

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 14, 2024

BREAD, BATH & BEYOND

“Thankful for the  
pathways behind us,  
looking to the future  
before us,  
Guided by the Spirit  
among us, standing at  
the dawn of the day.”  
—Ken Medema



Beyond Belief

First Presbyterian Church of Mount Clemens  
invites you to  
“Come as a guest, leave as family.”

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**BOLD TEXT** – All participate  
\* - Stand if you are able  
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**January 14, 2024**  
**Second Sunday After Epiphany**

**GATHERING**

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mike Ethier

CHORAL INTROIT      *“Standing on the Edge of tomorrow”*

Standing on the edge of tomorrow, standing on the edge of adventure,  
Standing in the place of discov’ry, learning every step on the way.  
Thankful for the pathways behind us, looking to the future before us,  
Guided by the Spirit among us, standing at the dawn of the day.  
Standing at the dawn of the day.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP-** Unison

**God Beyond our Knowing and yet right here in our midst, grow us  
beyond our narrow beliefs into your expansive vision for our future.  
Guide us, Holy Spirit, Nudge us, Teacher Jesus. Love us, Holy One.  
Amen.**

**\*THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ, the Dawn of the New Day, be with you now!  
**And also with you**

**\*OPENING SONG**

**“Be Thou My Vision**

**#339**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Jeanette Armstrong

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS

One: Gracious and Loving God, we thank You for those who have made these prayer shawls to comfort those who are sick or in time of need.

**All: May all those who participated in the creation of these shawls be warmed by their act of giving. May all those who deliver these shawls do so knowing that this work is done in Your name. May all those who receive shawls be ever comforted knowing that You are divine.**

One: May these shawls be a tangible sign of our support.

**All: Lord God, we know that Your Holy Spirit is here with us this day. We humbly ask Your continued blessings upon on all who are ill. We ask that these shawls serve as a tangible reminder that the Holy Spirit is always near.**

One: Lord God, we ask for Your blessings on the fleece scarves here today which will soon be given to our youth as they travel to Spring Hill Camp.

**All: O God, may our youth always carry the knowledge of Your love and grace with them. Wrap them in your peace and in Your love. Grant the Youth Group and their leaders safe travel and an enjoyable weekend.**

One: We ask these things in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. Amen

CALL TO CONFESSION

Mike Ethier

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of abundant mercy, you embodied love for us in the life of Jesus Christ. You ate with sinners and shared with outcasts. You loved with boldness and healed with grace. Forgive us, O God, when we do not trust your love: when we doubt whether we are worthy of your care. Forgive us, O God, when we try to cheapen love: when we limit it to shallow feelings instead of bold actions. Help us, O God, when we cannot feel your love, when we are isolated, afraid, and unable to see your presence. Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short. Free us to try again, and let your love lead the way.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Kathy Nealand

**\*GRATEFUL RESPONSE**

**"I Depend Upon You Faithfulness"**

**I depend upon your faithfulness.**

**I can journey on for you are always there.**

**None compares with you, O blessed One.**

**O how great your faithfulness.**

## THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Samuel 3:1-10

page 243

John 1:43-51

page 92

SERMON

“Looking Beyond Belief”

Rev. Kathy Nealand

**\*SONG**

**“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”**

**#404**

## THANKSGIVING

THE GIVING OF OUR TIME, TALENTS, AND TREASURE

OFFERING MUSIC

**\*OFFERING RESPONSE**

**Praise God, the One whose presence grounds;**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose love surrounds;**

**Praise Holy Spirit, life resounds;**

**Praise Three in One, beyond all bounds!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 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**

## SENDING

**\*CLOSING SONG**

**"Here I am Lord"**

**#525**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE