



Credit: "The Janitor Who Paints," by Palmer Hayden, ca. 1930. Smithsonian American Art Museum, Gift of the Harmon Foundation

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 11, 2018

Fort Street Presbyterian Church

631 W. Fort Street

Detroit, MI 48226

Phone (313) 961-4533

www.fortstreet.org

www.facebook.com/fortstreet

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

March 11, 2018

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness* J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Eric

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Psalm 107)* Pastor Eric

O give thanks to Christ the Lord, for he is good.

His steadfast love is without end.

The Lord gathers us in from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Let us give thanks to God together, proclaiming the Good News with songs of joy!

*HYMN: 610 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* AZMON

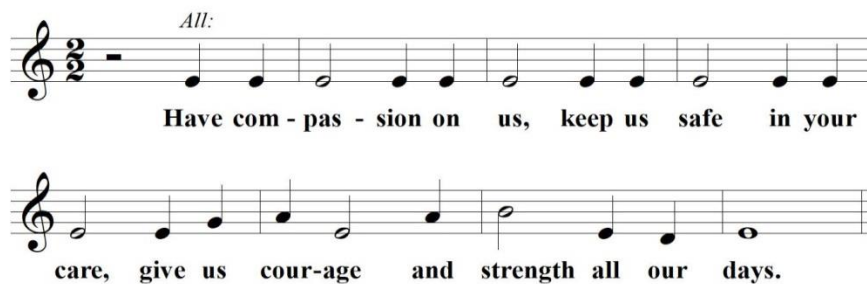
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(based on Num. 21:4-9 and Jn. 3:14-16)* Pastor Eric

God, we confess that we are an impatient and selfish people. When you offer us the promise of a new future, we complain that you don't get there fast enough. When you provide for our needs, we complain that it isn't enough. And when our bad attitudes and negative outlooks cause us to stumble, we blame you. Holy God, forgive our sinful ways. Teach us to be patient. Instruct us to be grateful. Guide us to be responsible and humble. As we turn ourselves around and look to the cross, let us experience your grace and your gift of new life. In the name of Christ our Savior, we pray.

*RESPONSE *Song of Petition* James Biery

The Choir sings three petitions, after each all respond:

All:



Have com - pas - sion on us, keep us safe in your
care, give us cour-age and strength all our days.

*DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS Pastor Eric

God's love is sure and steadfast, always providing a way out,
a way through, a way back to God.

Through the waters of baptism,

we have died with Christ and are raised with him.

With gratitude, in faith, we will walk the way of Christ. Amen.

*SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE Pastor Eric

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we too should forgive one another. The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

(Exchange signs of Christ's peace with those worshipping with you.)

WE HEAR THE WORD PROCLAIMED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Anne

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Pastor Eric

PSALM LESSON Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Pastor Eric

(pp. 528-529 in pew Bibles)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Find Refuge in God

James Biery

Find refuge in God, find safety under his wings. (Ps. 91:4)

GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:1-21
(p. 88 in pew Bibles)

Pastor Anne

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

SERMON

**“LIGHT HAS COME
INTO DARKNESS”**

Pastor Anne Lange

*HYMN 729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor Eric

The work of Jesus was the supreme crisis for humankind, and his cross and resurrection become a personal crisis and present hope for each one of us, and through this experience the Spirit brings forgiveness, moves us to deeper faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. With God’s community of faith, We hold the message of reconciliation and share in God’s work of healing: healing the enmities that divide us that separate people from God and from each other. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing, in life or in death, can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

SHARING CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

Pastor Eric

Microphone Available

OFFERING OF THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

C. Hubert H. Perry

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways; reclothe us in our rightful mind; in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise. In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word, rise up and follow thee. Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease: take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace. Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still small voice of calm.

*RESPONSE 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF THANKS

Pastor Eric

RECOGNITION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Let us gather our hearts

Our hearts are at home in God.

Let us give thanks for God’s unfailing love.

God’s love endures forever.

Let every heart be lifted up

Let us prepare to receive our Christ.

God of all creation ...

...your living Church, a unified chorus of praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest!

Hymn 522

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER AFTER THE SACRAMENT

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your son, our savior, Jesus Christ. And you have fed us with spiritual food in the Lord'. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us the strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

WE ARE SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM THE WORD

*HYMN 765

May the God of Hope Go with Us

ARGENTINA

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Pastor Anne

CHORAL AMEN

ORGAN MEDITATION

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

J.S. Bach

(During Lent our organ postlude provides space for personal meditation and prayer. You may use the prompts below to guide your reflection.)

- Nicodemus comes to Jesus in darkness, where am I more confused in the darkness?
- What good news do I hold in myself that I need to lift up?

About the Service

Today's Music: The *Song of Petition* is from the *Liturgy of Grace*, text by Marilyn Biery and music by James Biery, © 2012 and used with permission.

Sound Tech

Nancy Jackson

Worship Coordinator

Kalu Uduma

Crucial Confrontations: During Lent, our sermon series will explore how Jesus' journey to the Passion creates confrontations: against mistreatment and injustice, and what keeps us trapped. During this season, our bulletin covers are paintings from African-American artists. Each picture has been selected as an illustration of the themes and topic on the day's scripture reading and sermon.

