**\*OPENING HYMN** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs 1-4, & 6) #211 (UMH) During the singing of the opening hymn, the children are invited to join Ms. Julia at the back of the sanctuary to help bring in the light of Christ.

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Julia Librizzi

The candle of this second week of Advent is a candle of peace. Today the flame of this candle reminds us of the peace that Jesus brings into this world and his presence with us. Jesus said "I give you peace, the kind of peace that only I can give. It isn't like the peace that this world can give. So don't be worried or afraid."

Children Respond: Make room for peace.

Advent Song (refrain)

#2090 (FWS-black hymnal)

Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night, Candle, candle, burning bring, fill our hearts with Christmas Light.

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE AND PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Matt Weiler

**CHORAL ANTHEM** We are Not Alone

Pepper Choplin

\*SECOND READING Luke 3:1-6

Rev. John Bolev

This is what the spirit is saying to the church

Thanks be to God

SERMON Rev. Matt Weiler

**CALL TO OFFERING** 

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz

**\*DOXOLOGY** In the Bleak Midwinter (vs. 4)

What can I give him poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;

yet what can I give him; give my heart.

**Great Thanksgiving** 

(sung responses are found on page 21-22, UMH - red hymnal)

The Holy One be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. ... And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

#### Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Through your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Julie Kline

G. Gabrieli

#### **PRAYER REFRAIN** Make of My Heart a Stable

A soloist will sing verse one through and invite the congregation to join in singing a second time through. Verse two will be sung following a time of prayer together.



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#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass 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.

#### SHARING OF COMMUNION

#### **OUR SHARED LIFE**

\*CLOSING HYMN Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates #213 (UMH-red hymnal)

#### \*BLESSING

One: Christ our God, we give you our homage, we give you what we can—we give our hearts, a warm sturdy place for your light to live and grow.

All: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot put it out. One: We ask you to fill our hearts with Christmas light as we go from this place, crying Alleluia.

All: Alleluia, Lord most high!

**POSTLUDE** Ricercar

#### THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

#### Sunday, December 5

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Open Labyrinth - Wesley Hall

11:00 a.m. The First Christmas - Parlor

3:00 p.m. Heritage Community Worship - The Bistro 4:00 p.m. Bronson Place Worship - The Fountains

5:00 p.m. Youth Group - Youth Center

6:30 p.m. Friendship Village Worship - KIVA

#### Monday, December 6

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Open Labyrinth - Wesley Hall

#### Tuesday, December 7

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Open Labyrinth - Wesley Hall 9:30 a.m. Worship Planning - Zoom

12:30 p.m. Clergy/Directors Meeting

4:15 p.m. First Beats

7:00 p.m. SPRC

#### Wednesday, December 8

8:00 a.m. Yoga - Zoom

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Open Labyrinth - Wesley Hall

9:00 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Parlor

10:30 a.m. HON Team - Zoom

12:00 p.m. Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live

1:00 p.m. Food Pantry - Curbside Only

6:00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer - Chapel

6:30 p.m. Manna - Youth Center

#### Thursday, December 9

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Open Labyrinth - Wesley Hall

9:30 a.m. First Stitchers - Fellowship Room

9:30 a.m. Office Team Meeting - Zoom

12:00 p.m. Advent Concert Series - Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir - Choir Room

7:00 p.m. RMT Video Presentation- Parlor

7.00 p.m. Rivir video Fresentation- Fa

7:15 p.m. Chancel Singers

#### Friday, December 10

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Open Labyrinth - Wesley Hall 6:00 p.m. Children & Families Ministries Cookie Decorating - Katy's house.

#### Saturday, December 11

No events scheduled

# We are a Reconciling Congregation, welcoming all.

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo invites all persons to join us on our journey of faith. Jesus Christ calls us to be an inclusive church that exemplifies the kingdom of God. We strive to move toward reconciling relationships with all, affirming those who are marginalized for any reason, including sexual orientation or gender identity. We welcome all with *open hearts, open minds, open doors.* 

#### **UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**December 12. 2021** 10:00 a.m. Worship

Third Sunday of Advent: How Much is Enough? (Joy) Rev. Julie Kline Isaiah 12:2-6 Luke 3:7-18

> December 19, 2021 10:00 a.m. Worship Children's Program

Fourth Sunday of Advent: A Room With A View (Love) Rev. Matt Weiler Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:46-55

We're glad you are our guest today! If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Center. Child care is provided on the second floor for infants through 3-year-olds with fully vaccinated and masked staff.

Worship activities for children can be found on a cart outside the side sanctuary

LARGE print Bibles and Hymnals are available at the Park Street entrance.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the Welcome Center.

