



**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**February 12, 2017**

**Thought for Individual Meditation**

*Our lives are songs; God writes the words  
And we set them to music at pleasure;  
And the song grows glad, or sweet or sad,  
As we choose to fashion the measure.*

*Ella Wheeler Wilcox*

***Fort Street Presbyterian Church***

***631 W. Fort Street***

***Detroit, MI 48226***

***Phone (313) 961-4533***

***[www.fortstreet.org](http://www.fortstreet.org)***

***[www.facebook.com/fortstreet](https://www.facebook.com/fortstreet)***

# Gathering the Community

PRELUDES *"A Pleasant Thought"* Florence B. Price  
*"Retrospection"*  
Marilyn Biery, Music Director/Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Bob Agnew

CALL TO WORSHIP Cindy Edwards  
Choose this day whom you will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.  
(Joshua 24:15)

**Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom for the future.**  
**(Proverbs 19:20)**

Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will dwell in the land, and enjoy security. (Psalm 37:3)

**Be not conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, that  
your may discern what is the will of God--what is good and acceptable and perfect.**  
**(Romans 12:2)**

\*HYMN # 56 *"Sing Out with Joy to God Our Strength"* SHEPHERD'S PIPES

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Cindy Edwards

**God of compassion, look with favor upon us as we confess our sins. You sent your Son to  
lead us down the paths of rightness and peace, and yet we have strayed from your ways  
like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. In  
your mercy, forgive our wrong choices. Help us to amend what we have done and direct  
what we shall be, so we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus  
Christ our Lord.**

\*SILENT CONFESSION

\*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE SONG # 447 *"We Are Forgiven"* WE ARE FORGIVEN

\*SHARING THE PEACE Cindy Edwards

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

# THE WORD

SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SONG FOR ILLUMINATION # 458 *"Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet"*

THY WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Cindy Edwards

(p. 179 in pew Bibles)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

*"I Want To Be Ready"*  
Emery Stephens, baritone

Spiritual, arr. H.T. Burleigh

**I want to be ready, my Lord, to walk in Jerusalem, jus' like John. John said de city was jus' four-square an' he declar'd he'd meet me there. When Peter was preachin' at Pentecost, he was endow'd wid de Holy Ghost. I want to be ready, my Lord, to walk in Jerusalem, jus' like John.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING:

Matthew 7:12-24

Dr. Bob Agnew

(pp.6-7 in pew Bibles)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**"CHOOSE LIFE!"**

Dr. Bob Agnew

SERMON TEXT: *"Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, knowing... obeying...and holding fast to God."*

( Deuteronomy 30:19b-20a)

# THE RESPONSE

BLACK PRESBYTERIAN HERITAGE

\*HYMN # 525

*"Let Us Break Bread Together"*

LET US BREAK BREAD

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OF THE PLEDGES AND GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

*"Dank sei Dir, Herr"*

Siegfried Ochs/ att. to G.F. Handel

**Thanks be to thee! Thou hast led forth thy chosen folk, Israel, safe through the sea. As a good shepherd leads forth his flock, Lord, thine own hand tended them, yea, in thy goodness gave them thy grace.**

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE # 606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Cindy Edwards

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.**

*( the prayer continues..)*

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.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BREAD AND CUP)

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*(All who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome to his table. Communion will be received by intinction, with congregants taking a piece of bread to dip into the cup. Please come forward down the center aisle, and return to your seat by walking to the right or the left. If you would like to have the communion elements brought to you, please inform one of the ushers.)*

ORGAN MEDITATION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this holy meal, united us in Christ, and have given us a foretaste of the glory to come. Strengthen us now in your service that our daily living may show our thanks, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN #700

*"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"*

I'M GONNA LIVE

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*“Joshua Fit De Battle of Jericho”*

Spiritual arr. Fela Sowande

(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.*

*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!*

**About today’s music:**

We welcome back Dr. Emery Stephens, assistant professor of voice at Wayne State University, and thank him for being with us today. From GIA Publications: “Florence Beatrice Smith Price was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1887. She composed over three hundred works and was the first black woman to have a symphony performed by a professional orchestra (Chicago Symphony Orchestra). Her songs were performed by some of the most admired voices of her day. Price died in 1953. Fela Sowande (1905-1987) was born in Nigeria; he studied and lived in London and eventually settled in the United States. He became a U.S. citizen in 1977. He was granted many honorifics in his lifetime, including Member of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as Member of the British Empire. Although his compositions owe much to a strong Nigerian influence, he also incorporated Western techniques; in this way, he emphasized his belief that nationalism should not go unchecked but always be a part of the greater global community.”

