

Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church

Serving Christ in the Heart of Detroit



July 25, 2021 | 10:30am

8625 East Jefferson Avenue | Detroit, Michigan | www.japc.org | 313-822-3456

Welcome to Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church

Whether you are visiting for the first time, or are a longtime member, it is meaningful that we can share worship together in God's house.

In scripture, Jesus invites all people to love God, love one another, and to love our neighbors. We take this invitation seriously. It means we strive to be a faith community that is diverse and hospitable, just like the kingdom of God. We don't all look, act, and think the same. We ask and wrestle with different questions. We carry different burdens. We offer different gifts. And when we enter these doors each Sunday, we remember that in worship God makes us one.

When we gather among these old stones in church, we do Sunday mornings in some traditional ways. We listen to scripture together. We study God's word for us. We sing some hymns our grandparents sang and some new ones too. In our preaching and our prayers, we engage our faith with the realities of our modern world and our lives within it. My hope is that you sense God's presence among us and you experience something meaningful to you, whether a moment of compassion, a sense of hope, a call to action, or simply a nudging toward a deeper relationship with God.

Our church life has been continually adjusting to the reality of a pandemic world and we continue to adapt as best we can to promote wellbeing and safety for one another. Worship is online and in the sanctuary. Some opportunities to connect are online and some are in person. These options will continue. Our hope is that we can grow more connected as a community faith, however we are able to do so.

We are blessed by your presence today. We want to get to know you. If there is a way that I or a church member can help you feel at home, let us know. I imagine that you will find that you belong.

Matthew Nickel
Pastor

Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

Welcome to worship at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church.

As the Prelude begins, we invite you into a time of quiet reflection as we prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

"Prelude"

Frederick Chopin

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT SOLO

"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"

Charles Gabriel

+ CALL TO WORSHIP: *A Litany for Looking After Each Other*

As Christ has taught us, we care for each other,

We care for little ones, the poor, the sick,

As Christ has taught us, we care for each other,

We care for the imprisoned, the lonely, the stranger,

Help us to be compassionate to one another,

Compassionate listeners, do-ers, helpers, teachers,

Help us to remember:

It is us who are poor, lonely, and sick.

Help us to remember:

It is us whose bonds need breaking.

Open our hearts as we worship you Lord.

+ HYMN GTG (*please see insert*)

"Faith Begins by Letting Go"

Lux Prima

+ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of concern, Lord of compassion,

When flood waters rise and when hungers increase,

You look after us.

When our hearts break and our trust is broken,

You look after us.

When we fail you and fail one another,

You look after us.

Forgive us when we resist compassion, empathy, and care.

Forgive us when we ignore what is poor, lonely, and sick in ourselves.

Forgive us when we disregard the needs of our neighbor.

Hear our prayer and make us whole...

Silent Confession

+ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God turns to the world with grace and mercy. Hear and believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made whole.

+ SONG OF RESPONSE Hymn No. 104 “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.

In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Ruth 1:6-22 (O.T. page 241)

*This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

SERMON “Someone Like Me: Ruth”

Rev. Matthew Nickel

SOLO “All That Matters”

Eliot Kennedy/Gary Barlow

OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Offerings can be made in an Offering Box at church or online at www.japc.org/give

+ DOXOLOGY Hymn No. 592

“Praise, God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Old One Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God, above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

+ HYMN No. 282 “If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee” *Wer Nur Den Lieben Gott*

+ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Trumpet Tune”

John Carter

The Postlude is the last act of Worship. You are invited to listen and reflect.

+ Congregation standing if able

Announcements

You are welcome here. You belong here: A special welcome goes to guests and visitors. Our hope is that you feel like you belong, in this faith community.

Notes & Worship Participants – Deacon of the Day: Patty Sunisloe. Liturgist: Jenny King. Soloist: Katy Kujala. Usher: Rodney Burlett and Sharon Lawson. The Call to Worship is adapted from “Litany for Looking After Each Other” by Fran Pratt from *Call and Response* (Outpost Press). Prayer of Confession was written by Rev. Matthew Nickel.

Prayer Requests – Let your Deacons pray with and for you. You may send your prayer requests to the Deacons using prayer@japc.org or you can also call prayer requests to the church office and Pastor Matt at 313-822-3456.

