

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/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. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Tammy Eaton

Advent Candle Lighters: The Eaton Family

Director of Music **Organist**

Jacqueline Stilger Bernie Foulk

West Michigan BrassWorks:

Scott Thornburg and Johannes Stegman, trumpets, Margaret Hamilton, horn, Robert Whaley, tuba, Austin J. Muuse, trombone

Lead AV Engineer: Casey Curran

AV Team: Ted Lewis, Drew Eaton, Grace Johnson

Stained Glass Lighting: In memory of Chuck and Jeddy Wilson.

Graphic Design: Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Liturgy: Rev. Sarah Speed, Sanctifiedart.org

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

Welcome. 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 worshipping with us again and discovering more about the journey of faith offered to all by our loving and seeking God. We worship on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Nursery, Godly Play, & Sunday School. Sunday, December 25 and Sunday January 1 there will not be Nursery, Godly Play or Sunday School for children. But children are welcome to attend worship on these two holiday Sundays in the sanctuary with their families! Nursery, Godly Play and Sunday School returns Sunday, January 8, 2023.

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.

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.

Artist Words on Ordinary Glory - inspired by Luke 2:1-20. In this familiar narrative, what stuck out for me in this reading was the juxtaposition of human and divine, the mundane and extraordinary, the humbleness of a manger and the glory of a multitude of heavenly hosts. I wanted to image this dichotomy with the everyday, intimate, tender scene of new parents and their yawning baby, enveloped by the glittering, awe-striking magnificence of God. The holy family is framed by an almond shape called a mandorla. Mandorlas have been used in Christian art to signify the glory of God, and can also represent the intersection and fullness of two things, like heaven and earth or spirit and body. Likely, the most familiar instance of this concept is the shape made between the overlapping circles in a Venn diagram. I wanted to use this shape because this is the moment when human and divine intersect in the person of Jesus, and when the glory of God is birthed into the world. The golden field surrounding the mandorla is filled with my interpretation of the six-winged seraphim from early Christian art, representing the heavenly hosts filling the air with tidings of peace (imaged by olive branches). A seven pointed star hangs over the heads of the family, surrounded by seven other stars, a number that represents completeness. —Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

First United Methodist Church



Invited Home

Christmas Eve

December 24

7:00 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

INTROIT *Love Came Down at Christmas* Christina Rossetti, Carson P. Cooman

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

***PROCESSIONAL CAROL #234** *O Come All Ye Faithful* (UMH-red hymnal)

WELCOME AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST Rev. Julie Kline

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES AND CHRIST CANDLE The Eaton Family

CAROL #218 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* (UMH-red hymnal)

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7

ANTHEM *In Dulci Jubilo* Trad. German Tune. Arr. By Ian Higginson

Soloist: Brianna Attard

In dulci jubilo, Let us our homage shew; Our heart's joy reclineth, In praesepio, And like a bright star shineth, Matris in gremio. Alpha es et O, Alpha es et O! O Jesu parvule! I yearn for thee alway! Hear me, I beseech thee, O Puer optime! My prayer let it reach thee, O Princeps gloriae! Trahe me post te, Trahe me post te! O Patris caritas, O Nati lenitas! Deeply were we stained, Per nostra crimina; But thou hast for us gained, Coelorum gaudia. O that we were there, O that we were there! Ubi sunt gaudia, If that they be not there? There are angels singing, Nova cantica, There the bells are ringing, In Regis curia: O that we were there, O that we were there!

SECOND LESSON Luke 1:26-45

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

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

ANTHEM *'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime* French Canadian melody arr. By John Hakes

FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:8-20

***CAROL #238** *Angels We Have Heard on High* (UMH-red hymnal)

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

* Please rise in body or in spirit

MESSAGE *Unexpected, Holy Invitations*

Rev. Julie Kline

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *A Child is Born in Bethlehem* Philip Stopford

***THE DOXOLOGY #240** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* (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.*

***CAROL #239** *Silent Night, Holy Night* (UMH-red hymnal)

**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)

***RECESSIONAL CAROL #246** *Joy to the World* (UMH-red hymnal)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Canzona per Sonare Number 2* Giovanni Gabrieli

UMH -The United Methodist Hymnal

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.

