

26th Sunday after Pentecost

November 22, 2015

Thoughts for Individual Meditation

*Life without thankfulness is devoid of love and passion.
Hope without thankfulness is lacking in fine perception.
Faith without thankfulness lacks strength and fortitude.
Every virtue divorced from thankfulness is maimed and
limps along the spiritual road.*

--John Henry Jowett

Fort Street Presbyterian Church

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Detroit, MI 48226

Phone (313) 961-4533

www.fortstreet.org

www.facebook.com/fortstreet

Gathering the Community

PRELUDE

Ray Staroscik
Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Bob Agnew

CALL TO WORSHIP

Craig McLean

Rejoice always, praise constantly, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (I Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
(I Corinthians 15:57)

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts, sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.
(Colossians 3:15b-16)

Blessing and glory, and wisdom and thanksgiving, and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever! Amen.
(Revelation 7:12)

*HYMN #367 (GTG) *“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Craig McLean

Almighty God, you are the giver of every good gift. Forgive us when we fail to give you praise and hearty thanks for all your blessings--for your goodness that has created us, your bounty that has sustained us, your patience that bears with us, and for your love that has redeemed us. Grant unto us this day a greater appreciation of the gifts that come from you and through others. Out of gratitude, help us to be always faithful in passing on the grace we have received through kind words and actions.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE SONG #616 (GTG) *“Our God Is an Awesome God”*

**Our God is an awesome God
Who reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power and love,
Our God is an awesome God.**

*SHARING THE PEACE

Craig McLean

The Peace of the Living Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE WORD

SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SONG FOR ILLUMINATION #288 (GTG) "Spirit of the Living God"

***Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on me.***

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 95:1-7a Craig McLean
(p.520 in pew Bibles)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON COLOSSIANS 1:9-20 Dr. Bob Agnew
(p. 88 in pew Bibles)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "**THANKFUL PEOPLE**" Dr. Bob Agnew

SERMON TEXT: "May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to God, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. (Colossians 1:11-12)"

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #643 (GTG) "Now Thank We All Our God"

*Litany of Thanksgiving

O God, we give you thanks for all you have done for us; creating the world and all that is in it, giving us the gift of life, providing work to do and strength to do it, and bringing us in safety to this hour.

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices.

We give you thanks for all that others have done for us, teaching and guiding us, surrounding us with love, and praying for us.

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices.

We give you thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who reminds us of the words of Jesus, leads us into new knowledge and truth, and inspires us with strength and courage for living.

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices.

We give you thanks for all that your church has done for us, for its teaching, for strength and guidance each week, for friendship and fellowship, for the sacraments of grace, and for their care and compassion..

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices.

We give you thanks for all you have given us in Jesus Christ. Through his life, death and resurrection you have opened to us a new and living way into your presence, forgiveness for the past and hope for the future.

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices. To you be praise and glory, honor and power, now and forever more. Amen.

CELEBRATIONS AND 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 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.

OFFERING OF THE PLEDGES AND GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE # 647 (GTG) "Give Thanks"**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.
And now let the weak say "we are strong";
Let the poor say "We are rich" because of the Lord has done for us
Give thanks. Give thanks.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Craig McLean

***HYMN #15 (GTG) "All Creatures of Our God and King"**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

(If you wish to do so, we invite you to sit quietly and enjoy the postlude as part of your worship.)

+ + +

***Please rise in body, mind, or spirit.**

Flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Renee Abraham Harries by her parents, Lorna and Nick Abraham.

Thank you for gathering with us for worship this morning. Following worship, there will be a coffee hour in the small dining area. Please join us!

Organist	Ray Staroscik
Liturgist	Craig McLean
Song Leader	Nancy Combs
Sound Technician	Twiler French
Videographer	Randy Commissaris
Worship Coordinator	Loretta Stanton
Officers on Duty	Pam Sharrow
Open Door Representative	Elizabeth Kershaw

Reformation Tour

Would you like to join Pastor Bob Agnew and Diane for a nine-day tour of Switzerland following in the footsteps of John Calvin and other leaders of the Reformation? Among the sites we will visit is Zurich, home of Huldreich Zwingli, a contemporary of Luther and Calvin. We travel on to Basel, home to John Calvin and where his work "Institutes of the Christian Religion" was first published. In Geneva we will visit the Reformation Museum, home to manuscripts from Calvin's life and this era of the Reformation. Other stops include Konstanz, St. Gallen, Liechtenstein, Lucerne, Interlaken and the Alps, Chillon and Lausanne.

We depart on May 12, 2016. Contact Pastor Bob or Diane for more information. Brochures can be found in the Narthex. This tour is sponsored by Educational Opportunities. You may also learn more about the trip by clicking on this link: <http://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/sw16-calvin#eotours>.

Church Hours

The church offices are open Monday through Thursday 8:00am to 4:00pm. Church offices are closed on Fridays. Alison Grosch, Operations Manager, can be reached at the church or by email OM@fortstreet.org.

Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:

- Hearing Assist System
- Wheelchair Access Ramp
- Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary
- Handicap Restroom--using elevator to second floor

We are delighted that you are here!

