

7th Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Welcome friends in Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today and to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ. We extend a warm greeting of Christian Fellowship to you.

*Congregation standing for those who are able

The Words of Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Friendship pads and pass them back to the center aisle.

Our Approach to God

Prelude Prelude in D Major, BWV 532 J.S. Bach

The Call to Worship

We gather to worship God who so loved the world that he sent his one and only Son.

Christ died and rose from the grave that we might have eternal life. Thanks be to God!

This same Christ ascended into heaven and is seated at God's right hand.

He ascended that we might experience God's presence and power through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Praise be to God!

People of God, let us worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*The Hymn of Praise *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!* 144

*The Call to Confession

Seeing that we have a great High Priest, Jesus the Son of God, let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, that we may receive mercy and find grace. Let us confess our sins to God.

*The Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you raised Jesus from death to life and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not always bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. Too often, we have gotten involved with the things of this world and have gotten attached to what will not last. Too often, we have forgotten that we have been sent into the world, but not sent to be of the world. Lord, forgive us.
[Silent confession.]

O God, enable us by the power of your Spirit, to live our lives in a way that is worthy of the gospel, to the glory of the name that is above all names, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father – Jesus Christ, the righteous one. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. In Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

*The Response *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* 106
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His Name.

The Anthem *The Lord Ascendeth Up on High* *Michael Praetorius*
Chancel Choir

The Word of God

The Time with the Children

The First Gospel Reading John 17:6-19 page 149 NT

The Second Gospel Reading Luke 24:44-53 page 122 NT

The Sermon We Are God's Pastor Ruth Estell

Our Response to Serve

*The Affirmation of Faith The Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A #1

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

*The Hymn *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* 260

The Recognition of Graduates and Scholarship Recipients

2024 Graduates

Alex Fowler and Isaiah Sova

Scholarship Recipients

Ethan Hoeppner, Claire Rousseau, and Isaiah Sova

The Morning Prayers and the Lord's Prayer(using sins)

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.

The Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

The Offertory *Allegro from Symphony in D* William Boyce

*The Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* 592

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

*The Prayer of Dedication

*The Hymn *O Jesus, I Have Promised* – verses 1 & 4 388

*The Charge and Benediction

*The Congregational Response *Go with Us, Lord* 535

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to You.

*Postlude *Grand Choeur* Théodore Salomé

* Congregation Standing – for those who are able.

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Second Presbyterian Church

2665 Midland Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

Phone: (989) 792-1023

May 12, 2024



Seeking and Serving Christ. We are a Place for Growing Christians.

Liturgist : Karen Kalina

Ushers: Pete & Ginny Brucker, Natalie Martinez, and Tom Poole

Greeter: Beverly Briggs

Fellowship Hour: Christian Education Committee

Musical Talents: Thomas Heidenreich, Director of Music Ministry and the Chancel Choir

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Please join us immediately following worship in the gathering area for a celebration for the Graduates and Scholarship recipients with refreshments and fellowship.

NO 2nd @ Second today.

Announcements and Upcoming Event



On Pentecost – Wear Red!

We hope that you will wear the color red when you come to worship **NEXT Sunday**, May 19. It is the day we celebrate the giving of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Red symbolizes the “tongues of fire” that were seen that day. The Pentecost offering will be collected through May 19. Special envelopes are in the pews or mark your donation for Pentecost.

F.I.S.H.

On Communion Sundays, we invite you to bring non-perishable food items and personal care items. We do so knowing that it is our privilege to feed the hungry and care for the poor as we are fed and sustained by the grace of God. We will receive Communion on Pentecost Sunday, May 19.

Feeding Individuals



Sharing Hope

Summer Special Music



Would you like to help lead in worship this summer? This summer, while the choir is on break, I am looking for singers and instrumentalists to help with the special music. If you would like to play or sing during worship, please talk to me and we can arrange that. I am happy to accompany you, and can also help you find music if you are interested but aren't quite sure what would be appropriate. —Thomas Heidenreich 513-746-8876 / music@spcsaginaw.org

May Mission Project



National Foster Care Month is celebrated in May, and the Mission Committee has chosen to acknowledge this important subject by supporting "River Jordan, Inc.," located in Bay City, Michigan, and serving surrounding counties. River Jordan's mission statement reads: "to empower current and former foster youth to take responsibility of their own individual lives and become productive members of society." This is particularly important to those youth 18-21 years of age who have "aged out" of foster care and require "a safety net", including shelter and support services.

Pamphlets concerning River Jordan's mission and services will be available on the Mission table, and you may also explore their services online at www.riverjordan.org and view the YouTube video "I changed my story" of the founder's life story and how this organization came into being. Cash/check donations will be collected during the month of May. There are also volunteer opportunities (if interested, information and specifics found in website/pamphlet).

We need volunteers for the following:

Greeters – All June & July

Ushers – (2) for May 26 and (4) for all of June

Fellowship Hour – May 26 & all of June

Liturgist – June 9, 16, & 23

John 17:6-19 New International Version

⁶ "I have revealed you^{to} to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of^{to} your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by^{to} that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

¹³ "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴ I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by^{to} the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

Luke 24:44-53 New International Version

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.