

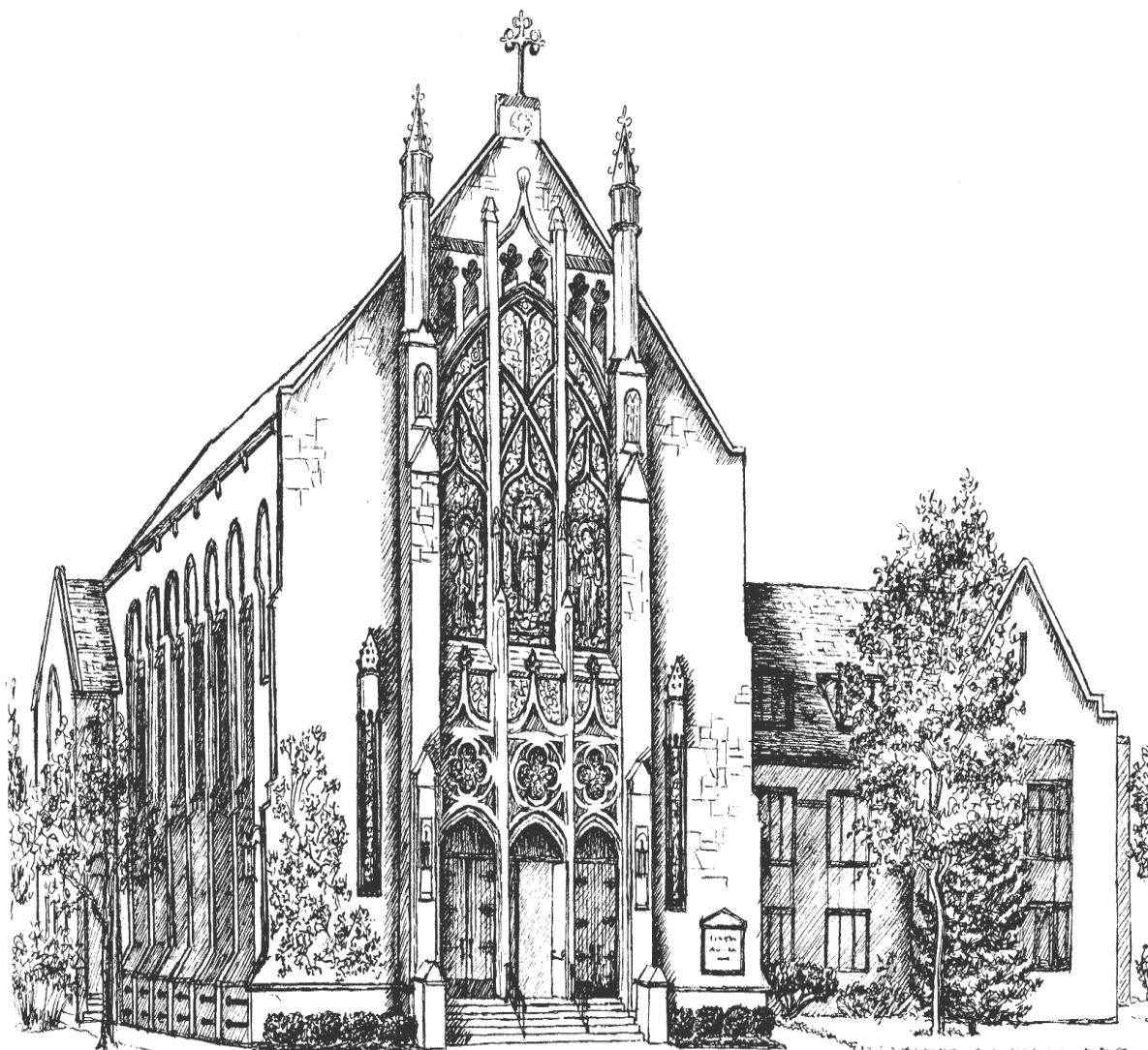


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

(269) 381-6340 + www.umc-kzo.org

August 27, 2023

10:00 a.m.



