



THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS
JOHN 1:5

January 10, 2021

THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PLYMOUTH, MI

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Emily Riley Campbell

OPENING PRAYER OF PRAISE & CONFESSION

Rev. Campbell

HYMN NO. **93**

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Darlene Maginley

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-5

Rev. Hovermale

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:5-7

Rev. Hovermale

SERMON

"The Light that Shines in the Darkness"

Ashley S. Ashley

MUSIC

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"

Louise Fisher, soloist

arr. John Ness Beck

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Ashley S. Ashley

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.

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

Ashley S. Ashley

January 2021 Worship Schedule

January 17 - "The Light of the World"

Rev. Campbell preaching; Music by Vocal Quartet

January 24 - "The Armor of Light"

Ashley S. Ashley preaching; Music by Geff Phillips

January 31 - "Being a Light"

Rev. Campbell preaching; Music by Fifth Season Ensemble

HYMN NO. 93 *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.
Praise the One who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing every dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word.
Praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.
From this well comes living water quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the One true love incarnate: Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory; praise the One who makes us one.



Thursday Evening Prayer and Devotions - January "1-2-3"

Friends, we will meet the first three Thursday evenings in January for a time of prayer and devotions. We will meet January 7, 14 and 21st at 8:30 p.m. To remember, just think of "1-2-3" !! Here's the Zoom link, we hope you can join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82201558529>

Please join us!

**Presbyterian Women discuss
“The Giver of Stars” by JoJo Moyes
7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 25**

Set in Depression-era America, a breathtaking story of five extraordinary women and their remarkable journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond.

Alice Wright marries handsome American Bennett Van Cleve, hoping to escape her stifling life in England. But small-town Kentucky quickly proves equally claustrophobic, especially living alongside her overbearing father-in-law. So when a call goes out for a team of women to deliver books as part of Eleanor Roosevelt’s new traveling library, Alice signs on enthusiastically.

The leader, and soon Alice's greatest ally, is Margery, a smart-talking, self-sufficient woman who has never asked a man's permission for anything. They will be joined by three other singular women who become known as the Packhorse Librarians of Kentucky.

What happens to them becomes an unforgettable drama of loyalty, justice, humanity, and passion. These heroic women refuse to be cowed by men or by convention. And though they face all kinds of dangers in a landscape that is at times breathtakingly beautiful, at other times brutal, they’re committed to their job: bringing books to people who have never had any, arming them with facts that will change their lives.

Based on a true story rooted in America’s past, *The Giver of Stars* is unparalleled in its scope and epic in its storytelling.

