



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO
(269) 381-6340 + www.umc-kzo.org

October , 2023
10:00 a.m.

Kalamazoo First United Methodist Church

BRAIDING OUR STORY

2023



Values | Generosity | Mission | Vision

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 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 to be shared with clergy.

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

PRELUDE *When We are in the Highest Need*

J.S. Bach

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

Tammy Eaton

One: Loving God, we have gathered to meet you.

All: **We have come to listen to you, to seek you, to worship you.**

One: You are the beginning of all things,
the life of all things; you knew us before we were born.

All: **In you we become; in you we live.**

One: Loving God, you are here and everywhere, around us and within us;

All: **you know our inmost thoughts. In you we hope; in you we live.**

One: In you we find who we are,
and you give peace that is beyond our understanding.

All: **In you we are still; in you we live.**

One: Loving God, we live in you; we worship you.

All: **Loving God, you live in us; we worship you. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN #160** *Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart*

UMH-red hymnal)

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

WELCOME

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

Rev. Julie Kline

SUNG RESPONSE *Christ Beside Me*

Kathleen Turner

SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 4:1-9

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 *Euodia and Syntyche*

Rev. Matt Weiler

***HYMN #2076** *O Blessed Spring*

(FWS-black hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Julie Kline

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.**

GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN - Aligning our generosity to our vision. Jeremy Welter
Coins received will be designated for the support of United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)
for their work around the world.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Nearer My God to Thee* John Gardner

THE DOXOLOGY #94 *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Creator God, you are our provider. We offer all that we have and all that we are to you, because we belong to you. Bless these gifts, and empower us, your church, that through the work of your Spirit we may be a light for the world. Through Christ whose grace will fill us with all we ever need, amen.

OUR SHARED LIFE

***CLOSING HYMN #593** *Here I Am, Lord* (UMH-red hymnal)

*SENDING

Leader: Beloved, may the Spirit guide us to that which is true,

People: **that we may be set free;**

Leader: that which is honorable,

People: **that we may rise above ourselves;**

Leader: that which is just,

People: **that we may stand in the breach for another;**

Leader: that which is pure,

People: **that we may live with integrity;**

Leader: that which is pleasing,

People: **that we may look beyond ourselves;**

Leader: that which is commendable,

People: **that we may seek to do God's will;**

Leader: that which is excellent and worthy of praise,

People: **that we may praise the name of the Lord forever.**

Leader: Now may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

SUNG BLESSING *Go Forth in Peace* arr. by Tom Van Oostrom

POSTLUDE *Lord God, Now be Praised* J.S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS

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

Tammy Eaton: Church Co-Lay Leader

First Beats Children's Musical Ensemble

Director of Music **Organist**

Jacqueline Stilger Bernie Foulk

Satellite Worship Coordinator: Pastor Thom Victor

Acolytes: Neela Parthasarathy and Michael 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.

FUMC Visioning Workshop. We need you. Saturday Oct 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. A catered lunch will be served. Today is the final day to register. Please **register today** at the Welcome Desk, or register online [here](#). Our church will be spending time working on our Vision/Mission as we define who we are as First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo. This important workshop is for all of us, so please plan to attend on October 21 and **register** today, and we'll see you on Saturday!

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 contact Dan Duncan (danduncan56@gmail.com or 616-502-5092) if you'd like to be part of our team this year.

Small groups tonight! Activities for anyone 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!

Membership Class. In worship we refer to prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness as vows we take. We also profess to accept the freedom and power given by God to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. If you would like to explore the commitment and joy of membership in The United Methodist Church, please contact Pastor Julie, jkline@umc-kzo.org.

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.

October Children and Families Ministries Fun. All are invited to join us for Fall Fun, Fellowship and Hayrides! Please join us Sunday, Oct. 29, from 3-5p.m. for harvest fun at the Lindstrom's home in Gobles, 39110 28th Ave, 49055. Pumpkins and carving tools will be provided, please bring a beverage or snack to share! Please RSVP to Julia by Tuesday, Oct. 24 and let her know how many pumpkins your family would like to carve, jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org.

