouse

**OUR ACOLYTES TODAY** are Brittany and Jordanna Clarkston.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Jean Herlein

**WE EXPRESS OUR SYMPATHY** Esther Brown and family on the death of husband and father, Roger Brown, on April 2, 2010. Funeral services were held on Thursday, April 8, in Traverse City with Rev. Shafer and Rev. Murray officiating.

**WE ALSO EXTEND OUR CONDOLENCES** to Dorothy Dowd on the death of her husband, James, on April 3, 2010. Funeral services were held on Friday, April 9, with Rev. Shafer and Rev. Murray officiating.

**CHILD CARE** facilities are available to keep our services in the spirit of worship. Infants and children through three years of age are invited. Jane Lund is assisting our Childcare Coordinator, Melissa West, today. Kaitlin Eberle, Amy Russell and Nikii Brown are scheduled to assist next week.

**REMINDER:** May Newsletter articles are due Monday, April 12.

**PASTOR HAL** will be on vacation and study leave starting Monday, April 19 through Sunday, May 2.

**A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY:** There will be a very important Congregation meeting at 11 a.m. for the purpose of electing the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). Members, it is very important that you attend.

**CELEBRATING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SUNDAY**-Please join us next Sunday, April 18, for Children's Ministry Sunday Celebration, between the services at Coffee Central. The Deacons will be providing cake for this wonderful occasion.

**PIANO MUSIC:** Jean Herlein has done a second CD of piano music titled "This is My Father's World." It is for sale in the church office for \$4. The proceeds will benefit the Rapid City Food Pantry. Thank you.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LOCATIONS

Toddlers (18 – 36 months)

Pre-K – Grade 5

Jr. & Sr. High

Parenting Class

Adult Education

Nursery Lower Level

Lower Level

Lighthouse

New Multipurpose Room

Office Conference Room

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**THE BUILDING COMMITTEE** thanks you for your willingness to deal with the changes and the mess during construction of the new office area and enlargement of the narthex. We hope you are thrilled with the changes you see and look forward to the completion scheduled for mid April. An Open House Celebration is scheduled to take place this spring. Watch for details. If your curiosity can't wait, you are invited to drop by anytime and take a look at all the new spaces.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WEEK:** Get ready to set sail on the “High Seas Adventure,” to explore the mighty love of God. Vacation Bible School will be held during the week of June 21-25. Families, children, and volunteers please mark this special week on your calendar! Watch upcoming bulletins for more details.

**GET TOGETHER:** Some activities are better done alone, like brushing your teeth or playing solitaire. Some activities are better and more satisfying when you work with others. Stephen Ministry is one of those get-it-done-together ministries. Stephen Ministers meet regularly with another person to provide care. They also meet with other Stephen Ministers to support and encourage one another. Stephen Leaders provide training and supervision. When Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers work together, God accomplishes wonderful things! Is God calling you to get together with this team? For more information, contact Pastor Sandy, 264-8167, Connie Clark, 264-5977, Charlene Hansen, 499-9702, Sue Johnson, (264-6994), Pam Shuler, 599-2480 or Greg Socha, 264-9471 today.

## SERMON POINTS:

What is forgiveness?

Why should we forgive?

How should we forgive?

This Sermon can be heard on: [www.erfpc.org/RecentSermons.html](http://www.erfpc.org/RecentSermons.html)

**Milestone  
Sunday  
is TODAY!**



**Don't forget. . .**

. . . If you have signed up to participate in the Milestone workshops, we will be meeting for a potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the 10 a.m. service **TODAY!**

**Even if you did not sign up in advance please plan to attend this special event.**

All workshops will begin at noon and last for about 45 minutes.

Children's Ministry Sunday, April 18, 10 a.m. service  
There will be NO regular Sunday School Classes

# *Saturday Night Praise & Worship Service*

*When: Saturday, April 24*

*Time: 6:00-7:00pm*

*Where: Lighthouse*

*The Praise Band from Glen Lake Community Reformed Church will be here to lead us praise songs.*

*Come for a short inspirational message and a time to fellowship with one another as we praise and worship our Lord.*