The Board of Deacons encourages prayers for Jeff Adams, Marieke Allen, the family of Gil Baker, Alice Bancroft, Fred Black, Wanda Black, Jan Brengman, Donna Burt, Mardi Carruthers, Leslie Chamas, Anna Cherven, Tony Foust, Brian Head, Sue Head, Ken Holden, the Itchon family, Priscilla Kelsey, Phillip Kent, Chris Klinger, the Krage family, Diane Larsen, Phyllis May, Eleanor Mobley, Norma Perry, Fred Roberts, Marjorie Stahl, Johnnie Walker II, JAPC military; Capt. Michael Boyle, for people ill from Covid-19 and medical workers, the scientific community, people who’ve lost jobs or businesses, social service and relief workers, and all who are supporting those affected by the coronavirus. **Please sign the Circle of Care Card (*in the Tower foyer*) for Alice Bancroft (99th birthday on July 15) and Anne Thomas (90th birthday and recovery from knee surgery).**

Someone Like Me - This Summer, we will hear the stories of many people in the Bible. In August, worship will focus on a different person in scripture. Each person can remind us of ways that God relates to people through all the realities of human life.

Free Food Distributions on Fridays - JAPC is distributing food every Friday at 11:00am in the church parking lot. JAPC gives bags of dry pantry goods with some fruits, vegetables and dairy and 175 dinners (feeds 4-6 people) to any who may find it helpful. Distribution is “contactless”. All food is first come, first serve, so arrive promptly. **VOLUNTEERS:** Sign up online at <https://bit.ly/JAPCFood>.

Free Picture & Young Adult Books on Fridays - A generous donation of books was made available to the Mission Committee at JAPC through The Grosse Pointe Public School System and Elementary Media Specialist, Amy Herman. We received over 30 boxes of books that we will make available to our guests on Fridays and anyone that wants picture and YA books for friends and family. Research has consistently shown that reading over the summer helps ease the "summer slump" for many students. The Mission Committee is excited to make the books available for summer reading!

Family Bible Camp for all ages (toddlers to teens) will be held three evenings on the front lawn from 6:30-8pm on July 26-28. Please pick up a flyer for details or contact Kathy Chateau, kathy@japc.org.

Online Prayer Group - Close your day with a short prayer service from the Book of Common Worship. Together, we offer prayers for our church, community, and world. The service is held on the second and forth Thursdays of the month (August 12 & 26) at 7:00pm on Zoom. For video go to: <http://bit.ly/japcprayerservice>. Meeting ID: 869 7656 7804 Passcode: 123 - to participate by phone dial 312-626-6799, enter Meeting ID: 869 7656 7804 and use Passcode: 123

All Church Read: Love Does - The Parish Life team invites you to do some summer reading together! Over the Summer, phrase a copy of Love Does by Bob Goff and start reading! We recommend purchasing your book through Source Booksellers or use a link to the book on Amazon <http://bit.ly/lovedoesbobgooff>. We'll have a book discussion in August on a date to be determined.

Other Opportunities

Sunday Morning Ushers Needed - Sign up to welcome, greet, and help people find their way before worship. Details and sign-up: <http://bit.ly/japcusherssignup> or call or email Margie (margie@japc.org) in the church office.

Summer Coffee Hosts Needed - Would you be a Coffee Host after worship on a Sunday morning? All you need is a welcoming, friendly smile (and maybe a few cookies too). Sign up online at <http://bit.ly/japcsummerhost>.

Returnable Collections - In the Tower Entryway that is a bin for collecting returnable cans and bottles. Church members and friends in the community are invited to share their rinsed returnables. Over the years the proceeds have contributed to projects led by the Board of Deacons. Consider putting your returnables to work for the ministry of the church.

Amazon Smile - If you shop on Amazon, JAPC can earn 0.5% of eligible Amazon purchases if a user designates Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian church as their designated charity. All you have to do is visit smile.amazon.com and enter Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church in the search box and select it as your charity. Purchases have to be made using the Amazon Smile portal.

Kroger Community Rewards program benefits JAPC. To enroll (you will need the church's ID number [BL037] and your Kroger Plus Card), go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com or contact Kroger Customer Service at 1-800-576-4377. Every time you use your Kroger Plus Card, a portion of the proceeds will go directly to JAPC.

The Staff at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church

Pastor — Rev. Matthew Nickel (matt@japc.org)

Church Secretary — Margie Uysal (margie@japc.org)

Bookkeeper — Phyllis May (phyllis@japc.org)

Director of Children's Ministry & Tutoring TREE — Kathy Chateau (kathy@japc.org)

Children's Caregiver — Meghan Fiscus

Director of Music and Organist — Stephen Warner (stephen@japc.org)

Carillonneur — Jenny King

Building Manager — Larry Gannan (larry@japc.org)

Custodian — David "Milton" Holt