Music Director/Organist

Marilyn Biery

Soloist

Emery Stephens

Liturgist

Cindy Edwards

Sound Tech

Nancy Jackson

Worship Coordinator

Kalu Uduma

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Fort Street Presbyterian Church is an oasis in an urban environment, building a caring Christian community where diversity is celebrated and developing programs that minister to metropolitan Detroit and the world beyond. We do this in response to the grace of God through Jesus Christ, recognizing the truth of the Gospel: *There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of us are one in Christ Jesus.*

### **Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:**

Hearing Assist System  
Wheelchair Access Ramp  
Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary  
Handicap Restroom--use 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](mailto:firstcircleinc@sbcglobal.net). or Nancy Jackson at [nancymottershawjackson@gmail.com](mailto:nancymottershawjackson@gmail.com).
- \* 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](mailto:Sharrow13@gmail.com). The church office will contact you for your floral dedication.

### **Prayer List for the Month of February 2017**

Gabrielle Abrego, Don and Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, Lorraine and Harrison Coleman, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valorie Kimbrough, Devon Marcil, Kathy Payne and family, Jane Petrie, the Sale family.

### **Prayers for Military Loved Ones.**

*(We are seeking to update our Military Roll. Please contact the church office with any changes.)*

Lt. Harrison L Coleman USN; Jonathan Heyler USN; Ssgt Shanell Howard USAF; Maj. Michael Kurtti USAF; Capt. Theo Moran USAF; Major Katy Spicer USMC; Lt. Mark Webster USAF.

### **FORT STREET STAFF:**

Alison Grosch, Operations Manager; Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; John Glover, Director of Open Door; Marilyn Biery, Director of Music/Organist; Edward Kingins, Director of Music Emeritus; Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; Loretta Stanton, Wedding Coordinator; Jerry Johnson, Building Engineer; Damien Hines, Custodian; Karen Wright, Donlin Center Staff.

**Temporary Stated Supply Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. Robert Agnew  
[pastor@fortstreet.org](mailto:pastor@fortstreet.org)

**Pastor Emeritus:** The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Crilley

**Web Site:** [www.fortstreet.org](http://www.fortstreet.org) [www.facebook.com/fortstreet](http://www.facebook.com/fortstreet)

# Fort Street News

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>	
			<b>1</b> 2:00pm Staff Meeting <b>7:00 Session</b>	<b>2</b> 9-11am Open Door 7:30 Chorale Rehearsal	<b>3</b> <b>Church Offices Closed</b>  8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>4</b> 5:30pm AA 8:30pm-10:00pm AI-Non	
<b>5</b> 9:45am Adult Ed <b>11:00am. Worship</b> 6:30pm NA	<b>6</b> <b>Annual Reports Due</b>	<b>7</b> 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Closet 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>8</b> 2:00pm Staff Meeting	<b>9</b> 9-11am Open Door <b>12:15 Bible Study w/ Peter Henry</b> 7:30 Chorale Rehearsal	<b>10</b> <b>Church Offices Closed</b>  8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>11</b> 5:30pm AA 8:30pm-10:00pm AI-Non	
<b>12</b> 9:45am Adult Ed <b>11:00am. Worship, (Communion)</b> <b>12:30pm Worship Arts mtg</b> 6:30pm NA <b>Celebration Sunday</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Closet 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>15</b> 2:00pm Staff Meeting <b>6:00 Fiscal Op. mtg</b>	<b>16</b> 9-11am Open Door <b>11:30 Open Dr. Mtg</b> 7:30 Chorale Rehearsal	<b>17</b> <b>Church Offices Closed</b>  8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>18</b> 5:30pm AA 8:30pm-10:00pm AI-Non	
<b>19</b> 9:45am Adult Ed <b>11:00am. Worship</b> <b>12:15 PJ &amp; M mtg</b>  6:30pm NA	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Closet 8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>22</b> 2:00pm Staff Meeting <b>11:15am Church Tour</b> 6:00pm Deacons mtg 6:30pm Personnel	<b>23</b> 9-11am Open Door 7:30 Chorale Rehearsal	<b>24</b> <b>Church Offices Closed</b>  8:00-9:00pm AA	<b>25</b> 5:30pm AA 8:30pm-10:00pm AI-Non	
<b>26</b> 9:45am Adult Ed <b>11:00am. Worship</b> 6:30pm NA	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Closet 8:00-9:00pm AA	FEBRUARY 2017				



## MARRIAGE ANYONE 2017?

Thinking of getting married? Want to get married at Fort Street?  
Contact the Wedding Coordinator, Loretta Stanton **313-549-1015**.



**Wednesday, March 1, 2017**

**6:00pm** Soup & Crackers Supper  
6:30 Service

Join your Fort Street family for Ash Wednesday as we begin our Lenten Journey.

The evening begins with a simple meal of soup, crackers, and bread.

Please consider a donation in the amount that you might pay for a simple meal out. Donations beyond the cost of the meal will go to the Fort Street Open Door Program.

## CALL OF THE ANNUAL REPORTS

**ARE DUE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017**



The Session of Fort Street Presbyterian Church has issued a call of the Annual Meeting and of the Congregation and Corporation to be held on **Sunday, February 19, 2017** immediately following the 11:00 AM worship for the purpose of: receiving reports from all boards, officers, and committees; review of the 2017 budget; and electing four congregational representatives to the Nominating Committee.

Thank You!