



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

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

January 14, 2024

10 am

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 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

arr. Chuck Marohnic

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

Deb Search Willoughby

One: The voice of God calls to us! Are you listening?

All: **Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.**

One: The hands of God beckon us! Are you paying attention?

All: **Show us, Lord, your servants are paying attention.**

One: The love of God asks us—are you ready to follow?

All: **Guide us, Lord, and we, your servants, will follow.**

One: Come, let us worship the God whose tenacious love never stops calling and beckoning and asking us to follow.

All: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

~Dr. Lisa Hancock

***OPENING HYMN #2042** *How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely*

(FWS-black hymnal)

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

WELCOME

Rev. Julie Kline

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

Nancy Hyde

SILENT PRAYER

SUNG RESPONSE #2128 *Come and Find the Quiet Center*

(FWS-black hymnal)

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Rev. Matt Weiler

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.*

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

Julia Librizzi

HYMN #2233 *This is Where Children Belong*

(FWS-black hymnal)

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Olivia Cramer-Erbes

As we hear this Scripture lesson today, it will be interspersed with opportunities of silence, as we practice the art of listening to divine voice.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE *Call to the Temple of Our Hearts*

Rev. Julie Kline

***HYMN** *Beloved Child, Beloved Community*

(see insert)

HOLY COMMUNION

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. As you receive a piece of bread, dip it into the cup of juice and eat. You are invited to add to the prayer quilt by offering your answer to "How do we hear God calling us into Beloved Community?"

Clergy: God of love, we thank you, for you create us in love, all of us in your image, in spectacular diversity of color and culture—all in your image of love and loveliness.

People: **You claim us as your children, and save us when we are lost.**

Clergy: You judge the forces of oppression and set your children free: free from slavery, free from prisons, free from hatred.

People: **And you ask us to join you in the great work of setting all your children free.**

Clergy: To guide us you sent us Moses and prophets, and you sent us Jesus.

People: **You sent Martin and Rosa and Harriet and Ruby and so many more, and still you send leaders to help us set free your Beloved. Therefore in chorus with all who have been set free and those who long for freedom, we sing your praise.**

Sanctus #2257-b

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Clergy: Blessed are all who come in your name, and blessed is Jesus, your Christ, whose nonviolent love changed the world—and changed us.

People: **He fed the poor, healed the broken, and proclaimed liberty to the prisoners.**

Clergy: He stood for justice, and paid with his life, but you raised him from the dead, for justice cannot be killed.

People: **Living still, he renews with us your Covenant to be with us in love forever.**

Clergy: On the night in which he gave himself for us We proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Memorial Acclamation #2257-c

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (praying together)

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.

CALL TO OFFERING - Human Relations Sunday

Rev. Matt Weiler

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

OFFERTORY *God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven*

arr. John Turner

***THE DOXOLOGY #2046 v.4** *Womb of Life*

(FWS-black hymnal)

Mother, Brother, Holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son:

We would praise your name forever, One in three, and Three in one.

We would share your life, your passion, share your word of world made new, ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (praying responsively)

God of Wisdom, as we bring our gifts to be dedicated this morning, we pray that you might open our ears, open our hearts to hear where you call us to respond with faithful obedience, so that we might do what you need to begin healing our world. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

OUR SHARED LIFE

***HYMN #593** *Here, I am Lord*

(UMH-red hymnal)

BLESSING

Response: **God, You are calling.**

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Nancy Hyde,
Deb Search Willoughby, Olivia Cramer-Erbes

Director of Music	Organist
Jacqueline Stilger	Bernie Foulk
Flute	Bass
Kait Garrison	Chris Haber

Satellite Worship Coordinator: Pastor Thom Victor

AV Team: Casey Curran, Bryan Heany, Drew Eaton,
Lucas McGinnis

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

January Mission of the Month

We are collecting the following items for Ministry with Community and the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. Please consider helping our neighbors in need by donating items from the following list: men's underwear (all sizes), women's underwear (sizes small, medium and large), hand warmers, socks, undershirts, winter gloves, women's and children's socks, underwear for adults and children, diapers sizes 3 - 6. The Mission of the Month collection point is near the entrance to the food pantry. The Outreach Team thanks you for your assistance in helping others in our community.

Human Relations Day, January 14, 2024. Human Relations Day is a denomination-wide Special Sunday celebrating and raising awareness about the strength of human relationship. The offering received contributes to building Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's vision of "the beloved community."

Sermon Illustration. Pastor Julie referred to a video essay in her sermon today, "The Life Span of Loneliness," by Adam Westbrook and Emily Holzknicht. If you would like to watch this please stay and shortly after worship, we will play it. It is five minutes long. Alternately, you can find it on The New York Times YouTube channel, search for "The Life Span of Loneliness" or linked [here](#).

Retirement Reception. Please join us after church in the PERKS area on January 21 for a Retirement Reception for long-time security staff member, Robin Entemann. There will be a basket for your cards and notes, as well as special treats. This is an opportunity to come together in community to celebrate and thank Robin for her many years of dedicated service.

