



BRAIDING OUR STORY

Kalamazoo First United Methodist Church

Sunday October 1, 2023

Values | Generosity | Mission | Vision

umc-kzo.org
(269) 381-6340

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 green prayer cards found in the pews. The cards will be collected by an usher during the opening hymn and shared with clergy

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

PRELUDE *Trio No. 21, Adagio Pastorale, Vivace Assai*

Franz Joseph Haydn

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

Diane Owen-Rogers

One: Creator of the universe,

All: **you bring forth all Creation, and we belong.**

One: You give birth to all peoples;

All: **you create one human family, and we belong.**

One: You feed us with your love;

All: **you make of us one Body in your Spirit, and we belong.**

**So we come, people of every race and nation and tribe and people,
to worship together and to feast on your love. Alleluia!**

***OPENING HYMN #428** *For the Healing of the Nations*

(UMH-red hymnal)

During the hymn, ushers will pass through the sanctuary collecting prayer cards.

WELCOME & PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Julie Kline

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

Rev. Matt Weiler

SUNG RESPONSE *'Round the River's Bend vs. 6 & 7*

Lyrics by Jennifer Clark

Music by Jacqueline Stilger

Tune name: ACADEMY



Here you are, we see you 'round the ri - ver's bend, hear the
Here we are, a braid - ed sto - ry grow - ing now, joined and



stir - ring e - choes of your song. What a gift it is to learn your
shaped by voi - ces of all kinds. What a joy it is to sing a -



sto - ry, friend. Take our hands and let us flow a - long.
long with you as we stream in - to the great Di-vine.

***GOSPEL READING** Matthew 6:5-15

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 *This is Where Children Belong*

(FWS-black hymnal)

MESSAGE *Called to the Table*

Rev. Julie Kline

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2260 *Let Us Be Bread*

(FWS-black hymnal)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all people, we confess we have separated ourselves. We have divided the Body of Christ. In our fear, heal us. For our “othering” of those not like us, forgive us. Receive our repentance, not in words alone but in reconciliation with our companions in Christ. Make us One, Love, make us One.

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2260 *Let Us Be Bread*

HOLY COMMUNION #2257 b, c

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 morning, coming forward by the center aisle, taking a piece of bread, dipping it in the cup of juice and eating. Gluten-free bread is available at each station.

God is with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

It is good and beautiful to give God our praise.

We thank you, God, for you create all things out of your own being.

In you all things are One.

You create us in the image of your love, and call us as your beloved community.

You judge the forces of oppression and rescue us from all that enslaves us.

**You make us one with all people,
and break down the dividing walls we build.**

You strike the rock of this world and out flows grace and blessing.

We feast in gratitude and awe.

You gather us at your table as the Body of Christ,

one in the love and Spirit of Christ, around the world, one with all Creation.

We feast in unity and love.

Therefore with all your Beloved around the world we sing your praise.

Sanctus #2257-b

(FWS-black hymnal)

Memorial Acclamation #2257-c

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God/Father/Mother, 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.**

GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN - Aligning our generosity to our vision.

Coins received will be designated for the support of United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for their work around the world.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Trio No. 21 Andante Molto*

F. J. Haydn

***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**

**Gracious God, we thank you for the mystery that you give yourself to us.
You have given yourself to all your beloved people, those who are welcomed and those who are excluded. Receive our gifts and send us into the world to widen the circle, to bring all to your table of grace, that we may truly be one, in the name of Christ. Amen.**

OUR SHARED LIFE

***HYMN #121** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

(UMH-red hymnal)

BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Praise to God Almighty*

J.S. Bach

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.*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Julia Librizzi,
Diane Owen-Rogers

Director of Music **Organist**
Jacqueline Stilger Bernie Foulk

Violin **Cello** **Piano**
Terry Vantine Anne Sherfield Kathy Hoorn

Satellite Worship Coordinator: Pastor Thom Victor

Acolytes: Campbell Weiler and Zachary Bovid

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

Adult Sunday School Opportunities.

Bible Basics: The class will be led by Tammy Eaton and meet in the church parlor.

Revival: The class will be led by John Clark in the Fellowship Room.

Family Foundations: A Sunday School class for parents of young children will begin with fellowship and coffee in room 209, next to the arches on the 2nd floor.