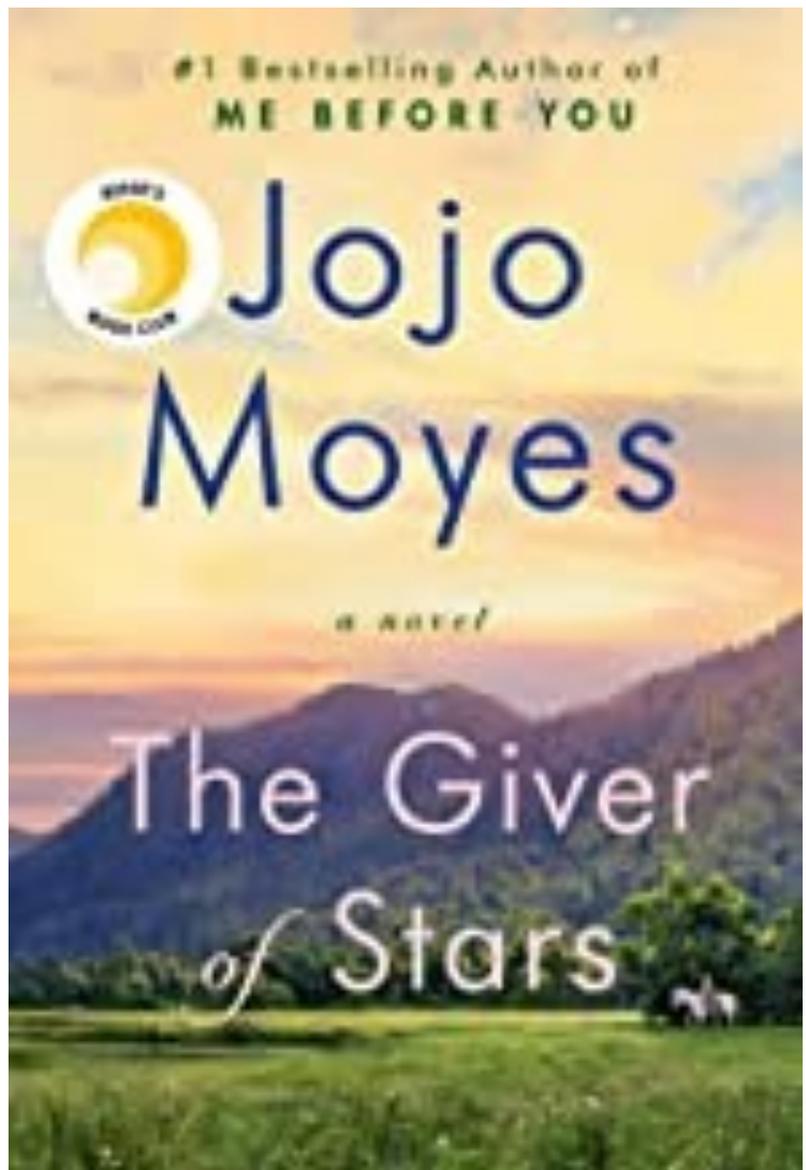
SOON TO BE A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE!

**Please join the discussion, beginning at
7:00 p.m. on Zoom
on Monday, January 25!**

Please contact Nancy White at

nancy.white795@gmail.com
for unique Zoom connection link
for this meeting

or call or text Nancy at 734-502-2831



Prayer Concerns

Please pray for the following church members and friends who are in special circumstances. In the listings below members' names will be printed in bold type. The names of family & friends will be printed in italic. Questions or concerns about the prayer list should be directed to prayerlist@fpcp.net. Names are only left in the bulletin for one month unless you call again or the office is aware of the circumstances.

Members

Joanne Cole **Don Dodge**
Sally Evans **Russ Hazen**
Gwyn Jones **Vic Rizzo**
Veralou Scott **Neil & Ingrid Sendelbach**
Sterling Shephard

Members In Assisted Living

Joyce Holmes **Barbara Mason**
Don Morgan **Lila & Doug Vincent**

Members Receiving

Long-term Care

Cynthia Alexander **Meera Martin**
Nancy Morman

Family & Friends of Members

Rachel Machnacki's *uncle* **Andreas**.
Jaxson Kujawski, great grandson of **Bev Bonser**
Sarah Wilder, mother of **Kurt Wilder**
Breanna, granddaughter of *Sue Scott*
Bud "Dewey" Burke, friend of **Rich & Dawn Rej**
Bill Hailey, friend of **Rich Rej**
Carrie Siivola, granddaughter of **Louise Tracey**
Michael Corey, brother of **Kay Bruner**
Karen Archer, sister **Darlene Maginley**
Lauren Budesky, granddaughter of **Veralou Scott**
James Steele, grandson of **Veralou Scott**
David Harden, brother of **Janet Townsend**
Rick Shingledecker, friend of **Ted & Lynne Porter**
Nancy Ver West, sister-in-law of **Ginny Weaver**
Erroll Houts, brother-in-law of **Rich Felcher & Jessie Hollingsworth**
Kevin Wright, son of **Pat Wright**
Bronn, grandson of *Ruth Azar*
Donna Corey, sister-in-law of **Kay Bruner**
Kim Strube Scartelli, daughter of **Jan Strube**
Dana Alper, niece of **Elizabeth Detter**
Dennis Dodge, brother of **Dorothy Simescu & Stu Dodge**
Adriana Sandoval Villalobos, friend of **Carol Dobos**