Music at First United Methodist Church. A broad array of musical ensembles share their love of music with this congregation. Music ministry happens in the church with the full participation of its congregants in the pews, choirs in the chancel, ringers at the tables, and instrument at a music stand. Whether vocalist or instrumentalist, please contact Music Director, Jacqueline Stilger, jstilger@umc-kzo.org for more information about any of the music ensembles. Let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

UPCOMING WORSHIP

October 22

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Julie Kline

Braiding Our Story

Psalm 96:1-13

Luke 3:16

October 29

10:00 a.m. Worship

Rev. Julie Kline

Braiding Our Story

Sacred and Generous Work

Psalm 1, Matthew 22:34-46

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
Methodis
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 15

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship
11:15 a.m. Confirmation Class - 305
11:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Youth Center
6:00 p.m. Small Groups at church

Monday, October 16

12:45 pm Prayer Group
5:00 p.m. Finance Team - Zoom

Tuesday, October 17

9:30 a.m. Worship Planning - Zoom
9:45 a.m. Book Club - Chapel
12:30 p.m. Clergy/Directors - 305
4:15 p.m. First Beats - Choir Room
6:00 p.m. KR Rehearsal - Wesley Hall
6:30 p.m. Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, October 18

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
6:30 p.m. Lectio - Youth Center
7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry - Chapel

Thursday, October 19

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

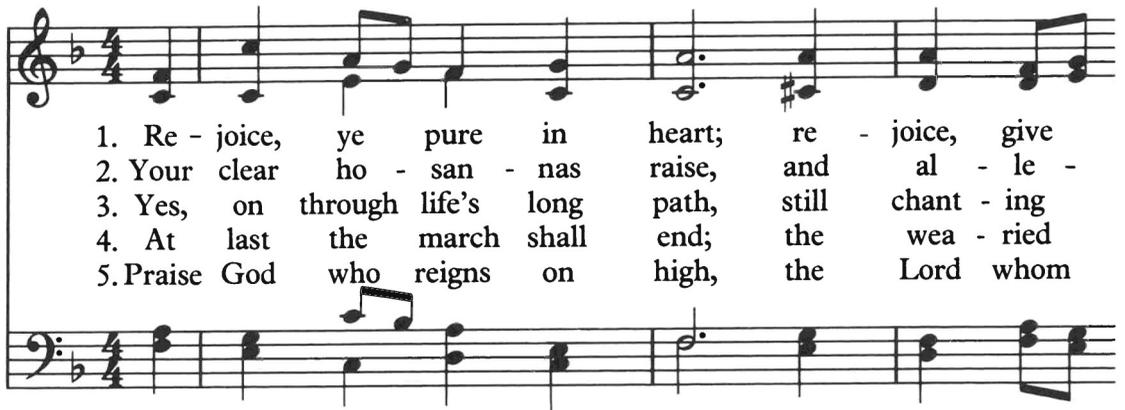
Friday, October 20

Saturday, October 21
8:30 a.m. A Day of Visioning - Wesley Hall

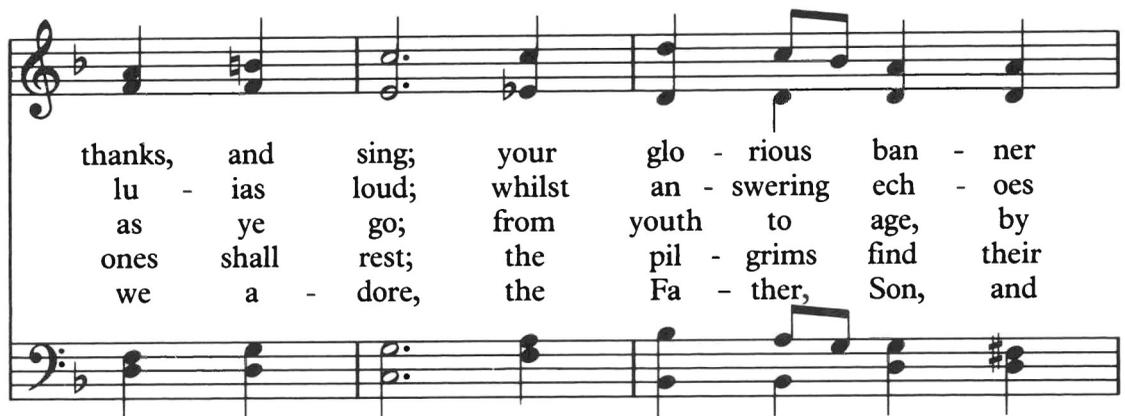
Sunday, October 22

10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Friendship Village Satellite Worship
11:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