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

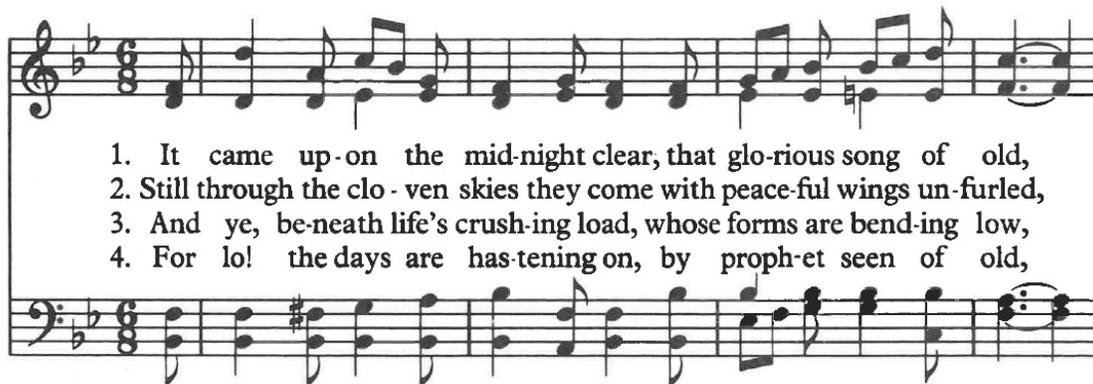
*May be omitted.

**For Christmas Eve/Day

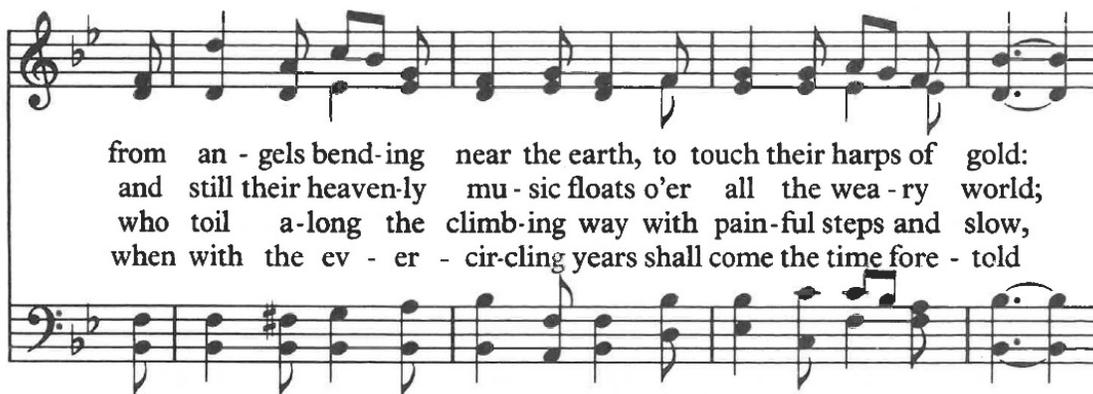
WORDS: John F. Wade, ca. 1743; trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others
 MUSIC: John F. Wade, ca. 1743; harm. from *Collections of Motetts or Antiphons*, 1792

ADESTE FIDELES
 Irr.