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

Faith Milestones. A group for 3rd to 5th graders! Faith Milestones are those firsts as we grow in our faith experiences because we know it doesn't happen just on Sunday mornings. It's part of all we are and all we do as God's beloved people. Please join us for our first "Faith Milestones," today from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on the 2nd floor in the "Arches." We will share dinner, play games and have a time to learn about the bible and discover ways to use it in daily living. Please email Ms. Julia at jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org for more info.

Special Offering. On World Communion Sunday, we partner with other United Methodist Church congregations in a special offering to support young adults and make a global impact for Christ. Half of the offering benefits World Communion scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students from the U.S. and other countries. The remainder assists Ethnic Scholarships for U.S. and international undergraduate students in the U.S. and Ethnic In-Service Training.

Lectio. Lectio is a space of contemplative prayer and fellowship for young adults. We meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the youth center. We will be practicing Lectio Divina, imaginative prayer, and other prayer practices based in imagination and meditation. Led by Jonathan Townley, our Youth & Young Adult Resident.

Small groups tonight! Activities have resumed on the first and third Sundays of each month. We meet at 6 p.m. joining in a short time of sharing and a potluck meal prior to moving into our chosen small groups. The small groups offered will be board/card games, yoga with Julie, finishing prayer quilts or bring your own project to work on. These small groups have been a great way to spend time together and build relationships. Join in the fun and fellowship!

Movie & a concert! Wednesday, Oct. 4, 7:00 here at FUMC! Come enjoy the 1920 silent-film classic Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde featuring internationally recognized improviser David Briggs on our own LeTourneau organ. Tickets for this event may be obtained by visiting <https://www.connectingchordsfestival.com/> \$12 general admission or \$15.00 at the door. The silent film Frankenstein will also be featured.

KUDOS. Our church is supporting the Kalamazoo United Day of Service (KUDOS) on Friday, October 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (lunch provided!). Here's your chance to help people who don't have the means to weatherize or otherwise improve their homes in ways that would make a huge difference. We encourage volunteers to engage with the residents as much as possible with questions and conversation. Please let Dan Duncan (danduncan56@gmail.com or 616-502-5092) if you'd like to be part of our team this year.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

October 8

10:00 a.m. Worship
2nd Sunday

Rev. Matt Weiler
Braiding Our Story
Generous Like Jesus
Philippians 3:4b-14

October 15

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler
Braiding Our Story
Euodia and Synteché
Philippians 4:1-9

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/UCkalamazoofirstunitedmethodistchurch)

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

First United
Methodist
Church of Kalamazoo



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, October 1

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship
11:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
5:30 p.m. Faith Milestones - Arches
6:00 p.m. Small Groups - Games, Crafts, Yoga
6:00 p.m. Grief Group - Chapel
6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Youth Center

Monday, October 2

12:45 pm Prayer Group

Tuesday, October 3

9:30 a.m. Worship Planning - Zoom
9:45 a.m. Book Club - Parlor
12:30 p.m. Clergy/Directors Meeting
4:15 p.m. First Beats - Choir Room
6:00 p.m. Kalamazoo Ringers - Wesley Hall
6:30 p.m. Manna - Youth Center
6:30 p.m. SPRC - Parlor

Wednesday, October 4

8:00 a.m. Yoga - Zoom (All are welcome)
9:00 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Parlor
9:45 a.m. OLLI Curriculum Committee - Fellowship Room
12:00 p.m. Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 p.m. Food Pantry
3:00 p.m. HON - TBD
6:30 p.m. Lectio - Youth Center
6:30 p.m. Reconciling Ministries Team - Parlor
7:00 p.m. MFSM Organist David Briggs

Thursday, October 5

9:30 a.m. First Stitchers - Fellowship Room
6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Wesley Hall
7:15 p.m. Chancel Singers - Choir Room

Friday, October 6

Saturday, October 7

For the Healing of the Nations

1. For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
 2. Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
 3. All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
 4. You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing of the things that
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred, all may come and
 earth be banned; pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing, dog - mas that ob -
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness bring the life of

earth af - fords; to a life of love in ac - tion help us
 go in peace. Show us how through care and good - ness fear will
 scure your plan. In our com - mon quest for jus - tice may we
 Christ to mind, that by our re - sponse and ser - vice earth its

rise and pledge our word, (pledge our word) help us rise and pledge our word.
 die and hope in - crease, (hope in - crease) fear will die and hope in - crease.
 hal - low life's brief span, (life's brief span) may we hal - low life's brief span.
 des - ti - ny may find, (may find) earth its des - ti - ny may find.