We would like to connect with you.

Please fill out the attendance pad and introduce yourself as you pass it to your neighbor. You are invited in these beginning moments to use the prayer cards found in the pews.

The cards will be collected by an usher, shared with clergy, and if you wish, shared aloud during worship.

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.*

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (reading the prayer responsively)

Janine Kennedy

One: In the face of hot days, and busy schedules,
our help is in the name of the Lord!

All: **As we return to school and look to the Fall,
our help is in the name of the Lord.**

One: Even when troubles mount up, we know the Lord is still on our side.

All: **When we face challenges with nature or neighbors,
and when we come together to speak against injustice
we know the Lord is still on our side!**

One: We're gathered to bless the Lord, who has not given us up to despair.

All: **Together, we declare "our help is in the name of the Lord!"**

***OPENING HYMN #117** *O God, our Help in Ages Past*

(UMH-red hymnal)

WELCOME

Rev. Matt Weiler

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PSALM 138 AND REFRAIN (singing together)

I sing your praise for stead - fast

love; ful - fill your pur - pose for me.

Music: Gary Alan Smith ©1989 the United Methodist Publishing House

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 1:8-2:10 (NRSV)

Deb Search Willoughby

One: This is what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

Julia Librizzi

BLESSING FOR THE CHILDREN

MESSAGE *The Things We Cannot See, part 2*

Rev. Matt Weiler

HYMN #2177 *Wounded World that Cries for Healing*

(FWS-black hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 - Helping Our Neighbor Presentation

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *I Have a Savior* Leeland Mooring, Kyle Lee & Anna Byrd
Jonathan Richardson, soloist

***DOXOLOGY #126** vs. 4 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* (UMH-red hymnal)

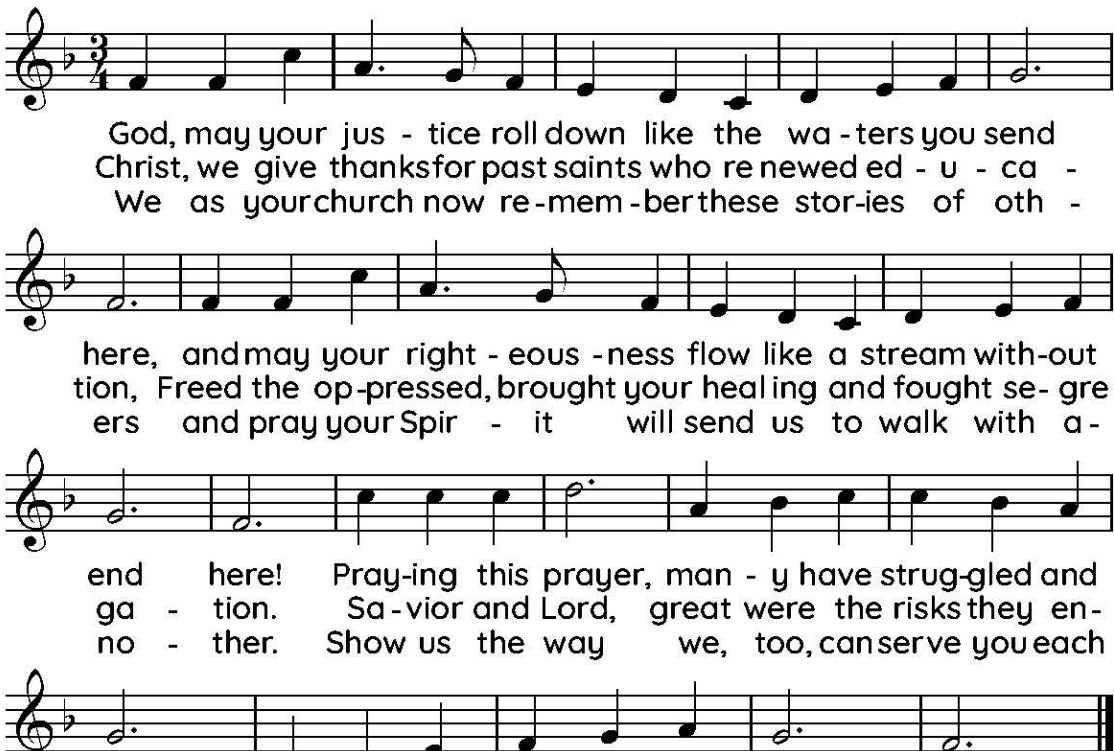
Let all who name Christ’s holy name give God all praise and glory;
let all who own his power proclaim aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (praying together)

