

FIRST (PARK) CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Third Sunday after Epiphany



January 22, 2023

Order of Worship for January 22, 2023

Gathering and Centering - 10:15am

Announcements - 10:25am

Sanctuary Worship - 10:30am

Gathering Music

Phyllis Ann Miner, organ

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Darryl Kistler

Prelude

Allegro

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

+ Call To Worship

Reading Responsively

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

All: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One: As we behold the beauty of God's temple, we see God's face.

All: God is our shelter and our shade. We will sing to the God of our salvation!

+ Hymn of Praise - No. 401

Here in This Place

Tune: GATHER US IN

+ Opening Prayer

+ Chimes

Blessing of the Children and Youth

Anthem

The Chancel Choir

Then Will the Very Rocks Cry Out

(based on Luke 19:40)

Mark Hayes

If we keep our voices silent, all creation will rise and shout.

If we fail to praise Creator, then will the very rocks cry out.

*From the corners of creation come the people of the Living God.
Every tongue and every nation gather now to praise the Lord!*

*From a world of tribulation come and let your voice be raised.
Join us now in congregation. Let the living God be praised.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, unto You we offer praise.
Alleluia, alleluia, this song of joy to God we raise.
Alleluia, alleluia, in the heavens angels sing.
Alleluia, alleluia, give glory to the most-high King!*

*If we keep our voices silent, all creation will rise and shout.
If we fail to praise Creator, then will the very rocks cry out.
Alleluia, alleluia, Amen!*

The Prayers of the People and Our Savior's Prayer

concluding, the congregation prays in unison:

...Our Father/Mother/God, 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.

Choral Response

The Chancel Choir
Commit Your Way to Christ the Lord
Tune: GUILSBOROUGH

*Commit your way to God the Lord;
to peace and truth and grace aspire;
then mercy shall be your reward;
God's promises, your heart's desire.*

Scripture Reading

1st Corinthians 12:12-31
Janet Mitchell, liturgist

One: The Word of God for the People of God...
All: Thanks be to God.

Glory be to the Father (Creator),
and to the Son (Christ) and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen, amen.

“The State of Park Church”

Rev. Darryl Kistler

Meditation

Phyllis Ann Miner, organ
Meditation
L. N. Porter

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

Vincent Frank, tenor
Called as Partners in Christ's Service
Arr. Vincent Frank

*Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment, fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.*

*Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.*

*So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.*

+ Doxology - No. 606

Praise God, From Who All Blessings Flow

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him (God) all creatures here below;
Praise him (God) above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
(Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost). Amen.**

+ Prayer of Dedication

Reading in Unison

**God of glory,
as people brought gifts to the infant Jesus,
we bring our gifts to you.
May these gifts be used
to lift up those who are oppressed,
to bring deliverance to those who are in need,
to support those who are poor,
and to help those who are in trouble. Amen.**

+ Hymn - No. 694

Great God of Every Blessing

Tune: AURELIA

+ Our Common Commission

**Let us now go forth into the world in peace; being of good courage;
holding fast to that which is good; rendering to no one evil for evil;
strengthening the faint hearted; supporting the weak; helping the
afflicted; honoring all people; loving and serving the Lord and rejoicing
in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Postlude

Phyllis Ann Miner, organ

Let All Who Have Breath Praise the Lord!

Douglas E. Wagner

Thank you for joining us this morning!

We'd like to know that you were here, answer any questions you have, and support you in prayer. Please fill out the information card and place it in the offering plate.

Join us downstairs in Merriam Hall after worship for coffee, cookies, and fellowship following the Annual Budget Meeting. Mary Raab invites all interested handcrafters to join her in an impromptu workbee during the coffee hour. Please bring whatever project you are working on. She'll save you a seat!

Annual Budget Meeting 2023

January 22 following worship

This is official announcement of the First (Park) Congregational Church Annual Budget Meeting to be held today in the Sanctuary following the worship service. Copies of the budget statement are available in the Narthex.

Contact Gene Gess, finance director (ggess@parkchurchgr.org) for more information.

P. O. P. Puzzle Exchange

Sundays, January 22 and 29 after worship

There are a number of puzzle aficionados in our Park Church family and we invite you all to a puzzle swap! Select a few puzzles you are willing to part with, bring them to church, and exchange them for “new” ones at the P. O. P. table in Allinder Commons this week and next week. February can be a little bit brighter for everyone if we share our puzzles! Make sure your puzzles are in good condition and with all of the pieces please!

Joys and Concerns

Please keep Ruth McCarty in your prayers. Pray for successful reverse shoulder replacement surgery, January 24, and good recovery and healing. 2510 Lake Michigan Drvie NW, B307, Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

Lloyd Winer has been hospitalized for surgery related to a fall. He is hoping to be discharged to rehabilitation soon. Please send your cards to Greg and Sue for quick delivery. 2134 Innwood SE, Kentwood, MI 49508.

