

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.

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE AND PASSING THE PEACE Rev. Matt Weiler

***SECOND READING** Luke 3:1-6 Rev. John Boley

SERMON Rev. Matt Weiler

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

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

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

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.**

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.

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.

POSTLUDE *Ricercar* G. Gabrieli

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. Je-
sus Christ calls us to be an inclu-
sive church that exemplifies the
kingdom of God. We strive to
move toward reconciling relation-
ships 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 doors.

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: <http://www.umc-kzo.org/mp3.asp>. You may view worship services on our YouTube channel: [YouTube.com/c/KALAMAZOOfirstunitedmethodistchurch](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCALAMAZOOfirstunitedmethodistchurch)

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

Jacqueline Stilger

Bernie Foulk

Brianna Attard

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 downstairs in the Fellowship Room.

The First Christmas. In their book, *The First Christmas*, 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 context of both the first century and the twenty-first century. While some might find their conclusions challenging, they show that the Christmas story, read in its original context, is far richer and more inspiring than most people imagine. John Clark will lead this class in the Parlor and on Zoom.

Advent Concert Series. Join us on Thursdays at noon in the sanctuary for the return of our annual Advent series. This year we welcome:

- December 9 - The Sweetbriar Sisters, an all-female 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 jlibrizzi@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 up outside the four corners of the labyrinth you may use to enhance your time of prayer and contemplation.

December Mission of the Month. The Salvation Army Angel Tree has arrived! Please choose an angel tag and return it to the tree with your unwrapped gift by Sunday, December 5. (Please leave gift cards with the security desk attendant.) Members may also mail a check to the church with Salvation Army Angel Tree in the memo line or donate online. The church will send one check to the Salvation Army. Thank you!

Sunday School Meeting. The Children's 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 jlibrizzi@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**

(269) 381-6340 † www.umc-kzo.org

December 5, 2021

10:00 a.m.

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

** Please rise in body or in spirit*