Gracious God, we thank you for the measure of faith you have given to each
of us. Increase in us generosity, compassion, and prophetic courage
so we may continue to be your body in and for the world.
With thanksgiving, we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

OUR SHARED LIFE

***HYMN** *God, May Your Justice Roll Down*



God, may your jus - tice roll down like the wa - ters you send
Christ, we give thanks for past saints who re - newed ed - u - ca -
We as your church now re - mem - ber these stor - ies of oth -

here, and may your right - eous - ness flow like a stream with - out
tion, Freed the op - pressed, brought your healing and fought se - gre
ers and pray your Spir - it will send us to walk with a -

end here! Pray - ing this prayer, man - y have strug - gled and
ga - tion. Sa - vior and Lord, great were the risks they en -
no - ther. Show us the way we, too, can serve you each

dared, all for the world you in - tend here.
dured, bear - ing your hope and sal - va - tion.
day 'til jus - tice rolls down like wa - ters.

Tune: Lobe Den Herren, Text: Carolyn Winfry Gillete ©2001. Used with permission

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Matt Weiler, Julia Librizzi, Janine Kennedy,
Deb Search Willoughby

Director of Music Organist

Jacqueline Stilger Bernie Foulk

Satellite Worship Coordinator: Pastor Thom Victor

AV Team: Casey Curran, Bryan Heany, Drew Eaton,
Max Miller

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

Grief Group. It often feels like we've been walking through a season of grief over the last couple of years. At times, it feels necessary to push through the feelings and move on, when perhaps, we may prefer to create sacred space to remember, honor, grieve, and bear witness to our losses. You are invited to join with others in creating sacred space for losses. Beginning Sunday, September 17 from 6-7:30 p.m., a group, led by Jan Schoenherr, LPC, and Deb Search Willoughby, LMS, will gather in the chapel every 2 weeks until November 26. If you're interested in participating, please complete the form at <https://bit.ly/FUMCGrief>, or reach out to one of the leaders: Jan at schoenherrjan@gmail.com, Deb at dsearchwillo@gmail.com, or any of our pastors..

Children and Families Ministries Fall Kick-Off. Friday, September 8, 2023 from 6-8 p.m. at Oshtemo Township Park located at 7275 W Main St, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. We will meet at the pavilion to tie dye t-shirts and celebrate the return of Children's Sunday School on Sunday, September 10th right after the worship service! Please bring a dish to pass and email Julia Librizzi at jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org by September 5th so we are sure to have enough t-shirts and dye to go around!

What is Godly Play? Children 4 years old to 6th grade are invited to their own kind of worship on the 2nd floor called, "Godly Play." We hear and see God's stories and wonder together about what it might mean. Children return to their families before worship ends.

Save the date. FUMC Visioning Workshop, Saturday Oct 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. This Fall our church will be spending some time working on our Vision/Mission as we seek to define who we are as First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo in 2023. This church-led work will include some weeks of pre-work culminating in a Visioning Workshop. Please reserve Saturday, October 21st in your calendar and join us in this important work!