Today's service is being livestreamed and recorded. You can request a free copy of the DVD from the office. You can find previous worship services on our website: <a href="http://www.umc-kzo.org/mp3.asp.">http://www.umc-kzo.org/mp3.asp.</a> You may view worship services on our YouTube channel: YouTube.com/c/ KALAMAZOOfirstunitedmethodistchurch

### **Clergy & Directors**

Rev. Julie Kline

Lead Pastor Rev. Matt Weiler

Pastor of Community Formation

Jacqueline Stilger

Director of Music

Julia Librizzi

Director of Children and Families Ministries

**Thom Victor** 

Director of Congregational Care

Ruth LaMachia

**Director of Business Administration** 

#### **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Rev. Matt Weiler, Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. John Boley

Director of Music Organist Soloist

Brianna Attard Jacqueline Stilger Bernie Foulk

Lantern Carrier: Pam O'Connor

Lead AV Tech: Casey Curran **ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

The Eucharist, Antiracist Identity, and Theology. Pastor Matt's class concludes this week, meeting up outside the four corners of the labyrinth downstairs in the Fellowship Room.

The First Christmas. In their book, The First Christ- and contemplation. mas, Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan invite us to re-read the familiar nativity stories in the gospels of Matthew and Luke with fresh eyes in the con- choose an angel tag and return it to the tree text of both the first century and the twenty-first cen- with your unwrapped gift by Sunday, Detury. While some might find their conclusions chal- cember 5. (Please leave gift cards with the lenging, they show that the Christmas story, read in security desk attendant.) Members may also its original context, is far richer and more inspiring mail a check to the church with Salvation Arthan most people imagine. John Clark will lead this my Angel Tree in the memo line or donate class in the Parlor and on Zoom.

Advent Concert Series. Join us on Thursdays at Salvation Army. Thank you! noon in the sanctuary for the return of our annual Sunday School Meeting. The Children's Advent series. This year we welcome:

- December 9 The Sweetbriar Sisters, an allfemale ukulele trio known for close harmonies, vintage songs and fun!
- December 16 Bill Cessna Jazz Piano Trio

Freewill offerings will be gratefully accepted, but admission for all Advent concert events is free.

RMT Video Presentation. Please come view "A Pastoral Letter to the Nation" on Thursday, December 9, 7:00 p.m. as recorded at Mayflower Congregational United Church of Christ on June 7, 2020. The speaker, William J. Barber II, is an American Protestant minister and social activist.

Family Fun Event. Cookie decorating in Katy McGinnis' garage on Friday Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. RSVP to Julia at ilibrizzi@umc-kzo.org.

Phone Ministry Project. The need for cell phones is overwhelming. This program hopes to provide another 100 phones. Donations of any amount would help. There are two ways to give: 1. Mail a check to the church with 'HON Phone Ministry Project' in the memo line. 2. Donate online at the church website (www.umc-kzo.org). Look for Online Giving.

#### Healthy Habits of Hospitality.

- Wear masks while in the church building.
- Please wear a name tag.
- Introduce yourself freely.
- Greet safely

Advent Labyrinth: A Prayer Practice. You are invited to walk the labyrinth after worship on Sunday or any weekday between the hours of 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Please be careful **about** spacing and keep your mask on. This labyrinth requires the removal of your shoes to preserve the fabric of the labyrinth. and can take 10-20 minutes to walk depending on your pace. There are also prayer stations set you may use to enhance your time of prayer

December Mission of the Month. The Salvation Army Angel Tree has arrived! Please online. The church will send one check to the

Sunday School hour is set to return in the new year and we are seeking folks who are interested in helping our young children grow in faith each Sunday morning. If you are interested, please join the December 12 meeting after worship in the arches on the second floor. Materials, training and support will be provided. Contact Julia with questions at ilibrizzi@umc-kzo.org.

New Year's Fest. Plans are well under way. We will have events in the Sanctuary and Wesley Hall and are seeking volunteers to help throughout the evening. Shifts are 2 hours each but flexible with your schedule. Everyone who volunteers will receive a pass to attend other shows around the park. Sign up in the Perks area on Sunday mornings or email Sharon and Dan Bunker at djbunker@charter.net.

Contemplative Prayer. Wednesdays, Dec. 8, 15 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the chapel. The Desert Ammas and Abbas were people of color from the Middle East who are known as some of the first Christian contemplatives. Each week we will spend time in a prayer practice as a way to resist dominant culture's demands. Dec. 8: Visio Devina, Divine Seeing Dec. 15: Taize' contemplative worship with song and liturgy.



## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

December 5, 2021 10:00 a.m.

(269) 381-6340 † www.umc-kzo.org

## Second Sunday of Advent: A Place at the Table (Peace)



We welcome you to worship. You are invited in these beginning moments to request prayers by using the prayer card found in the pew pocket. They will be collected by an usher, shared with clergy, and if you wish, offered up to God during worship.

#### **GATHERING MUSIC & CHIME**

**PRELUDE** In Dulci Jublio

P. Manz

WE OPEN THE DOOR

Rev. Matt Weiler

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence vs. 1. solo #626 (UMH-red hymnal) Today we offer the Light of Peace to illumine the Door of Welcome. May this light shine in our hearts, in our lives, and in our church. May Peace awaken us to possibilities and lead us to greater hospitality. There is room in this Inn, a House for the Holy.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence vs. 2

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood: He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

FIRST READING

Philippians 1:3-11

Rev. John Boley

<sup>\*</sup> Please rise in body or in spirit