



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 1, 2016

Thought for Individual Meditation

*"Pray as though everything depended on God.
Work as though everything depended on you."*

Saint Augustine

Fort Street Presbyterian Church

631 W. Fort Street

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

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Deborah Evans

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kevin Pearson

We gather on this Lord's Day to celebrate with thanksgiving the saving acts and presence of Christ:

Who touches us with healing and makes us whole; who teaches us God's love and brings us to life;

Who washes us in the waters of Baptism and frees us from sin; who reconciles us to God and unites us with others;

Who shapes us as servants and equips us for ministry. Blessings glory and honor be to God forever. Amen.

*HYMN # 35

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Kevin Pearson

All-knowing God, we confess we are not the people we like others to think we are. Sometimes we are afraid to admit, even to ourselves, what lies in the depths of our soul. But we cannot hide our true selves from you. You know us as we are, and yet you love us. Help us not to make excuses or to shrink from self-knowledge. Give us the courage to put our trust in your guiding Spirit. Raise us out of the paralysis of guilt into the freedom and energy of forgiven people, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE SONG # 447

"We Are Forgiven"

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

*SHARING THE PEACE

Kevin Pearson

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

THE WORD

SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SONG FOR ILLUMINATION # 695 *“Change My Heart, O God”*

***Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
You are the Potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.***

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 32:1-6a

Kevin Pearson

(p.479 in pew Bibles)

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

ANTHEM

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:

John 5:1-9

Dr. Bob Agnew

(p.90 in pew Bibles)

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

SERMON

“EXCUSES...EXCUSES!”

Dr. Bob Agnew

SERMON TEXT: *The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.”*
(John 5:7)

THE RESPONSE

*HYMN # 716

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(From “A Brief Statement of Faith”)

Kevin Pearson

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

We trust in God,

whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives.**

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 # 607 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Kevin Pearson

*HYMN # 733

"We All Are One in Mission"

*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.*

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
Music Director	Edward Kingins
Choir	The Worship Choir
Liturgist	Kevin Pearson
Sound Technician	Nancy Jackson
Worship Coordinator	Pam Sharrow
Deacon on Duty	Cindy Edwards
Coffee Hour Host	Fiscal Op.

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. or Nancy Jackson at 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. The church office will contact you for your floral dedication.

Prayer List for the month of May 2016

Gabrielle Abrego, Don and Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, Vanessa Carthon and family, Lorraine and Harrison Coleman, Geraldine Adams Jones, Irene Westmoreland King, Virginia Lorimer, Cheryl Myers, Kathy Payne and family, Easter Ponder, Richard and Suellen Sale, Wally and Leonore Triplett.

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; Lt. Theo Moran USAF; Major Katy Spicer USMC; Lt. Mark Webster USAF.

FORT STREET STAFF:

Alison Grosch, Operations Manager, Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; Rev. Neeta Nichols, Interim Director of Open Door; Edward Kingins, Director of Music; Ray Staroscik, Organist; Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; Loretta Stanton, Wedding Coordinator; Jerry Johnson, Building Engineer, Donna Bryant, Damien Hines, Greg Howell, Parking Security; Marilyn Moore, Karen Wright, Donlin Center Staff.

Temporary Stated Supply Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Robert Agnew
pastor@fortstreet.org

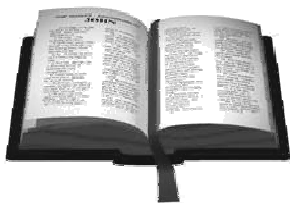
Fort Street News

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.*

Sun 1	Mon 2	Tue 3	Wed 4	Thu 5	Fri 6	Sat 7
11:00am Worship 3:00 The Chorale Spring Concert 6:30pm NA	Risers come down	8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	2:00pm Staff mtg 7:00 Session	9-11am Open Dr. 6:00 Chorale Council mtg (last mtg before summer break)	Church Offices Closed	5:30pm AA 8:00pm AI-Non
8 9:30am the Worship Choir Rehearsal 11:00am Worship (Communion) 6:30pm NA	9	10 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	11 9:30am Food Manager License Class 2:00pm Staff mtg	12 9-11am Open Dr.	13 Church Offices Closed 6:00 Wedding Rehearsal 8:00-9:00pm AA	14 Wedding 5:30pm AA 8:00pm AI-Non
15 11:00am Worship, (Communion) 12:30pm PJM Movie time 6:30pm NA	16	17 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	18 2:00pm Staff mtg	19 9-11am Open Dr. 11:30am Open Dr. mtg	20 Church Offices Closed 8:00-9:00pm AA	21 1:00-2:30 Wedding Rehearsal 5:30pm AA 8:00pm AI-Non
22 9:30 the Worship Choir Rehearsal 11:00am Worship 3:00pm Wedding 6:30pm NA	23	24 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	25 2:00pm Staff mtg 6:00 Fiscal Op. mtg 6:00pm Personnel 7:00 Deacons mtg	26 9-11am Open Dr.	27 Church Offices Closed 3:30 Wedding Rehearsal 6:00 Wedding Reh. 8:00-9:00pm AA	28 3:00 Wedding 5:30pm AA 8:00pm AI-Non
29 11:00am Worship 12:30pm 5th Sunday Potluck 3:00pm Wedding 6:30pm NA	30 Church Offices Closed (Memorial Day)	31 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA			May 2016	

Adult Education
Christian Living Discussion
Meaning in a Moment
Bible Study



with Nancy Combs
June 5, 12, 19 and 26,
Stapleton Chapel 9:00 A.M.

Career Closet
Need women's suits jackets, size 20 and up. Men's belts, and size 13 shoes.



Attendance for:
4-24-16: 57
4-26-15: 64



MARRIAGE 2016?

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

THURSDAYS OPEN DOOR MEAL PROGRAM 9AM-11AM



This program is open to the public. Between 8am and 9m, woman and elderly guests may shower. They may also receive a hygiene kit and use the clothing bank once a month.

Between 9 and 11am, men may shower. They may also get a hygiene kit and use the clothing bank monthly. Guest seeking clothing and hygiene kits must present valid identification.

Between 9 and 11am, a full hot meal is served. Guests may get a haircut, and consult with a social worker. Volunteers are welcome.

2016 Season

**Fort Street Chorale
& Chamber Orchestra presents**

“Mass in G Major”

BWV 236 by J.S. Bach.

RICHARD HOUSEHOLDER, CONDUCTOR

Edward Kingins, Director of Music

Dr. David Wagner, Organist

Solo Organ works by J.S. Bach

Concerto for Organ and

Orchestra HWV 295

by G. F. Handel

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2016-3:00PM

631 W. FORT STREET,

DETROIT MI 48226

General Admission tickets \$20.00 each

Patron tickets \$35

Group Tickets \$15

Purchase tickets in the front office.