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1965 (Rev. 21:1-22:5)

MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA

87.87.87

2233

Where Children Belong

This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the
 wor - ship - ing throng. Wa - ter, God's Word, bread and
 cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be - long.

WORDS: James Ritchie
 MUSIC: James Ritchie

RITCHIE
 Irregular

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Let Us Be Bread

2260

Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord, bro-ken and
 shared, life for the world. Let us be wine,
 love free - ly poured. Let us be one in the Lord. _____

Stanzas included in other editions.

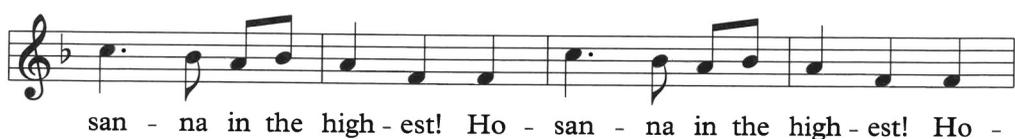
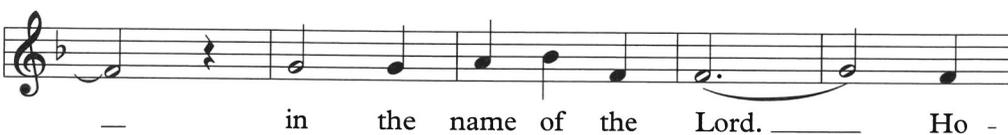
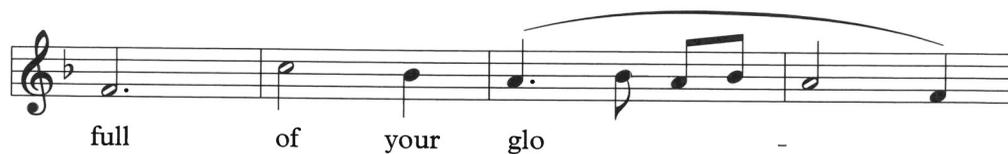
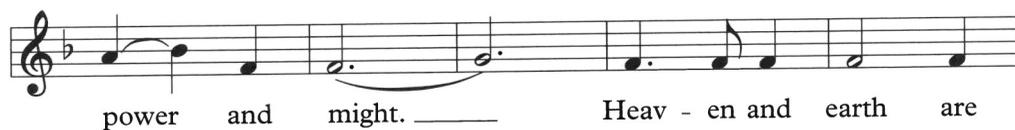
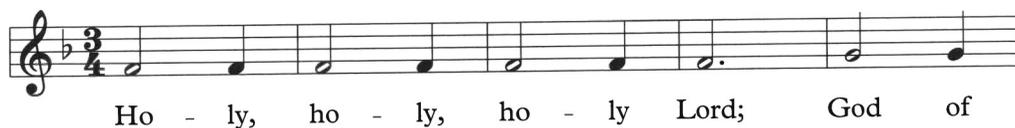
WORDS: Thomas Porter
 MUSIC: Thomas Porter

LET US BE BREAD
 Irregular

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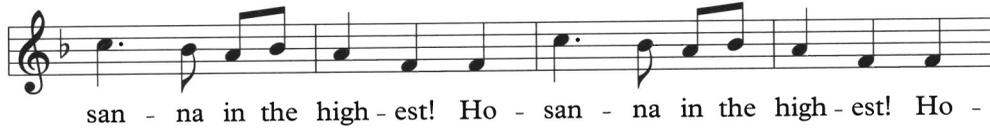
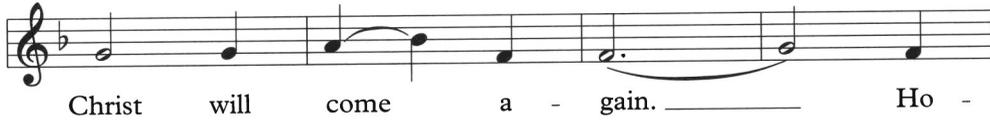
2257-b

(Sanctus)



2257-c

(Memorial Acclamation)

WORDS: From *The United Methodist Hymnal*

MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

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There's a Wideness in God's Mercy 121



1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2. There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and more grac-es for the good!
3. For the love of God is broad-er than the meas-ure of our mind;
4. If our love were but more sim-ple, we should rest up-on God's word;



there's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
 There is mer-cy with the Sav-ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 and our lives would be il - lu - mined by the pres - ence of our Lord.



WORDS: Frederick W. Faber, 1854

MUSIC: Lizzie S. Tourjee, 1877; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1988

WELLESLEY

87.87