Praise & Thanksgiving

For the joy of **Kurt Wilder's** first grandchild, *Liana Cass Wilder-Mollison* born on December 19th at 8:00 am

Our Sympathies

- To the family of **Carol Packard**, who passed away on January 3, 2020.
- To **Darlene Maginley** and family, whose brother-in-law, *Charles Archer*, passed away on December 28, 2020.
- To **Kurt Wilder**, whose father, *Nathaniel Wilder*, passed away on December 19, 2020
- **Don and Margie Harris**, whose brother *Nick*, passed away on December 17, 2020.
- To **Klo Phillippi**, whose partner, *Don Fullenwider*, passed away on December 5, 2020.

*The floral arrangement contributed for Sunday, January 10,
is dedicated to the glory of God and...*

- ♦ In loving memory of our parents, Lester & Florence Kitchen and Anthony & Leona Becoskey, and our sisters, Shirley and Marlene, by Lester & Geraldine Kitchen



January 6, 2020

Dear Friends,

In last Sunday's parking lot service* I shared the story of a rather memorable Christmas card that our family received this year. When I first looked at this card, I thought this must be one of the world's most depressing Christmas cards.

The front cover of the card was simply a mess of crowded words all of which related to our experience of 2020. On that card were words like: Quarantine, Racial Tension, Furloughs, Layoffs, and Pandemic, Unemployment. The National Election made this list as did Climate Crisis, Virtual Learning, and descriptive words such as Chaos, Grief, Loneliness, Sadness, Disappointment, even Murder Hornets made this card's not so happy list.

I was ready to toss this depressing recap of 2020 into the trash when I finally opened the card and discovered a red piece of film inside. It took me a minute or two to realize that when you put the red piece of film over the crowded words found on the front cover, you suddenly could see an entirely different message that stood over and above all the other words of despair.

The message on the cover now read clearly, **"They shall call His name Emmanuel." Which means "God with Us". (Mt. 1:23b).**

This card which I believed to be among my least favorites quickly became one of my absolute favorites because of its strong message that God stands with us and does not go away. We are never alone and never without hope.

All of us at times lose sight of God in the crowded mess of our lives and world. In the darkness of January, it is very easy for us to feel isolated and alone. We can all too easily lose sight of the light of God's presence with us.

But the start of a new year is also a great time for us to remember that God's promise to be with us is not a promise for us to claim only at Christmas, but it is offered to us new every morning for great is God's faithfulness.

This new year, I pray that the light of God's presence would illuminate your darkness. Please remember that in whatever you are facing today that you are not alone. God stands with you and our entire church staff is praying for you. I pray that if you find yourself in need, please do not hesitate to reach out to me, to Ashley, to Mark. Sometimes a friend, a minister, a counselor can serve as the lens by which you see God more clearly.

Wishing you Christ's peace and joy in this new year,
Emily

***Last Sunday's parking lot sermon and whole of our Epiphany Sunday service is now available for you to watch on-line through our church's website. Within this service, you will also find directions on how to obtain your new star word for a new year.**

News & Announcements

As we begin a new year, what a gift we could give each other if we consider what we are being called to do. Our God of Creation has some things to say to us. Life on this planet is not simply breathing, but about connecting with others. God expects us to respect, learn from, treat fairly all of Life here, to confront our prejudices against other people and other forms of Life....and to change our ways. The best of this Life focuses primarily on the common good.

We encourage you to read more from 'A Commentary: I Can't Breathe' by Rev. Dr. Dave Wasserman, published in the Presbyterian for Earth Care blog on 9/11/2020. We are sharing this link with Rev. Wasserman's permission.

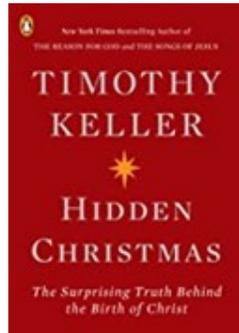
[Presbyterians for Earth Care: A Commentary: I Can't Breathe \(presbyearthcare.blogspot.com\)](http://presbyearthcare.blogspot.com)

Early Word

invites you to join their next Bible Study, Hidden Christmas: The Surprising Truth Behind the Birth of Christ by Timothy Keller .

