

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Benton Harbor



Peace!

Psalm 86:1-13 + Matthew 10:26-39

Standing Tall on Morton Hill for over 130 Years

June 21, 2026 • 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Are Welcomed

Welcome

Opening Prayer

a blessing for when today already feels like too much
by kate bowler

Prelude + Setting the Table for Worship

We Are Gathered

The Call to Worship

Friends, we gather this morning.
We gather as God's beloved children.

However glad we are,
however out of sorts we are.

**We come together as a people
whom Jesus calls into community.**

This space becomes a place
where all are welcome.

**We have come to give thanks,
to pray and sing, to listen and respond.**

Song of Praise *Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit*

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above *Glory to God #41*
[see next page]

41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
 2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
 3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,
 Al - mighty, your power has found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form;
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

Addressing the first two stanzas to the singers of the hymn and the last three to God, this free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve. Though it was first published in England, the tune has been more popular in North America than there.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Hear our cries to you, O Lord: for our lack of compassion toward the poor,
have mercy on us.

For our failure to end the destruction of air, water, soil, and creatures on Earth,
have mercy on us.

For our disbelief in your power to make us whole, **have mercy on us.**

For making war, **have mercy on us.**

For mistrusting your Word, **have mercy on us.**

For all that we have done and have not done out of hardened hearts,
have mercy on us.

[moment of silent prayer]

Forgive us and renew us.

Guide us into ways that do not deny you but lead to peace. **Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Song of Gratitude

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me” *Glory to God #582*

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, amen.

Passing of the Peace

As Christ has forgiven us and received us into peace, let us now forgive one another and receive one another into our peace. There are many ways to share signs of peace with one another while minimizing physical contact: We can wave and smile; we can give the 'peace' sign; or we can bring our hands together in the center of our chests and bow slightly toward one another saying, "Peace be with you." Whichever way you choose to share, do so with respect and love for your neighbors! Let us share signs of peace.

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Psalm 86:1-13

Contemporary English Version

Please listen, Lord, and answer my prayer!

I am poor and helpless.

Protect me and save me because you are my God.

I am your faithful servant, and I trust you. Be kind to me!

I pray to you all day. Make my heart glad! I serve you, and my prayer is sincere.

You willingly forgive, and your love is always there for those who pray to you.

Please listen, Lord!

Answer my prayer for help.

When I am in trouble, I pray, knowing you will listen.

No other gods are like you; only you work miracles.

You created each nation, and they will all bow down to worship and honor you.

You perform great wonders because you alone are God.

Teach me to follow you, and I will obey your truth.

Always keep me faithful.

With all my heart I thank you.

I praise you, Lord God.

Your love for me is so great that you protected me from death and the grave.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Scripture Reading

Matthew 10:26-39

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Holy wisdom, holy word

Thanks be to God!

A Time for Young People**Song of Preparation**

Blessed Assurance

*Glory to God #839**[see next page]***Proclamation of the Word****Moment of Meditation**

839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,

pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior

all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my

song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

We Respond to God's Word

The Offertory

As those who have been claimed and set free by Christ's grace, we respond with gratitude, offering him our lives, our spiritual gifts, and our material goods. The gifts we offer express our stewardship of creation, demonstrate our care for one another, support the ministries of the church, and provide for the needs of the poor. Offerings may be placed into any one of the plates in the sanctuary. At this time children may use one of the baskets found on the front pew to collect quarters for our quarter tube offerings, collected for specific missions and ministries of this church.

Quarter Donations Recipient: The OutCenter of Southwest Michigan

Doxology *Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Christ all creatures here below

Praise Holy Spirit evermore

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

The Prayer of Dedication

Joys + Concerns

Prayers of the People

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Song of Trust

Amen *Glory to God #600*

Announcements

We Are Sent by God

Song of Sending *Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit*

I've Got Peace Like a River *Glory to God #623*

[see next page]

Charge + Benediction

Postlude

Prayers for the Week

O God, I praise you as I arise this morning. You are the giver of all life and you provide for what you have made. Be with my spirit this day and teach me to be thankful for all that you offer. Move me to be generous with others, sharing not only goods, but also time, patience, and kindness. You know what will happen today. Guide me so that I do what pleases you. Be near to me and help me to trust your love. I pray for all the world today, for what I do has effects far beyond what I can know or understand. By your Holy Spirit, let me speak peace, let me do peace, let me be peace, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ADORATION

623 I've Got Peace like a River

1 I've got peace like a riv - er; I've got peace like a
2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; I've got joy like a
3 I've got love like an o - cean; I've got love like an

riv - er; I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
foun-tain; I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
o - cean; I've got love like an o - cean, in my

soul. I've got riv - er, in my soul.
soul. I've got foun-tain, in my soul.
soul. I've got o - cean, in my soul.

Announcements

Camp Greenwood's summer camp schedule is full of fun and adventure for kids 6-17. If you're interested in your young folks attending, please speak with Pastor Sheth. Scholarships and grants are available to cover camp costs.

June 14-19 Ages 9-13 *Imagination Unchained*
Ages 14-17 *Art Unleashed*

June 21-26 Ages 9-13 *Wacky Water Week*
Science Snoops

June 28-30 Ages 6-8 *Mini Camp*

July 5-10 Ages 12-17 *Adventure Camp*

July 12-17 Ages 9-13 *Wacky Water Week*
Science Snoops

Book Club July's reading is *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistlestop Café* by Fannie Flagg. If you need help finding the book or acquiring it, speak with Jan or Sheth.

An Interfaith PRIDE Service will be held on Sunday, June 28 at 6 pm. Located at Saint Augustine's Episcopal Church in Benton Harbor (1753 Union Ave). If you want to tag along with Pastor Sheth, please reach out.