UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

September 18

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler KSP Sunday Ephesians 3:16-22

September 25

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Julie Kline Justice for Our Neighbors Luke 16:19-31 Psalm 91:1-6,14-16

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 with fully vaccinated caregivers is provided on the second floor for infants through 3-year-olds.

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 live-streamed and recorded. You may request a free copy of the DVD from the office. You can find previous worship services on our website or YouTube. Please subscribe to our 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. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Julia Librizzi Derek Wheaton, Church Council Co-chair

Director of Music Organist
Jacqueline Stilger Bernie Foulk

Acolytes: Arya McGinnis & Campbell Weiler **Satellite Worship Coordinator:** Thom Victor

Lead AV Engineer: Casey Curran **AV Assistants:** Drew Eaton, Layla

Cover Art: La drachme perdue (The Lost Drachma) by James Tissot. (1836 - 1902) Opaque watercolor over graphite on gray woven paper.

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

In our worship, we strive to witness to the wholeness of God, embracing the diversity of images of God that are found within Scriptures. We will seek to include male, female, and gender-neutral language and imagery for God, and utilize language that helps to avoid binary terms in pronouns and images of people. In our hymns and liturgy, we invite you to use pronouns that best express your practice and affirm your faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School. Sunday school for children age 4 through 5th grade will begin on Sunday, September 18 in room 203 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Grace and Gratitude. A new adult Sunday school class begins this morning after worship in the Parlor. Each week we will listen to a different version of the hymn Amazing Grace, then discuss how gratitude affects different aspects of our lives. Today, we will look at what grace is and how it might lead us to gratitude. Michel Pierce will talk about her use of a gratitude journal. The class is led by Carol Hodges and will feature several guest speakers.

Family Fun for all ages! The Children and Families Ministries Team invites you to join us next Sunday, September 18, 2022 at VerHage Fruit Farm and Cider Mill at 1 p.m. for apple picking! Each family needs to be prepared to purchase the apples they pick, the fun activities they decided to add on, and the delicious treats they want to buy! Please RSVP to Julia Librizzi at jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org.

UMW Sale. Before and after worship today the United Methodist Women will be selling many silverplated items that are no longer used for church events and receptions. Thank you for helping us to find new homes for these pieces. All donations will benefit the church's Helping Our Neighbor ministry.

Styrofoam Recycling Today and everyday.

The second Sunday EPS foam recycling has been expanded. Our collection box at church is now available whenever the church is open. Only foam labeled 6, rinsed and wiped clean food containers, and items that break when bent are accepted.

Hospitality Team. We will meet on September 14 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. We are rebuilding our team to ensure a warm and inclusive welcome for all persons who participate in worship and events at the church. If you are interested in helping with this endeavor, please email Pastor Julie jkline@umc-kzo.org.

Music Ministry invites all to join this fall.

<u>First Strings</u> plays in our church services three to four times per year. Rehearsals are scheduled depending on the performance dates. All violin, viola, cello, and bass players are welcome. Please contact Anne Sherfield at 269-760-3803 to join this group or for information.

<u>Chancel Singers</u> rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7:15 p.m. If you love to sing and want to experience the love of God and the joy of creating music with others, then please come and join us.

<u>Handbells</u> rehearse on Thursdays at 6 p.m. in Wesley Hall. Our adult handbell ensemble has open positions and also needs substitute ringers.

<u>First Beats</u> Children's Ensemble rehearses on Tuesdays from 4:15- 5:30 p.m. First Beats is a music ensemble open to children in grades 3-8. If you would like to experience the fun and enrichment of music ministry, please be in touch with our Director of Music, Jackie Stilger at jstilger@umc-kzo.org.

September Mission of the Month. The YWCA of Kalamazoo, one of our Dream Team Partners, provides crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy, and support for abused people and survivors of sexual assault. Currently, the YWCA needs the following items: hair conditioner (full size), body wash (full size), kid's toothpaste (no adult toothpaste please), deodorant, ladies' underwear (size medium or large), and baby wipes. Please donate any of these items in any quantity and place them in the Mission of the Month box by the church's West/Parking Lot entrance. Thank you for your support.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

(269) 381-6340 † www.umc-kzo.org

Seeking, Finding, and Rejoicing!



Rejoice with me, for I found that which was lost.

Luke 15: 6a

September 11, 2022

10:00 a.m.

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*.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

We'd like to connect with you, please fill out a welcome card found at the end of the pews and place it in the offering basket by the door.

*Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE Capriccio J. Froberger

WELCOME Rev. Julie Kline

*OPENING PRAYER Derek Wheaton: Co-Chair of Church Council

Leader: God of fresh starts, of new beginnings, of renewal and restoration,

All: We awake to your grace, embraced by love unconditional.

L: With each morning you birth new possibilities

A: In us; around us we are surrounded by Sacred potential.

L: There are so many ways to love.

A: May we rise to the day's call to listen for the aches, to give voice to the beauty, to be a companion to justice.

