

Announcements

NEXT SUNDAY, March 11: 10:00 Worship (One Great Hour of Sharing offering) (Daylight Savings Time begins); 11:00 Refreshments; 11:30 Adult Sun. School & Confirmation Class

March 5: Fellowship Guild @ 6:00 PM at the church

LENTEN WEDNESDAY SERVICES: We join with Good Shepherd Lutheran

6:00 pm Soup Supper — 7:00 pm Holy Communion Worship

March 7 at Good Shepherd; March 14 at PLUC

March 21 at Good Shepherd

Suggestion for Angel Mission donation: Canned Soup

Helping Hands: \$680.00 on hand

Feb. Candle Volunteer: Volunteer needed

Weekly Calendar

Mon: 9-10 Conversational English... 10-12 ESL tutoring... 12-1 AA...

5:00-6:00 12-Step Centering Prayer

Tues: 11:30-12:30 ESL tutoring... 12-1 OA... 5-6:45 aerobics... 7-8 AA

Wed: 12-1 AA... 1-2 ESL tutoring... 5-6 Centering Prayer... 7-8 NA

Thurs: 10-12 Internat'l Neighbors... 5-6:45 aerobics... 5:15-6:45 AA... 5:30-8
Susie's music lessons

Fri: 9:30-11:00 church is cleaned... 12-1 AA... 5:15-6:45 AA

Sat: 9-10 AA... 10:30-11:30 Susie's music lessons

Sun: 10 Worship; 11 Fellowship; 11:30 study hour... 6-7 NAR-ANON

SUNDAY, March 11—Greeter: Barb Brookhouse; Usher: Nancy Byers Sprague;
Sermon on the Rug: Eric Byykkonen; Prayer Writer: Fred Quivik; Refreshments:
Fred Quivik, Karen Hubbard; Nursery: Barb Brookhouse

Serving this Morning: Presider: The Rev. Melinda Quivik; Musician: Susie Byykkonen

Lector: Nancy Byers Sprague; Communion: Barb Brookhouse, Fred Quivik

Greeter: Lois Jambekar; Usher: Barb Brookhouse;

Sermon on the Rug: Rev. Melinda Quivik; Prayer Writer: Rev. Peter Norland;

Refreshments: Nancy Byers Sprague, Dianne Sprague; Nursery: Lois Jambekar

For personal reflection in the coming week:

The third Sunday of Lent focuses on the gift of God's law (Exod. 20:1-17). John Calvin (1509-1564) said that the Ten Commandments: 1) show us how to live before God and neighbor, 2) instruct our civic or common life, 3) show us how we should live because we have already received God's grace and love in Jesus Christ. Does God's law restrict or enhance our freedom as human beings?

1400 E. Houghton Ave, Houghton, MI — 906-482-5224 — office@pluc.org — www.pluc.org
OFFICE HRS: 8-11 am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri; PASTOR'S OFFICE HRS: 9-noon Thurs or by appt

Portage Lake United Church

Presbyterian Church (USA) & United Church of Christ
March 4, 2018



Third Sunday in Lent, Year B

HYMNS: BLUE = *Presbyterian Hymnal*

GREEN = *Sing a New Creation*

✙ Please stand if you are able

Welcome & Announcements

Meditation

Inner silence is very hard to achieve for most of us: close your eyes for a moment and observe what is going on within you. The chances are you will be submerged in a sea of thoughts that you are powerless to stop...
(Anthony de Mello)

Moment of Silence

Prelude

GATHERING *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

✙ OPENING WORDS/CALL TO WORSHIP

The message of the cross sounds foolish to the world;
But to us it is the power of God!

We proclaim the scandal of Christ crucified.

**The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than our strength.**

✙ Hymn: God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens **BLUE #268**

✙ Prayer of The Day

✙ Call to Confession

✦ Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we are vulnerable and weak without your power to help us. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us for the idols we construct. Forgive us for failing to honor all our relationships—those close to us and those who are distant neighbors. Let your commandments rule and guide us. Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness, rather than words that belittle or destroy. Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness. You are the God who made us, led us out slavery, and has brought us into the community of faith. Help us to depend on you alone and to rest in your peace that your joy may be ours; in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

✦ The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us greet each other with a sign of God's peace.

Children of God, we are the body of Christ.

By one spirit we were baptized into one body.

Keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Amen. We are bound by the love of Christ.

WORD *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

Minute for Mission

Sermon on the Rug for Children of All Ages

First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

✦ Gospel Reading

John 2:13-22

Sermon

Moment of Silence

✦ Hymn: I Danced in the Morning

BLUE #302

RESPONSE *We respond to the Word with Thanksgiving and Prayer.*

Offering Invitation

Offering Hymn: Jesus, Remember Me

GREEN #143

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

Prayer of Intercession

MEAL *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

Setting the Table

Invitation to Communion

✦ Great 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.

✦ Prayer of Our Savior

BLUE pg. 16 (ecumenical)

Communion Distribution

Communion is by intinction. If you wish to remain seated, please indicate to a server that you would like the elements brought to you.

Hymn: Eat This Bread

GREEN #254

Prayer after Communion

SENDING *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

✦ Hymn: How Great Thou Art

BLUE #467

✦ Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Next Sunday's scripture passages to read in preparation for worship:
Number 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 12-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21