

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

December 25, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Julie Kline

Isaiah 52:7-10, John 1:14-18

In the sanctuary, no live-stream

January 1, 2023

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler

Matthew 2:1-23

Plagiarized Epiphany

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/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

***CAROL** *Silent Night, Holy Night*

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar. Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born,**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

(You are invited to carefully raise your candle during this last verse)

**Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, "Alleluia" to our King;
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!**

***CHRISTMAS BLESSING**

(Please extinguish your candle after the blessing)

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler

Advent Candle Lighters: Dawn & Derek Wheaton

Director of Music **Organist** **Trumpet**
Jacqueline Stilger Bernie Foulk Joel Kayser

Satellite Worship Coordinator: Pastor Thom Victor

Lead AV Engineer: Casey Curran

AV Team: Ted Lewis, Thom Victor

Cover Art: *Ordinary Glory* by Laura Wright Pittman

Liturgy: Rev. Sarah Speed, Sanctifiedart.org

Stained Glass Lighting: In memory of Chuck and Jeddy Wilson

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

Christmas Day Worship. On Christmas day we offer several options for worship.

In the sanctuary we will have a simple time of worshipping together at 10 a.m. Carols will be sung, a liturgy shared, and we will enjoy simply being together. This worship will not be live streamed.

We will also offer an at home liturgy that will be mailed so that people may share a simple time of worship in their own homes.

Finally, the Michigan Conference has created a worship service with Bishop Bard preaching. We will post this on our YouTube channel. You may also choose to watch our Christmas Eve worship services. We hope that you will find ways to come home to Love.

New Year's Day. Worship will be at 10:00 a.m. We will sing some of the favorite Christmas carols in our hymnal, hear the story of the Wise One's and share communion. New Year's Fest events conclude only hours prior to worship and as a result, there may be some leftover items and sets on Sunday morning. We will worship amidst those leftovers and pray that the New Year will bring the Lord's peace to all.

First United Methodist Church



Invited Home

Christmas Eve

December 24
11:00 p.m.



Ordinary Glory by Laura Wright Pittman



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.*

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.

PRELUDE *Shepherds as Thy Watched by Night* P. Manz

HANDBELL INTROIT *What Child Is This* Greensleeves, arr. Brenda Austin

CALL TO CHRISTMAS *Come to Us, Startling God* by Rachel Mann

***OPENING HYMN #234** *O Come All Ye Faithful* (vs. 1,3,4,6) (UMH-red hymnal)

***WELCOME AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** Rev. Julie Kline

ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING Dawn & Derek Wheaton

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7

CAROL #216 *Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming* (UMH-red hymnal)

SECOND LESSON Luke 2:1-7 Rev. Matt Weiler

***CAROL #217** *Away in a Manger* (UMH-red hymnal)

THIRD LESSON Luke 2:8-20

ANTHEM *While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks* G.F. Handel, Arr Cynthia Dobrinsky

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

MESSAGE *Unexpected, Holy Invitations* Rev. Julie Kline

COMMUNION (Musical setting C, UMH pg. 21-22)
All are welcome to the meal Jesus hosts. There is no one here who is ineligible or unwelcome, no one too old or too young, no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. You, who are part of God's creation, are welcome to receive Holy Communion this night by coming forward by the center aisle and returning to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free bread is available at each station

The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to God.

Now let us give thanks to the Lord our God
How good it is to give thanks and praise!

* Please rise in body or in spirit

We gather tonight at the Manger of Grace And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord. God of power and might.
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord. God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you 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.

***SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, giver of joy and grace, we thank you for meeting us here in the child born to save us. You have prepared us for our journey. The light of Christ, shining like a star, shows us the way we should go, and the ones we should serve. May our faces, lifted up in wonder and expectation, reflect that light for all who live in darkness. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

***THE DOXOLOGY #240** *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* (vs. 1) (UMH-red hymnal)

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God, your story is one that forever invites us to be our full selves, to take up space, to go where we feel called, and to allow this community to feel like home. Use these gifts to keep building your home here. With gratitude as to the highest heavens, we pray. Amen.

***SERVICE OF LIGHT**

Jesus said, "I have come as a light into the world. Whoever believes in me will not remain in darkness."

**In Christ's name, I will light my candle.
With Christ's strength, I will take it into the world.**

*As we light our candles, please turn and pass the light to the person next to you, tilting only the **UNLIT** candle to avoid dripping wax.*

(continues on back)

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, December 25
10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

Monday, December 26
Church building is closed for the holiday

Tuesday, December 27
Church building open 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 28
Church building open 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m. Yoga - Zoom
10:00 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Parlor
12:00 p.m. Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live

Thursday, December 29
Church building open 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Friday, December 30
Church building open 10:00 a.m. - noon

Saturday, December 31
5:00 p.m. New Year's Fest

Sunday, January 1, 2023
10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship

Monday, January 2
The building will be closed for the holiday.

Tuesday, January 3
Building open 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

If you are visiting First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo for the first time or are visiting us for the holidays, we bid you welcome! If you are seeking a church home, please consider worshiping with us again and discovering more about the journey of faith offered to all by our loving and seeking God. We worship each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Winter Weather Closing Policy
The church will always be open for worship on Sunday.
Please use discretion deciding when to venture out.
Weekday meetings may be cancelled if travel is dangerous.
Team and committee chairs are asked to contact the church and their team/committee if a meeting is cancelled.
Please check Channel 3 news, our website, Facebook, and email for closing notices.
Please note the church may be open even when area schools are closed.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 1. *A - des - te, fi - de - les, lae - ti tri - um - phan - tes; ve -*
 2. True God of true God, Light from Light E - ter - nal,
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; O
 * 4. See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,

come ye, O come ye, to Beth - le - hem.
ni - te, ve - ni - te in Beth - le - hem.
 lo, he shuns not the Vir - gin's womb;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove!
 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
Na - tum vi - de - te Re - gem an - ge - lor - um.
 Son of the Fa - ther, be - got - ten, not cre - at - ed;
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,
Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.
ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, Do - mi - num.

BIRTH AND BAPTISM

* 5. Child, for us sinners
 poor and in the manger,
 we would embrace thee
 with love and awe.
 Who would not love thee,
 loving us so dearly?
Refrain

** 6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning,
 Jesus, to thee be
 all glory given.
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing:
Refrain

*May be omitted.

**For Christmas Eve/Day

WORDS: John F. Wade, ca. 1743; trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others
 MUSIC: John F. Wade, ca. 1743; harm. from *Collections of Motetts or Antiphons*, 1792

ADESTE FIDELES
 Irr.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

216

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten-der stem hath
 2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in
 3. O Flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, as those of old have
 mind; with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Moth - er
 air, dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery -

sung. It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the
 kind. To show God's love a - right, she bore to
 where. True man yet ver - y God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

WORDS: Sts. 1-2, 15th cent. German; trans. by Theodore Baker, 1894; st. 3 from
The Hymnal, 1940 (Is. 35:1-2)

ES IST EIN ROS
 76.76.676

MUSIC: *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. by Michael Praetorius, 1609

Away in a Manger

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes;
 close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray;

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus, look down from the sky
 bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev - er - last-ing Lord;
 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on-ciled!"
 late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739; alt. by George Whitefield, 1753, and others (Lk. 2:8-14) MENDELSSOHN
 MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. by William H. Cummings, 1856 77.77 D with Refrain

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"