Purchase the book and meet us online at 7:45 a.m. on Wednesday mornings to discuss the reading.

Contact Sue Kage at skage@comcast.net or 248-755-7648 for further information and Zoom link.



Did you make a New Years resolution to strengthen your relationship with God? Perfect!

Come join one of the small groups with the Women of the Word Bible Study meeting every Wednesday online at either 9:30 or 10:00 a.m.

We are currently discussing the Sunday sermons in groups of 8 to 12 women using questions formulated by our ministers. We welcome women who want to grow their faith and be part of a praying community.

Contact Sue Kage at skage@comcast.net or 248-755-7648 for further information and small group assignment.

Fitness in Christ Nutritional Zoom Presentation

Would you like to eat healthier in the New Year?

Denise Stewart, R.D., is partnering with Fitness in Christ for a nutrition presentation via Zoom on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Learn practical tips for healthier meals and snacks; the pros and cons of fitness trackers; and more!

Donations: We are blessed to have Denise donate her time and expertise, so there is no cost to the church for her services. In lieu of charging for this class, Fitness in Christ has been collecting financial donations for the Second Mile Center. Making a donation is entirely optional, but if you feel called to make a contribution, please go to <http://www.fpcp.net/give> for several payment options. Please be sure to designate your donation for Fitness in Christ.

Date and Time: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Join the Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/6498876428?pwd=dk00Y3hYT242ZSt1UTNKc2k2WkJNdz09>

This Week at Our Church

Sunday, January 10

9:30am Online Church Service (www.fpcp.net/resources/sermons)

10:30am Confirmation Class

12:00pm High School Youth Group

5:30pm Continuing the Word Bible Study

7:00pm Listening to Jesus: Responding in Faith Bible Study

Tuesday, January 12

9:30am Staff Prayer/Meeting

6:00pm Christian Nurture Mtg

7:00pm Finance Meeting

7:00pm PW Horizons Bible Study

7:00pm Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Wednesday, January 13

7:30am Early Word Bible Study

9:30am Women of the Word Bible Studies

10:00am Women of the Word Bible Studies

6:30pm Middle School Youth Group

7:00pm Joyful Ringers

Thursday, January 14

7:00pm Deacons Meeting

8:30pm Thursday Evening Prayer and Devotions

Saturday, January 16

8:00am Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

10:00am SESSION MEETING

Sunday, January 17

9:30am Online Church Service (www.fpcp.net/resources/sermons)

Looking ahead... <http://fpcp.net/connect/church-calendar>

OUR STAFF

Ministry

Emily Riley Campbell - Senior Minister
emilycampbell@fpcp.net; ext.113

Dr. James Skimins - Minister Emeritus

Ashley S. Ashley - Associate Minister
ashleyashley@fpcp.net; ext. 112

**Mark Hovermale -
Pastor for Youth & Early Adults**
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**Darlene Maginley -
Dir. Of Children's Ministry**
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**Stewart Dodge
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**Susan Underhill
Communication Administrator**
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**Julie Thompson
Information Administrator**
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**Beth Hurley
Childcare Coordinator**
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**Hussein Latif
Church Partnership Coordinator**
Mtenthera CCAP
husseinltf@yahoo.co.uk

Music

**Jerry Smith
Director of Music**
jerrysmith@fpcp.net; ext.119

**Geff Phillips
Upper Room Music Director**

**Susan C. Scott
Organist**

**Sharon K. Smith
Accompanist**



We are a family of faith, called to celebrate God's message of love and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. Guided by the living Word of God, we nurture one another through worship, prayer, teaching and fellowship. Led by the Holy Spirit, we reach out with hearts and hands to those in need, seeking to inspire hope in an ever-changing community and world.
(FPCP Vision Statement)

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