- * Visit the information and display tables in the narthex.
- * During the worship service, child care is provided for children through age 4. Ushers can provide directions. Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in Sunday School, which follows the Children's Message. A Christian Education staff member will lead the children downstairs. Parents may pick them up after worship. For additional information about our Sunday School program, please contact Judith Sheldon at firstcircleinc@sbcglobal.net. or Nancy Jackson at nancymotter-shawjackson@gmail.com.
- * A tape recording and CDs of today's service and/or previous services may be ordered in the Reception Office after worship @ \$3.00 each.

* You may add to the beauty of our weekly worship by contributing a floral donation. Flowers are usually given in memory of or in honor of persons or events. Contact Pam Sharrow at Sharrow13@gmail.com. The church office will contact you for your floral dedication.

Prayer List for the month of November 2015

The Abraham family, Gabrielle Abrego, Shari Anderson, Don and Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, Derek and Maxine Bloodworth, Bettie Burton, Lorraine and Harrison Coleman, Tim Dukes, Dick Green and family, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valerie Kimbrough, Virginia Lorimer, Karen Marcil, Ken McCoy family and friends, Marilyn Moore, Cheryl Myers, Kathy Payne and family, Richard and Suellen Sale, David and Karen Shillito, Rev. Diane Smalley, The Stump family, Nancy Woodkee, and Raquel Villaluz.

Prayers for Military loved ones.

CPL Christopher Whittaker-Bonner USMC; Lt. Harrison L Coleman USN; Jonathan Heyler USN; SSGT Shanell Howard USAF; Sgt. Christopher King; Maj. Michael Kurtti USAF; Lt. Theo Moran USAF; Alta Morrison; Lt. Jon Palmer USA; Lt. Marty Palmer USA; Charles Andrew Parsons II USN; Major Michelle Ruehl AF; Major Katy Spicer USMC; Alexander Szelestey USMC; Lt. Mark Webster USAF.

Fort Street News

Music at Fort Street

2015 Season

“MESSIAH” G.F. Handel



*The Fort Street Chorale
& the Chamber Orchestra*

Edward Kingins, Music Director

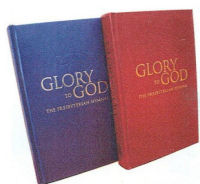
**Saturday, December 5, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 6, 2015 at 3:00 p. m.**

General Admission \$20.00 Patron \$35.00

Messiah tickets can be purchased by visiting www.fortstreet.org/messiah or calling 313-961-4533. Tickets will also be available for purchase by cash or check on Sunday mornings at the church.

Church members can also place an envelope in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Please include cash or check and clearly indicate the number of tickets and date of performance on the envelope.

Sun 1 10:00am Adult Ed Class 11:00am Worship	Mon 2 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	Tue 3 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 6:00pm Theology of Presbyterians/ Spiritual Life 8:00-9:00pm AA	Wed 4 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg 7:00pm Session	Thu 5 9-11am Open Dr. 5:30 Wedding Rehearsal 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal	Fri 6 Church Offices Closed Welcome EM U 6-8	Sat 7 3:30 Wedding 5:30pm AA 8:00pm Al-Non Welcome EM U 6-8
8 9:30am Worship Choir 10:00am Adult Ed Class 11:00am Worship (Communion) 6:30pm NA EMU departs	9 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	10 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 6:00pm Theology of Presbyterians/ Spiritual Life 8:00-9:00pm AA	11 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg	12 9-11am Open Dr. 6:30 Chorale Council 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal	13 Church Offices Closed 6:00 Wedding Rehearsal 8:00-9:00pm AA	14 3:00 Wedding 5:30 Wedding Rehearsal 5:30pm AA 8:00pm Al-Non
15 11:00am Worship 12:30 Coffee Hour by Open Dr. 2:00 Wedding 6:30pm NA	16 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	17 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	18 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg 6:00 Fiscal Op. 6:30pm Personnel	19 9-11am Open Dr. 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal	20 Church Offices Closed 3:00 Wedding 6:00 Wedding Rehearsal 8:00-9:00pm AA	21 3:00 Wedding 5:30pm AA 8:00pm Al-Non
22 11:00am Worship 12:00 Pak Thanksgivng baskets 6:30pm NA (Risers go up)	23 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 7:00 Chorale Rehearsal	24 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	25 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	26 Church Offices Closed Happy Thanksgiving	27 Church Offices Closed 8:00-9:00pm AA	28 5:30pm AA 8:00pm Al-Non
29 10:00am Adult Ed Class 11:00am Worship 12:30 5th Sunday Potluck and Church Decorating 6:30pm NA	30 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 7:00 Chorale Rehearsal					
November 2015						



THE NEW PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL, GLORY TO GOD.

This is the current official hymnal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). It contains 853 numbered songs for worship. This new book of songs for worship and personal devotion was published in 2013 and has met with wide acclaim by the congregations who are already using it as their musical resource.

The Session has purchased 160 of these hymnals and placed them in the pews. Additional ones are still needed, and, we hope, in the near future, to purchase more. We would like to invite you to help fund this important part of our worship. For each \$25.00 donation, you can provide a new hymnal with a personalized bookplate on the inside cover in honor or memory of loved ones or simply give one or more to the Glory of God.

To make that dedication, please submit your check, mark it for "Hymnal Fund", include if you wish the name of the person or family you are honoring, and send it to the church. Or you may put above information on the small form below, put it in the offering envelopes in the pew racks, and place it in the offering plates. We would appreciate your support. Thank you.

Donor's Name _____
Optional Dedication Information _____
In Memory of _____
In Honor of _____
Amount _____ (\$25.00 per book)