~Enfleshed Lituray

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #100 God, Whose Love is Reigning O'er Us (UMH)

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

Rev. Matt Weiler

*PASSING THE PEACE

SUNG RESPONSE #2232 (V. 1 & 2) Come Now. O Prince of Peace (FWS-black hymnal)

*SCRIPTURE READING Luke 15:1-10

This is what the Spirit is saying to the church Thanks be to God.

*HYMN #2233 Where Children Belong

(FWS-black hymnal)

During the singing of the hymn, the children are invited forward for children's time.

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

Julia Librizzi

Following the children's message we will lead the children to their own worship called Godly Play. Ms. Julia will reunite the children with their families in worship during the closing hymn.

MESSAGE Seeking with Freedom and Joy

Rev. Julie Kline

RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE #120 Your Love. O God

(UMH-red hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Matt Weiler

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our God/Mother/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 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.

CALL TO OFFERING

The offering of your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness is a faithful participation in the life of the church. Your financial gifts can be given at the baskets at the door, through our website, mailed to the church, or by electronic fund transfer.

OFFERTORY Seek Ye the Lord

Harlen Clark

Seek ye the Lord while He is near. Let the wicked forsake their way, let the evil one forsake their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord and receive mercy and be freely pardoned.

*THE DOXOLOGY #94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God. all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of relentless love, we rejoice that you are a seeking God who will find us time and again as we wander through our days. Remind us of the joy and celebration that is to be found when we choose to join our heart with yours. Receive the gifts we offer this day as a sign of our striving for redemption and reconciliation for ourselves and others. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, the light on our path! Amen.

***OUR SHARED LIFE**

*CLOSING HYMN #2238 In the Midst of New Dimensions (FWS-black hymnal)

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

B. Marcello

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, September 11

9:00 a.m. UMW Silver Sale - Pantry Lobby

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite - Kiva

11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School - Parlor

11:15 a.m. Youth/Children Ministries Parent Meeting - Youth Center

4:00 p.m. Bronson Place Satellite Worship - The Fountains Auditorium

6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Youth Center

Monday, September 12

11:30 a.m. Prayer Group - Parlor

1:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds - Zoom

7:00 p.m. Dream Team - Parlor/Zoom

Tuesday, September 13

9:30 a.m. Worship Planning - Zoom

12:30 p.m. All Staff Meeting - Location TBD

4:15 p.m. First Beats - Choir Room 6:30 p.m. Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, September 14

8:00 a.m. Yoga - Zoom

9:00 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Zoom

10:30 a.m. HON Meeting - Zoom

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

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

6:30 p.m. Hospitality Team - Zoom

Thursday, September 15

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

9:30 a.m. Trustees - Zoom

2:30 p.m. HON Phone Team - Zoom

4:00 p.m. Outreach Team - Parlor

6:00 p.m. Handbell Ensemble - Wesley Hall

7:15 p.m. Chancel Singers - Choir Room

Friday, September 16

No scheduled events

Saturday, September 17

2:00 p.m. Memorial Service - Sanctuary

Sunday, September 18

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite - Kiva

11:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

1:00 p.m. Family Fun at the Apple Orchard

4:00 p.m. Bronson Place Satellite Worship - The

Fountains Auditorium. 6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Youth Center

Connect Card . . .

Scan the QR code below to be directed to our Connect Card.



God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us 100

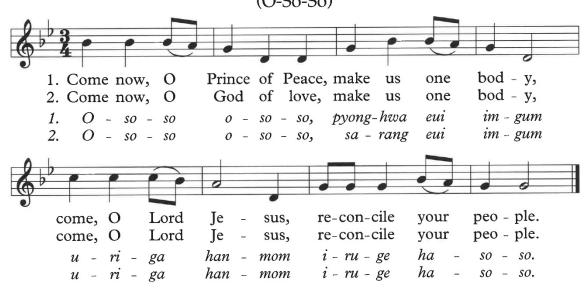


MUSIC: John Goss, 1869

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Come Now, O Prince of Peace (O-So-So)



Where Children Belong



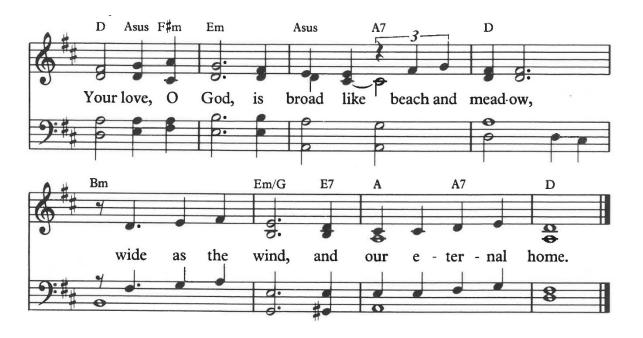
WORDS: James Ritchie MUSIC: James Ritchie

RITCHIE Irregular

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Your Love, O God





2238 In the Midst of New Dimensions