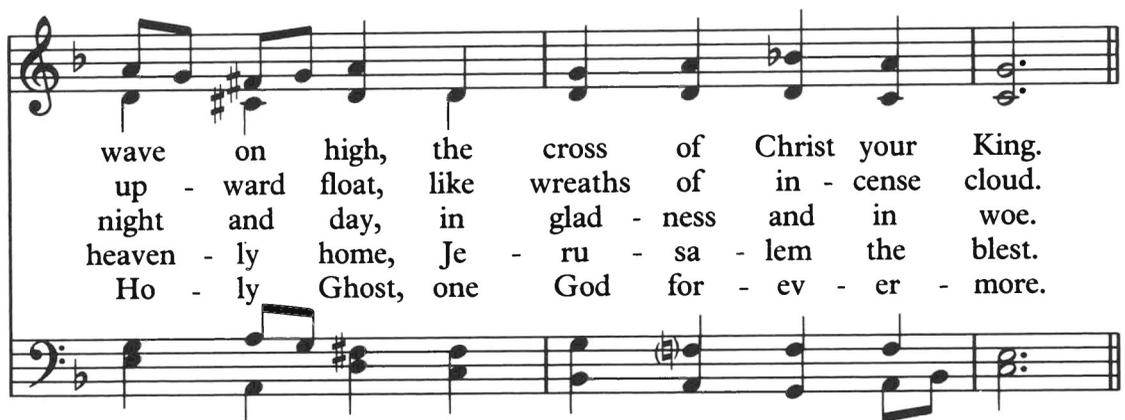
Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart



1. Re - joice, ye pure in heart; re - joice, give
 2. Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le -
 3. Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing
 4. At last the march shall end; the wea - ried
 5. Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom



thanks, and sing; your glo - rious ban - ner
 lu - ias loud; whilst an - swering ech - oes
 as ye go; from youth to age, by
 ones shall rest; the pil - grims find their
 we a - dore, the Fa - ther, Son, and



wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
 night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.
 heaven - ly home, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.
 Ho - ly Ghost, one God for - ev - er - more.

Refrain


Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks and sing.
 Re-joyce, re-joyce,

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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2076

O Blessed Spring

1. O bless-ed spring, _____ where Word and sign _____
 2. Through sum-mer heat _____ and youth-ful years, _____
 3. When au-tumn cools _____ and youth is cold, _____
 4. As win-ter comes, _____ as win-ters must, _____
 5. Christ, ho-ly Vine, _____ Christ, liv-ing Tree, _____

— em-brace us in _____ to Christ the Vine: _____
 — un-cer-tain faith, _____ re-bel-lious tears, _____
 — when limbs their heav- _____ y har-vest hold, _____
 — we breathe our last, _____ re-turn to dust; _____
 — be praised for this _____ blest mys-ter-y: _____

Continues on following page

O Blessed Spring (continued)

— here Christ en - joins each one to be
— sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing rain,
— then through us warm, the Christ will move
— still held in Christ, our souls take wing
— that Word and wa - ter thus re - vive

— a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
— the boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
— with gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
— and trust the prom - ise of the spring.
— and join us to your Tree of Life.

WORDS: Susan Palo Cherwien (John 15:5; Rev. 22:14)

MUSIC: Trad. English melody; adapt. by Hal H. Hopson

GIFT OF LOVE
LM

Words © 1993 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. by Augsburg Fortress; music © 1972 Hope Publishing Co.

Unison

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I who made the stars of night,
I have heard my people cry.
I will make their darkness bright.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I will break their hearts of stone,
I have borne my people's pain.
give them hearts for love alone.

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
Finest bread I will provide
I will tend the poor and lame,
till their hearts be satisfied.

1.

All who dwell in dark and sin
Who will bear my light to them?
my hand will save.

I have wept for love of them.
I will speak my word to them.
They turn away.

I will set a feast for them.
I will give my life to them.
My hand will save.

2.

Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord.

Refrain (Harmony)

WORDS: Dan Schutte, 1981 (Is. 6:8)
MUSIC: Dan Schutte, 1981; adapt. by Carlton R. Young, 1988

HERE I AM, LORD
77.74 D with Refrain

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(continues on following page)

Here I Am, Lord (continued)

Is it I, Lord? I have heard you call-ing in the

night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

WORDS: Dan Schutte, 1981 (Is. 6:8)
MUSIC: Dan Schutte, 1981; adapt. by Carlton R. Young, 1988

HERE I AM, LORD
77.74 D with Refrain

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