Hospitality Team. To build the Hospitality Team, greeters and ushers are needed to help with Memorial Services, Sunday refreshments, and follow up with worship visitors. Please contact Vickie Winfield for more information vandcwinfield@aol.com.

Youth Group. Youth Group Begins Sunday September 10 at 6pm downstairs in the youth lounge and is open to all youth 6th-12th grade. We gather weekly to create space for Christ-Centered friendship, joy, and spiritual formation through small group reflections, worship, and lots of play. Contact Pastor Matt Weiler for more information.

Confirmation Class. Confirmation is a two year program open to all youth who are entering 7th grade or older. Any student who begins confirmation this fall will participate for two full years. Confirmation class will take place on the third Sunday of the month beginning September 17 and will meet for 1 to 1½ hours immediately after worship. Contact Pastor Matt, mweiler@umc-kzo.org, for registration information.

Biking - every Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the Kal Haven trailhead. We'll increase our roundtrip distance weekly. Questions may be directed to Dawn Wheaton at dawheaton53@gmail.com.

Food Pantry Update. Thank you to all who donated items to our pantry on Sunday August 13 for the Change The World Offering. Thanks to all of you we are now well stocked with personal care items not supplied by Loaves and Fishes. We continue to serve the needs of this community through food security and your generosity makes this possible. Additional donations accepted: condiments, ground coffee, gluten free items, cake mix/ frosting, small bags of laundry pods, dish soap.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

September 3

10:00 a.m. Worship

Holy Communion

Rev. Julie Kline

Love Opens the Door

Romans 12:9-21

September 10

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rejoice Sunday!

Rev. Matt Weiler

Life Together

Romans 13:8-14

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 said 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 may request a free copy of the DVD from the office. Previous worship services may be found on our website: www.umc-kzo.org. You may view worship services on our YouTube channel: [Kalamazoofirstunitedmethodistchurch](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkalamazoo)

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



OUR MISSION

We are called to
Experience God's love
Celebrate God's love
Share God's love

OUR VISION

We are a Faith Community
Alive in Christ
Open to all
Growing in faith
Serving our neighbors
Active in the world

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, August 27

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship
11:15 a.m. Helping Our Neighbors Q & A - Parlor

Monday, August 28

12:45 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Chapel

Tuesday, August 29

9:30 a.m. Worship Planning - Zoom
12:30 p.m. Facilities Team Meeting - Parlor
6:30 p.m. Church Council - Zoom

Wednesday, August 30

8:00 a.m. Yoga - Zoom (All are welcome)
9:00 a.m. Dawn Patrol - 304
12:00 p.m. Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 p.m. Food Pantry
3:00 p.m. HON - TBD

Thursday, August 31

9:30 a.m. First Stitches
9:30 a.m. Admin Support Team - Virtual
2:00 p.m. Generosity Audit Report - Parlor
6:30 p.m. Bicycling Small Group - Kal-Haven Trail

Friday, September 1

Saturday, September 2

Sunday, September 3

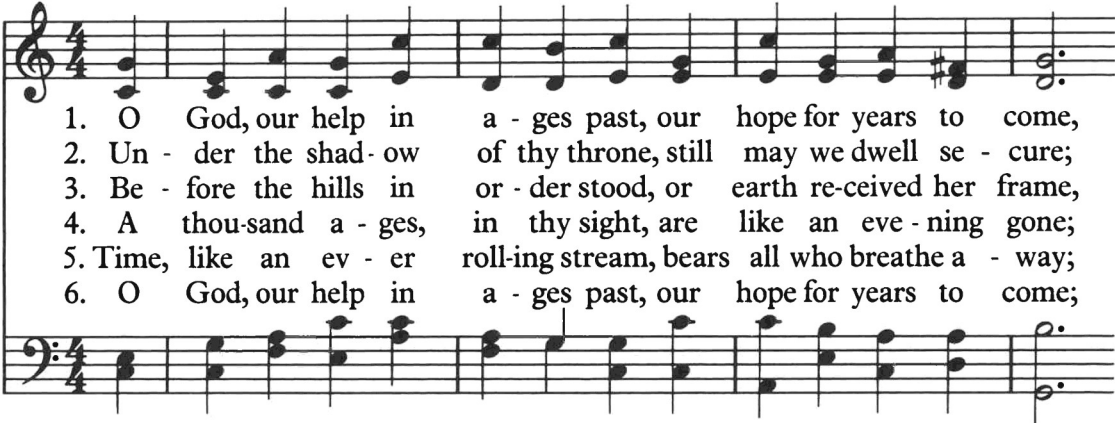
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship
6:00 p.m. Small Groups at church