Please keep Sue and Greg Winer in your prayers. Sue's mother, Bev VanDuinen, is in hospice care at Rose Garden. You may send messages of support to 2134 Innwood SE, Kentwood, MI 49508.

Please pray for those managing illness and treatment: including: Dave Haebich, Steve Jasperse, Christine McMullin, and Bill Smith.

Remember those serving in the military including: Joe Birkhold, Jesse Campbell, Kit Grant, Andy MacGregor, Stefan Pawelka, and Matthew Quick.

The Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the Altar are in loving memory of
Miss Geraldine Masters and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. Parks Masters

The flowers on the Children's Altar are
in honor of all the children.
Given by Kathy Miller.

Sanctuary Flowers: If you would like to mark an occasion by
dedicating flowers, contact Marcia Streeter. (mabiti1@gmail.com)

Bible Study: Gospel of Mark led by Pastor Darryl
Wednesdays from January 18 - Mid-May
7:00 - 8:00pm via ZOOM

Join us for a bible study focused on the Gospel of Mark. If you are ready for an in-depth discussion of one of the earliest known Gospel texts, this is the class for you. The 16 chapters of this, the shortest of the four Gospels, focus on the ministry of Jesus. Pastor Darryl will guide a close reading of the book sharing historical and cultural context to help you expand your understanding and appreciation of this familiar story. This class will meet using ZOOM. The link is in Congregationalist newsletter or contact the office.

Burning of the Palms
Sunday, January 29 at 4:00pm

Everyone is invited to join the youth group for the annual Burning of the Palms. We will meet at the Paul and Beth Kelly home at 4:00 for a liturgical and fellowship experience as we burn the palms from last Palm Sunday and ready the ashes for use on the upcoming Ash Wednesday. Please dress for the weather, bring your own chairs and plan to stay for about an hour. 6669 Egypt Valley Rd, Rockford, MI 49341

Pastor Darryl's Installation Service
Sunday, February 5 at 3:00pm

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Service of Installation for Rev. Darryl Kistler!

Installation is the liturgical celebration of the covenantal relationship among the ordained minister, the local church, and the Association. It is a sign that these covenantal partners are committed to share mutually in the mission of the United Church of Christ and of the ecumenical church.

The message will be delivered by The Rev. Dr. Daniel Deleon of Friends Congregational United Church of Christ in College Station, Texas. You are all invited to attend along with conference representatives, guests and friends in support and celebration of this significant moment for our church. A fellowship reception will follow in Merriam Hall.

Clergy are invited to wear robes and/or stoles as you are moved and as is your tradition. If you intend to process, please arrive at 2:40. The color of the day is red.

Love is All, Love is You: The Spirituality of the Beatles Led by Charley Honey

Thursdays, February 2, 9, and 16 from 6:30-7:30pm

The music of the Beatles “remains fresh and vital to listeners across a wide spectrum of age, race and religion. And, their message continues to connect in a way that is not at all religious but is deeply and spiritually resonant....In the Beatles’ songbook, the concept of love recurs not just as a romantic feeling between two people, but as a force that, if truly lived out, could change the world.” ~ Charley Honey

Each week will focus on a theme: Beatlemania, the middle (maturing) years, and the studio years. The program includes video clips of Beatles songs and performances, discussion of their songs’ messages and values, and audience reflections on what the Beatles’ music has meant to them.

Highly regarded as a freelance writer, Charley Honey specializes in issues of faith, values, education and spirituality. He retired from the Grand Rapids Press in 2015 after 20 years as a columnist on faith and values and is currently a staff writer for School News Network, an online publication covering public schools in Kent County.

Days For Girls Kit Creation Days

Tuesday, February 7 at 5:30

Days for Girls Rockford South Michigan Team will be hosting “kit creation days” in Merriam Hall in 2023 and we are calling all Park Church women and men to help!

Without access to safe and affordable period products, women and girls experience health concerns, stigma and shame, and are challenged by chronic absenteeism, wage loss and learning difficulties. Join us to find out more about this ministry, how it impacts women and girls around the world and how you can participate...sewing is just one way!

Come ready to pin, cut, sew or serge as we make Days for Girls kit components. No experience necessary...we will show you step by step! Watch the Congregationalist Newsletter for more information and ways to help.

Grand Rapids Youth Chorus Mandala Concert Saturday, January 28 at 7:00pm

Mandala is the premier treble ensemble of the Grand Rapids Youth Chorus. Comprised of 16 high school singers led by GRYC Artistic Director Leah Ivory, Mandala will be presenting their first solo concert at Park Church on Saturday, January 28 at 7:00pm.

The program includes *The Peace of Wild Things*, a setting of the celebrated Wendell Berry poem by Sean Ivory, *Will the Circle Be Unbroken* arranged by David Moore, and several selections by Arvo Pärt. Mandala singers include Park Church youth Laura DeBoer and Sparrow Hamm. The concert is free. A goodwill offering will be taken to support the choruses.