This Week's Announcements

There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 25th, immediately following worship, to receive report of the Nominating Committee to fill the final slot of the Deacons' Class of 2020. No other business may be discussed at the meeting.

Music at Fort Street presents **Audivi**, a professional vocal ensemble conducted by Noah Horn of Wayne State:
Friday, March 16 at 7:30 pm. Admission is \$15, \$5 for students, \$10 in advance from a Chorale member.

Peace Activities

There are two upcoming events promoting peace, justice, and interfaith cooperation:

- The **World Sabbath** will be held today, on Sunday, March 11, at 4:00pm, at Christ Church Cranbrook (470 Church Rd, Bloomfield Hills). Pastor Anne will be participating.
- The Detroit Interfaith Outreach Network will be hosting an **Interfaith Coffee Concert** at Fort Street on Sunday, March 18, from 3:00pm – 5:00pm. Tickets can be purchased in advance, contact 248-556-6316 or visit www.detroitinterfaith.org for info.

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### Meaning in a Moment Adult Ed Series

March 18

#### “Lord, Help Me to Pray”

Facilitated by Pastor Anne Lange

9:45 a.m.-10:45a.m.,

The Stapleton Chapel

All Are Welcome!

*“There is neither Jew nor Greek,  
slave nor free, male nor female,  
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”  
Galatians 3:28*

### Addressing Gun Violence

#### Prayer Service before “March for Our Lives”

**Saturday, March 24 • 9:00 A.M.**

**At Fort Street**

Fort Street, Northbrook Presbyterian Church, and the Presbyterian Youth Connection are planning a pre-march prayer service before the student-led March For Our Lives demonstrations. Join us for prayer, then time making signs, and then walk to the March for Our Lives at Rivard Plaza, 1340 Atwater St.; the march begins at 11 a.m.

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Exploring Presbyterianism Class

Do you want to learn more about our denomination, our theological tradition, and how we do our work as a church? Come join us after worship in the Upper Room on March 18 at 12:30 for a 45-minute conversation about our denomination and how we are structured as a church. This class is a great starting point to learn about becoming a member at Fort Street.

FSPC Prayer List

Lynne Bieniek, Marcus Bulloon, Nancy Combs, The Deeds family, Kevin Donley and family, Bobbie Edwards and family, Eunice Finch, Iola Jackson, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valorie Celeste Kimbrough, Marie Lynn, Kathy Payne and family, Teresa Sherwood and Kerri Rowland.

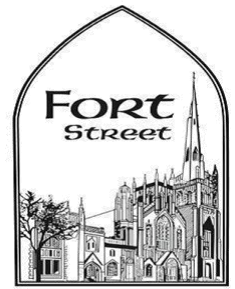
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### Prayers for Military Loved Ones

Jonathan Heyler USN; Ssgt Shanell Howard USAF; Maj. Michael Kurtti USAF; Capt. Theo Moran USAF; Lt. Mark Webster USAF.

**FSPC Mission Statement**

Fort Street Presbyterian Church is an oasis in an urban environment, building a caring Christian community where diversity is celebrated and programs are developed 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 Jesus Christ.



**Deacons Food Baskets**

On Palm Sunday the Deacons will be packing fifty Easter food baskets for families at our local schools, Harms and Mayberry. You can help by donating \$20 for a gift card for each basket. With this the family can purchase fresh items. Staple food items will come out of the Deacon's food pantry. However, we will need contributions of pasta and breakfast cereal so each basket will have a variety of nutritious food for the week of Easter break. Thank you for helping the Deacons take care of our neighbors. Be sure to come to the gym on Palm Sunday to help pack the baskets.

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

- Hearing-Assist System
- Wheelchair Access Ramp
- Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary
- Handicap-Accessible Restroom--use elevator to second floor
- Large-Print Bulletins are available in the narthex.

**Fort Street Staff**

**Church General Staff**

Alison Grosch            Operations Manager  
 Lola JFDavidson        Secretary  
 Jerry Johnson            Building Engineer  
 Darryl Reynolds        Parking and Custodian  
 Richard Echols

**Music at Fort Street**

Marilyn Biery            Director and Organist  
 Arianne Abela            Interim Chorale Conductor

**Donlin Center and Christian Education**

Judith Sheldon            Director  
 Karen Wright            Donlin Staff  
 Lakita Wyatt

**Open Door**

John Glover                Director  
 Shelia Williams         Floor Coordinator  
 James Anderson         Security  
 Herman Hall              Custodians  
 Damien Hines             Kitchen Aide / Cook  
 Jewell Everette  
 Reginald Byrd  
 Deborah Jones  
 Gleatus Jones            SCSEP

**Weddings at Fort Street**

Loretta Stanton            Coordinator  
 Vanessa Carthron  
 Austin Brantley            Wedding Assistants  
 Darryl Fowler

**Pastors:** Anne and Eric Lange • [pastor@fortstreet.org](mailto:pastor@fortstreet.org)

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

**Music Director Emeritus:** Edward Kingins