Monday, September 4

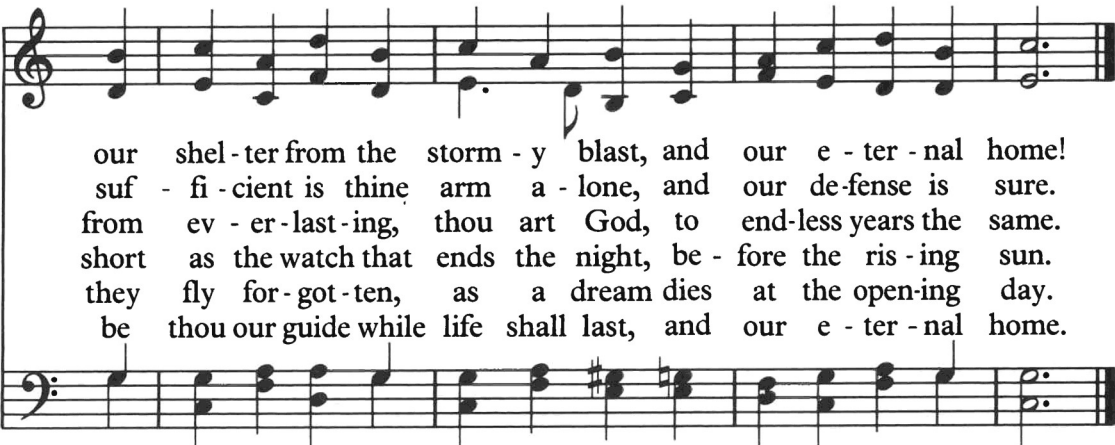
Labor Day - The building will be closed.

*UMH - United Methodist Hymnal
FWS-The Faith We Sing*

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of thy throne, still may we dwell se - cure;
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4. A thou - sand a - ges, in thy sight, are like an eve - ning gone;
 5. Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, bears all who breathe a - way;
 6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come;



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home!
 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 from ev - er - last - ing, thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 short as the watch that ends the night, be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 they fly for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the open - ing day.
 be thou our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 90) ST. ANNE
 MUSIC: Attr. to William Croft, 1708; harm. by W. H. Monk, 1861 CM

Wounded World that Cries for Healing 2177



1. Wound - ed world that cries for heal - ing —
 2. Through our na - tion's spent frus - tra - tion,
 3. Hon - or those whose lov - ing spir - it



here we hold each oth - er's pain, wound - ed sys - tems,
 through the cor - ri - dors of stress may there move a
 nurs - es hope, re - stores and heals, towel and ba - sin



bruised and bleed - ing bear the load, the scars of strain;
 kind - lier wis - dom all may feel, and all may bless;
 used in ser - vice like the Christ who comes and kneels;



dol - lars ra - tion out com - pas - sion,
 tax and tithe are for a pur - pose
 in the tend - ing, in the mend - ing



hard de - ci - sions rule the day, Je - sus of the
 shared to shield the poor and weak; past the symp - toms
 may we see the right and fair, in our com - mon



heal - ing Spir - it, free us to an - oth - er way!
 of our sick - ness let the voice of jus - tice speak.
 quest for whole - ness heal each oth - er by our care.

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson

HEALING SPIRIT
 87.87 D

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