From the Church Historian

Fritz Crabb is working to develop a history of the Advent and Christmas decorations at Park. At some point the Park Couples (now Park Partners) took over the Sanctuary decorations and the Park Church Women decorated the rest of the church. The PWC decorations seem to be well documented, but any records for a group called Park Couples is missing.

Fritz is working to develop an oral history of the decorations with a few members. **If you would like to add anything or be a part of the oral history discussion** please email Fritz at heritage@parkchurchgr.org or call him at 616-4816207.

Fritz is coming in most Wednesday mornings to organize and digitize important Park documents. He would like to thank member Andrew Taylor for several weeks of help. Andrew is unable to continue on Wednesdays due to a new job (very good news), but is squeezing some other times during the week. We could use another set of hands. **If you would like to help** please contact Fritz at heritage@parkchurchgr.org or call him at 616-481-6207. If you have a laptop with Excel, data entry in already developed files would be very helpful. If not, there is certainly other work to do.

Park Church Calendar

- Sun. Jan. 22** Sanctuary Worship - Rev. Darryl Kistler, Senior Minister
Annual Budget Meeting will take place in the Sanctuary following the service.
Living Wall Pictures and Puzzle exchange in Allinder Commons.
- Mon. Jan. 23** - Staff Retreat. The office is closed.
- Wed. Jan. 25 at 4:00pm** - Mobile Food Pantry
- Wed. Jan. 25 at 7:00pm** - Bible Study on Mark led by Pastor Darryl via Zoom.
- Thurs. Jan. 26 at 6:00pm** - Free Chair Yoga
- Sat. Jan. 28 at 7:00pm** - Grand Rapids Youth Chorus Mandala Concert
- Sun. Jan. 29** Sanctuary Worship - Rev. Darryl Kistler, Senior Minister
Puzzle Exchange in Allinder Commons
Burning of the Palms at 4:00pm at the Paul and Beth Kelly home.
- Wed. Feb 1 at 7:00pm** - Bible Study on Mark led by Pastor Darryl via Zoom.
- Thurs. Feb. 2 at 6:00pm** - Free Chair Yoga
- Thurs. Feb. 2 at 6:30pm** - Charley Honey, guest speaker
- Sun. Feb. 5** Sanctuary Worship - Communion Sunday
Rev. Darryl Kistler, Senior Minister
Find out more about Days for Girls at the P. O. P. table in Allinder Commons.
- Sun. Feb. 5 at 3:00pm** - Service of Installation of Rev. Darryl Kistler as our Senior Minister.
- Tues. Feb. 7 at 5:30pm** - Days for Girls Kit Creation Day
- Tues. Feb. 7 at 6:30pm** - Board of Deacons Meeting
- Wed. Feb 8 at 7:00pm** - Bible Study on Mark led by Pastor Darryl via Zoom.
- Thurs. Feb. 9 at 6:00pm** - Free Chair Yoga
- Thurs. Feb. 9 at 6:30pm** - Charley Honey, guest speaker
- Sun. Feb. 12** Sanctuary Worship - Rev. Darryl Kistler, Senior Minister
Souper Bowl Sunday. Ofield Ten will be selling soup after worship.
- Tues. Feb. 14 at 7:00pm** - Board of Trustees Meeting
- Wed. Feb. 15 at 10:00am** - Park Church Women board meeting
- Wed. Feb 15 at 7:00pm** - Bible Study on Mark led by Pastor Darryl via Zoom.
- Thurs. Feb. 16 at 6:00pm** - Free Chair Yoga
- Thurs. Feb. 16 at 6:30pm** - Charley Honey, guest speaker



IN THE CITY FOR THE CITY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



We are an Open and Affirming Congregation

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

Serving With You Today

Ushers: Bob Nichols, Paul Davison, Doug Rubingh, Jim Butler, Mike Mitchell,

Greeters: Pat Schaub, Colleen Czarnecki

Parking Lot Greeter: Bill Streeter

Sound: Sam Johnson

Video: Kevin Arnett

Flower Care: Nancy Beaver

Nursery: Liz Ferrier, Jerika Kihn, Gyl Hondorp

Little Lambs: Sarah Kugler, Alexia Dominguez

Pre-K & K: Lori Riegling, Mary Hoksbergen

Grades 1, 2 & 3: Laura Barnum, Amy Rains

Grades 4 & 5: Megan Cottrell, Jason King

Carol Choir: Cheryl Wells

Cantando and Chapel Choirs: Heidi Hertel, Vonda Karnazes

Middle School: Kristin Bofysil, Heidi Hertel

High School: Gregg Hampshire

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www.facebook.com/parkchurchgr

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616-459-3203



Access the online donor and
payment portal by using the
camera on your phone and
clicking the link that appears.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday from 9:00 - 4:00.

The wifi password is parkchurchguest.