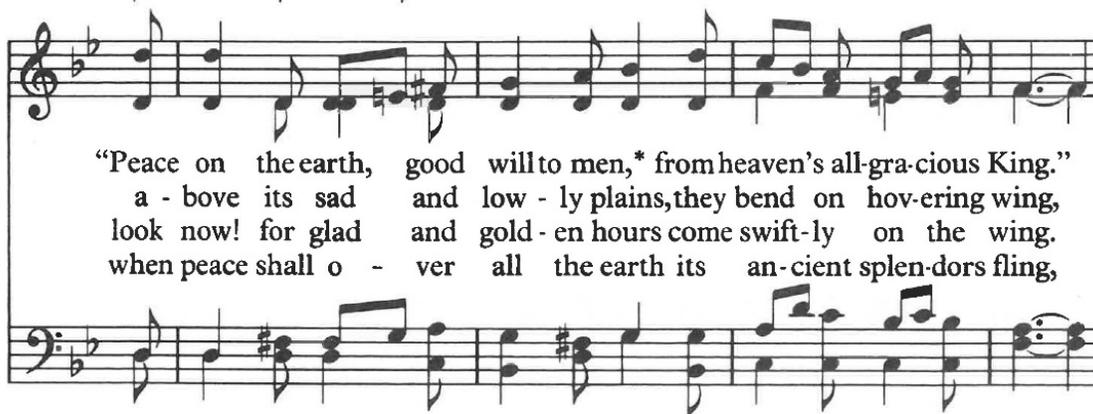
It Came upon the Midnight Clear 218



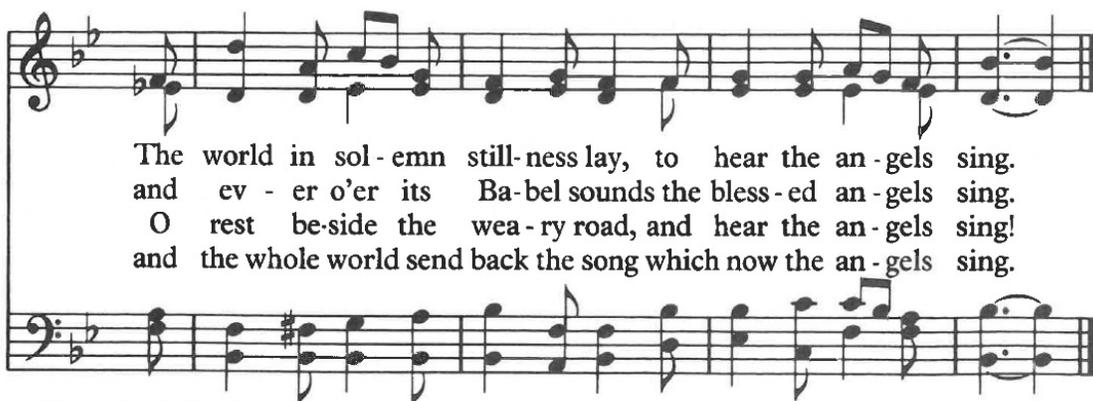
1. It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-ri-ous song of old,
 2. Still through the clo-ven skies they come with peace-ful wings un-furled,
 3. And ye, be-neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
 4. For lo! the days are has-tening on, by proph-et seen of old,



from an-gels bend-ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav-en-ly mu-sic floats o'er all the wea-ry world;
 who toil a-long the climb-ing way with pain-ful steps and slow,
 when with the ev-er-cir-cling years shall come the time fore-told



"Peace on the earth, good will to men,* from heaven's all-gra-cious King."
 a-bove its sad and low-ly plains, they bend on hov-ering wing,
 look now! for glad and gold-en hours come swift-ly on the wing.
 when peace shall o-ver all the earth its an-cient splen-dors fling,



The world in sol-ern still-ness lay, to hear the an-gels sing.
 and ev-er o'er its Ba-bel sounds the bless-ed an-gels sing.
 O rest be-side the wea-ry road, and hear the an-gels sing!
 and the whole world send back the song which now the an-gels sing.

*"all" may be substituted

WORDS: Edmund H. Sears, 1849 (Lk. 2:8-14)
 MUSIC: Richard Storrs Willis, 1850

CAROL
 CMD

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

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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)

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

ES IST EIN ROS
 76.76.676

238 Angels We Have Heard on High

1. An-gels we have heard on high sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep-herds, why this ju-bi-lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro-long?
 3. Come to Beth-le-hem and see Christ whose birth the an-gels sing;
 4. See him in a man-ger laid, whom the choirs of an-gels praise;

and the moun-tains in re-ply ech-o-ing their joy-ous strains.
 What the glad-some tid-ings be which in-spire your heav-en-ly song?
 come, a-dore on bend-ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new-born King.
 Ma-ry, Jo-seph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

Refrain

Glo - - - - ri - a,

in ex-cel-sis De-o! Glo - - -

WORDS: Trad. French carol; trans. *Crown of Jesus*, 1862, alt. (Lk. 2:6-20)
 MUSIC: French carol melody; arr. by Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937;
 harm. by Austin C. Lovelace, 1964

GLORIA
 77.77 with Refrain

Harm. © 1964 Abingdon Press

- - - - ri - a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

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!"

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
 2. Joy to the world, the Sav - ior reigns!
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow,
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace,

Let earth re - ceive her King; let
 Let all their songs em - ploy; while
 nor thorns in - fest the ground; he
 and makes the na - tions prove the

ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 comes to make his bless - ings flow
 glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness,

and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 far as the curse is found, far
 and won - ders of his love, and

and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his

heaven and na - ture sing, and
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 as the curse is found, far
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sing,
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 found,
 love,

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 far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his

heaven, and heaven, and na - ture sing.
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

sing,
 joy,
 found,
 love,