

You are invited in these beginning moments to request prayers using the prayer cards found in the pew pocket. The cards will be collected by an usher, shared with clergy, and if you wish, spoken during the Prayers of the People 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 *Fantasia* A. Gabrieli

CALL TO EASTER *The Call* by George Herbert Rev. Julie Kline

INTROIT *Gabriel's Message Does Away* Roland E. Martin
Gabriel's message does away, Satan's curse and Satan's sway, out of darkness brings our Day: so, behold, all the gates of heaven unfold. Weakness shall the strong confound; by the hands, in grave clothes wound, Adam's chains shall be unbound. He that comes despised shall reign, he that cannot die, be slain; death its death shall gain: So behold, all the gates of heaven unfold. Art by art shall be assailed; to the cross shall Life be nailed; from the grave shall hope be hailed: So behold, all the gates of heaven unfold. Christ the Lord is risen! Amen!

WELCOME

Leader: Christ is risen!

All: Christ has risen indeed!

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #302** *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* (UMH-red hymnal)

***LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE AND PASSING THE PEACE**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #2043** *Alleluia* (FWS-black hymnal)

SCRIPTURE *Mary on Easter Morning* by Carol Penner, inspired by John 20:1-18
read by Jessica Harthorn

This is what the spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN #2233 *Where Children Belong* (FWS-black hymnal)

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL Julia Librizzi

MESSAGE *The Whispers of Love* Rev. Julie Kline

***MESSAGE RESPONSE #2210** *Joy Comes with the Dawn* (FWS-black hymnal)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Rev. Matt Weiler

Rev. Weiler: We believe in resurrection—

**All: mysterious, beyond our understanding, and yet,
like tulips after the snow: real.**

Rev. Weiler: We believe in Easter morning—

All: in the promise of a God who would roll back every stone to return to us.

Rev. Weiler: We believe in Jesus—

**All: who calls us by name and asks,
“Who are you looking for?”**

Rev. Weiler: So we look—

All: for justice, for mercy, for God in our midst.

Rev. Weiler: And as we look, we sing, “Alleluia!” Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Coronation* Craig Courtney

***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

Mighty God of Resurrection and Redemption, we offer our gifts alongside our alleluias! We long for Easter to fill us and soak into our bones - like those who were confronted in a graveyard by angels announcing, “He is not here, he is risen!” May we run from here, not walk, because we and every corner of the world so desperately need to hear the news the angels share! Before we speak a word, may others see in our faces, that the world has been turned upside down. You win; death loses. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

*OUR SHARED LIFE

***HYMN OF SENDING FORTH #318** *Christ Is Alive* (UMW-red hymnal)
During the final verse of the hymn you are invited to proceed to the front of the sanctuary and join the choir in singing the Hallelujah Chorus.

*BLESSING

*HALLELUJAH CHORUS

Following this worship service, we invite everyone to participate in an Easter photo together at the front of the sanctuary.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, April 9

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship

Monday, April 10

The church building is closed

Tuesday, April 11

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

Wednesday, April 12

8:00 a.m. Yoga - Zoom (All are welcome)
9:00 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Parlor
12:00 p.m. Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 p.m. Food Pantry
3:00 p.m. HON - Zoom

Thursday, April 13

9:30 a.m. First Stitchers - Fellowship Room
11:00 a.m. Youth Ministry Team - 305
7:00 p.m. First Strings Rehearsal

Friday, April 14

Saturday, April 15

No activities scheduled

Sunday, April 16

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship
11:00 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship - Perks Area

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

FWS-The Faith We Sing

Scan the QR code below to be directed to our Connect Card and let us know you were here, share requests for prayer, or messages for our church leaders and worship leaders.



UPCOMING WORSHIP

April 16

2nd Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler

Memory, Hope, and Flesh

Ps 16:5-11 ; John 20:19-31

April 23

3rd Sunday of Easter/Earth Day

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Julie Kline

A Love That Makes Us Whole:

A Sense of Place

Luke 24:13-36

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 trained and fully vaccinated staff is provided on the second floor for infants through three-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 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

Pastor of Congregational Care

Ruth LaMachia

Director of Business Administration

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Julia Librizzi

Jessica Harthorn

Acolytes: Max Newman, Neela Parthasarathy

Cross Bearer: Zoe Newman

Director of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

Organist

Bernie Foulk

Instrumentalists: Mason Christofferson and Ryan

Robert Egeler, trumpets; Alyson Johnson, trombone;

Kohl Corrigan, timpani

Satellite Worship Coordinator: Pastor Thom Victor

AV Team: Lucas McGinnis, Bryan Heany, Drew

Eaton, Casey Curran-Lead AV Technician.

Liturgy adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah A.

Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Cover Logo designed by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

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

Our Easter offering this year will support three United Methodist missions – Methodist Children's Home in Costa Rica, Dr. Desiree Segura-April, and Rev. Emily Everett. The Methodist Children's Home of Costa Rica receives those children who have been legally declared abandoned by PANI (Costa Rica's child welfare agency) and raises them in a Christian environment until they are either adopted or reach adulthood. Dr. Desiree Segura-April is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church serving as a Resource Person for Children at Risk Ministries in Latin America & the Caribbean and living in Honduras. Rev. Emily A. Everett serves with the General Board of Global Ministries. She works with the Shade and Fresh Water Program in Brazil, an international partnership sponsored by the Methodist Church in Brazil. Shade and Fresh Water is a national network of after-school programs for at-risk children and teenagers.

Connection Campaign. The church is seeking to connect with you! Meet our connection ambassadors in the church lobby, beginning April 23. We look forward to speaking with you!

Small Groups. Our next small group gatherings will be April 16. Activities offered will include: Multigenerational Games/Cards (including Mahjong this week), Lenten Book Study, working on your own unfinished crafts, and Yoga with Pastor Julie. We will start off with a time of community gathering and our informal potluck dinner so bring something to share if you'd like (no pressure) and plan to join in the fun! Hope to see you there!

Children's Sunday School. There will be no Children's Sunday school after church today. There will be Nursery for infants through 4 year old children and Godly Play during worship. Children's Sunday School resumes on Sunday, April 16.

April Mission of the Month: On April 29, the Outreach Team invites all to participate in a day of service with the Sunnyside Community Garden. There are projects for people with all abilities and skills. Work the full day from 9am -5pm or part of the day. Lunch provided. See Dennis Pence by the Welcome Desk following worship for more information. Sign up via the google form in your weekly around the corner email or with Dennis following worship.

Bayshore Day Camp On The Road. Attention families of K-5th graders! Please join us Monday August 14-Thursday August 17, 2023, for a day camp from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The camp will be located in our church, collaborating with our neighbors at Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church. Lunch and two snacks will be included! The theme is, "GOD IS," Through the Old Testament stories about David, kids will learn that God is Loving! Activities will include arts and crafts, archery, Bible study, climbing wall, games and water activities. There is no cost, but the spaces are limited so please register your children today at bayshorecamp.org/DAYCAMP. Contact Ms. Julia at jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org, for more information.

Manna and Mercy, led by Pastor Matt Weiler will continue April 16 & April 23. Next week will focus on the texts surrounding Jesus's resurrection and the birth of the church. The final class will be a special class examining the Book of Revelation. Are American politics directly prophesied in Revelation? No. Does it have something to say indirectly about American politics? Perhaps. Was the Lincoln Memorial inspired by Revelation???? Come find out!

April 9, 2023

10:00 a.m.



seeking:

Who are you looking for?



Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

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.*