

## UPCOMING WORSHIP

April 30

4th Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Julie Kline

*A Love That Makes Us Whole:*

*Tender Mercies*

Psalm 23, John 10:1-10

May 7

5th Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler

*The New Storyteller*

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, Acts 7:55-60

### 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](http://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**

Pastor of Congregational Care

**Ruth LaMachia**

Director of Business Administration

## WORSHIP LEADERS

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

**Acolytes:** Campbell Weiler, Kaden Seals

**Director of Music**

Jacqueline Stilger

**Organist**

Bernie Foulk

**Satellite Worship Coordinator:** Pastor Thom Victor

**AV Team:** Lucas McGinnis, Bryan Heany, Drew Eaton, Casey Curran-Lead AV Technician.

*Rosebud on the altar in celebration of the birth of Clarke, grandchild of Sally & Andy Vorbrich and child of William & Grace*

## 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

**Special Offering.** United Methodists celebrate specific days to unite and make clear the commitment of the church as the people of God. This Sunday recognizes and supports the contributions of Native Americans to the church and society. It equips and empowers Native American pastors, congregations, and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus. Half of our gifts stay with local Native American ministries in Michigan. Please be a part of reparation and celebration through your support of Native American Ministries Sunday. To give online, go to [UMC.org/SSGive](http://UMC.org/SSGive).

**Small Groups.** Our next small group gathering will be April 30. We start off with a time of community gathering and an 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!

**Manna and Mercy.** Led by Pastor Matt Weiler will conclude today, April 23. This week will examine 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 and find out!

**Saving Jesus.** Ever feel like Jesus has been kidnapped by the Christian Right and discarded by the Secular Left? "Saving Jesus" is a DVD-based exploration of a credible Jesus for the 21st century. John Clark will facilitate the discussion. The class will run for 12 more-or-less consecutive Sundays (except Easter and probably Memorial Day). The class will meet in the parlor on Sundays after worship.

**Day of Service.** 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 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or part of the day. Lunch provided. See Dan Duncan by the Welcome Desk following worship for more information. Sign up via the google form in your weekly Around the Corner email or with Dan following worship.

**Bay Shore Day Camp On The Road.** Attention families of K-5th graders! Join us Monday August 14 - Thursday August 17, 2023, for a day camp from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. located in our church, collaborating with our neighbors at Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church. Lunch and snacks will be included! Through 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 space is limited so please register your children today. Contact Ms. Julia at [jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org](mailto:jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org), for more information.

**Kalamazoo Community Chorale.** All are invited to attend a 3:00 p.m. concert this afternoon, The Kalamazoo Community Chorale in collaboration with the Kalamazoo Mandolin and Guitar Orchestra.

**The CROP Walk** is Sunday, April 30, beginning at First Presbyterian Church, Kalamazoo in the Lovell Street parking lot. Registration and a light lunch at First Presbyterian will take place at 11:30 a.m. with the walk starting around 12:15 p.m. 25% of the funds collected are provided to Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes and the YWCA Domestic Assault Shelter, with the remaining funds going to Church World Service. Donna Oudersluys will be sending them a count of FUMC participants on April 28. Participants should please notify Donna, [donnaoudersluys@gmail.com](mailto:donnaoudersluys@gmail.com) of your plan to join the walk.



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

(269) 381-6340 + [www.umc-kzo.org](http://www.umc-kzo.org)

April 23, 2023

10:00 a.m.

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** *When We Are in the Highest Need*

J.S. Bach

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lynne Corbus

One: O God, you come to us in unexpected places

All: **In isolation, behind closed doors**

One: on dusty roads, as we go from place to place

All: **in video chats with friends and**

**telephone conversations with loved ones.**

One: You come bringing us peace, where there is no peace.

All: **You come bringing us hope when everything seems hopeless.**

One: You come bringing us courage when we are afraid.

All: **Come and be among us now, in every place where we are.**

One: Open our eyes to see you, open our hearts to know you.

All: **In the name of the Risen Christ we pray. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #122** *God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale* (UMH-red hymnal)

## WELCOME AND PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Julie Kline

**ANTHEM** *There's a Spirit of Love in This Place*

Mark Miller

## 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.*

## LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

~Companion Litany to the UMC Social Creed

One: God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ, calls us by grace.

All: **To be renewed in the image of our Creator, that we may be one in divine love for the world.**

One: Today is the day God cares for the integrity of creation, wills the healing and wholeness of all life, weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness.

All: **And so shall we.**

One: Today is the day God embraces all hues of humanity, delights in diversity and difference, favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends.

All: **And so shall we.**

One: Today is the day God cries with the masses of starving people, despises growing disparity between rich and poor, demands justice for workers in the marketplace.

All: **And so shall we.**

One: Today is the day God deplores violence in our homes and streets, rebukes the world's warring madness, humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly.

All: **And so shall we.**

One: Today is the day God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace, celebrates where justice and mercy embrace, exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb.

All: **And so shall we.**

**Today is the day God brings good news to the poor, proclaims release to the captives, gives sight to the blind, and sets the oppressed free. And so shall we.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #2043

*Alleluia*

(FWS-black hymnal)

## \*GOSPEL READING Luke 24:13-36

This is what the spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

Julia Librizzi

## HYMN #2233 *Where Children Belong*

(FWS-black hymnal)

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING

## MESSAGE *Finding Home*

Rev. Julie Kline

## MUSICAL RESPONSE *Touch the Earth Lightly*

The soloist will sing verse 1; the congregation is invited to sing verses 2-4.



1. Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
2. We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
3. Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
4. God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour - ish the life of the world in our care:  
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,  
wa - ter that bless - es and air that is sweet,  
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,  
we who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter,  
health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,  
teach us, de - flect us, Christ, re - con - nect us,



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.  
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!  
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.  
us - ing us gen - tly and mak - ing us one.

Words: Sherley Erena Murray, ©1997 Music: Swee-Hong Lim. ©2005 Hope Publishing  
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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Matt Weiler

## SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE *Come Bring Your Burdens to God* trad. South African tune

## CALL TO OFFERING - Special Offering: Native American Ministries Sunday

## \*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

**Bountiful God, all that we can offer you stems from your generosity. May the gifts that we return to you become a blessing for your whole community of creation, enriching and empowering us for the work to which you call us. Amen.**

## OUR SHARED LIFE

## \*CLOSING HYMN #77 *How Great Thou Art*

(UMW-red hymnal)

## BLESSING

## POSTLUDE *Toccata in e minor* Caroline Guo, organ

J. Pachelbel

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal FWS-The Faith We Sing

## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

### Sunday, April 23

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary  
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship  
11:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
3:00 p.m. Kalamazoo Community Chorale Spring  
Concert with Kalamazoo Mandolin & Guitar  
Orchestra

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

### Monday, April 24

12:45 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel  
1:00 p.m. Memorial Service - Sanctuary

### Tuesday, April 25

9:30 a.m. Worship Planning - Zoom  
10:00 a.m. Book Club - Parlor  
12:00 p.m. Facilities Team Meeting  
4:15 p.m. First Beats - Choir Room  
6:30 p.m. Manna - Youth Center  
6:30 p.m. Church Council - Zoom

### Wednesday, April 26

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 - TBD

### Thursday, April 27

9:30 a.m. First Stitches - Fellowship Room  
11:00 a.m. Youth Ministry Team - 305  
4:00 p.m. Outreach Team - Parlor  
6:00 p.m. Handbell Ensemble - Sanctuary  
7:15 p.m. Chancel Singers - Wesley Hall

### Friday, April 28

10:00 a.m. Memorial Visitation - Parlor/Perks  
11:00 a.m. Memorial Service - Sanctuary  
12:00 p.m. Memorial Reception - Perks

### Saturday, April 29

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Day of Service at Sunnyside  
UMC Gardens

### Sunday, April 30

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary  
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship  
11:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Youth Center

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.



# God of the Sparrow God of the Whale

*Unison*

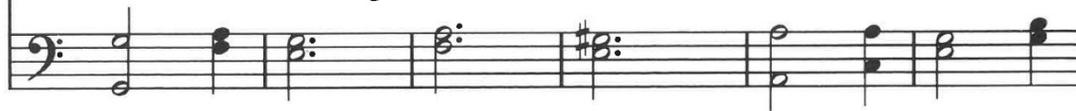


1. God of the spar-row God of the whale
2. God of the earth-quake God of the storm
3. God of the rain-bow God of the cross
4. God of the hun-gry God of the sick
5. God of the neigh-bor God of the foe
6. God of the a-ges God near at hand



God of the swirl - ing stars  
 God of the trum - pet blast  
 God of the emp - ty grave  
 God of the prod - i - gal  
 God of the prun - ing hook  
 God of the lov - ing heart

How does the crea-ture say  
 How does the crea-ture cry  
 How does the crea-ture say  
 How does the crea-ture say  
 How does the crea-ture say  
 How do your chil-dren say



1-5

6



Awe  
 Woe  
 Grace  
 Care  
 Love  
 Joy

How does the crea-ture say Praise  
 How does the crea-ture cry Save  
 How does the crea-ture say Thanks  
 How does the crea-ture say Life  
 How does the crea-ture say Peace  
 How do your chil-dren say

Home



*\*last time*

WORDS: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983  
 MUSIC: Carl F. Schalk, 1983

ROEDER  
 546.77

2043

## Alleluia



MUSIC: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

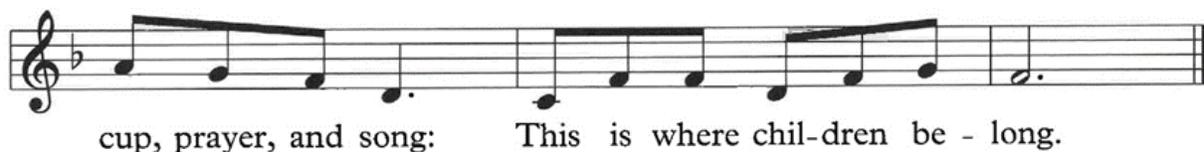
CELTIC ALLELUIA

© 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. by OCP Publications

Irregular

2233

## Where Children Belong



WORDS: James Ritchie

RITCHIE

MUSIC: James Ritchie

Irregular

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## How Great Thou Art

1. O Lord my God! when I in awe-some won - der  
 2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der,  
 3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing,  
 4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion

con - sid - er all the <sup>\*</sup>worlds thy hands have made,  
 and hear the birds sing sweet - ly in the trees;  
 sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
 and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.

I see the stars, I hear the <sup>\*</sup>roll - ing thun - der,  
 when I look down from loft - y moun - tain gran - deur  
 that on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly bear - ing,  
 Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion,

thy power through - out the un - i - verse dis - played.  
 and hear the brook, and feel the gen - tle breeze;  
 he bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
 and there pro - claim, my God, how great thou art!

*\*Authors's original words are "works" and "mighty."*

WORDS: Stuart K. Hine, 1953  
 MUSIC: Stuart K. Hine, 1953

HOW GREAT THOU ART  
 Irr. with Refrain

© 1953, renewed 1981 Manna Music, Inc.

*Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God to thee;

how great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my

soul, my Sav-ior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!