Community Health. Acknowledging a community rise in illness of all sorts, please feel welcome to wear a mask while at church.

Adult Sunday School Opportunities.

Family Foundations: *I Guess I Haven't Learned That Yet* by Shauna Niequist. Using Weekly videos guided by the author, discussion questions, and reflections we join this journey of unlearning what is no longer helpful, embracing curiosity, and accepting the unknowns.

The New Storyteller! 9:00 a.m. in room 304. This study is a deep dive into the Book of Acts - the writer, Luke, was a New Storyteller.

The Methodist Movement in America Brought to Life. Did you know that we are living right now in a monumental moment of the Methodist Movement in America? We are in a dynamic time - this is our moment in history. But the truth is that the Methodist Movement has always been dynamic, both in England and America! John Boley will lead this class on the Methodist Movement in America for five weeks beginning on Sunday, January 7 and continuing through Feb 4. This will be a thorough survey, with focus on historical, theological, prophetic, cultural, and organizational aspects of this Movement. It will point to today's dynamic moment and the historical momentum that brought the Methodist Movement to Kalamazoo. All are invited for coffee and discussion after worship in the Parlor.

Winter Weather Closing Policy. Every attempt will be made for the church to be open on Sundays. Please use discretion deciding when to venture out. Weekday meetings may be cancelled if travel is dangerous. Team and committee chairs are asked to contact the church and their team/committee if a meeting is cancelled. Please check Channel 3 news, our website, Facebook, and email for closing notices. Please note the church may be open even when area schools are closed.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, January 21

10:00 am Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler

Did We Meet on the Boat?

Mark 1:14-20

Sunday, January 28

10:00 am Worship

Rev. Julie Kline

For the Sake of Healing

Mark 1:21-28

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 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

OUR MISSION

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

OUR VISION

We are a Christ-centered community where our stories are woven with God's story.

OUR VALUES

Love: God is Love and all creation is made in love, by love, for love.
Community: Sacred relationship with God and one another.
Inclusion: All identities belong and are loved in Christ.
Justice: Restoration of equity and wholeness.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, January 14

9:00 am The New Storyteller - Rm 304

10:00 am Sunday Worship - Sanctuary

10:00 am Friendship Village Satellite Worship

11:15 am Sunday School for all ages

11:15 am Youth Council - Youth Lounge

6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Center/Sledding??

Monday, January 15

12:45 pm Prayer Group - Chapel

Tuesday, January 16

9:30 a.m. Worship Planning - Zoom

12:30 pm Clergy/Directors - 305

4:15 pm First Beats - Choir Room

6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, January 17

9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor

12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live

12:30 pm Food Pantry

3:00 pm HON - Zoom

7:00 pm Stephen Ministry - Chapel

Thursday, January 18

9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship Room

4:00 pm Outreach Team - Parlor

6:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Wesley Hall

7:15 pm Chancel Singers - Choir Room

Friday January 19

Saturday January 20

Sunday, January 21

9:00 am The New Storyteller - Rm 304

10:00 am Sunday Worship - Sanctuary

10:00 am Friendship Village Satellite Worship

11:05 am Retirement Reception Honoring Robin

11:15 am Sunday School for all ages

11:15 pm Confirmation Class - 305

6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Center

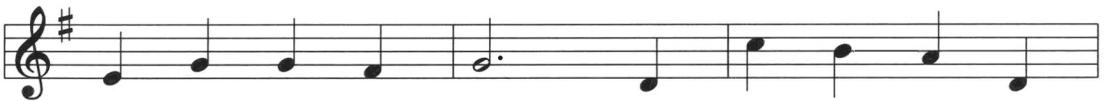
2042 How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely



1. How love - ly, Lord, how love - ly is your a - bid - ing
2. In your blest courts to wor - ship, O God, a sin - gle
3. A sun and shield for - ev - er are you, O God most



place; my soul is long - ing, faint - ing, to
day is bet - ter than a thou - sand if
high; you show - er us with bless - ings no



feast up - on your grace. The spar - row finds a
I from you should stray. I'd rath - er keep the
good will you de - ny. The saints, your grace re -



shel - ter, a place to build her nest; and
en - trance and claim you as my Lord than
ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go, and



so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest.
rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford.
from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ings o - ver - flow.

WORDS: Arlo Duba (Ps. 84)

MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson

MERLE'S TUNE

76.76 D

Words © 1986 Hope Publishing Co.; music © 1983 Hope Publishing Co.

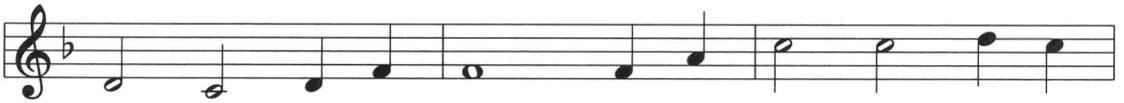
2128 Come and Find the Quiet Center



1. Come and find the qui - et cen - ter in the crowd - ed life we
 2. Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the
 3. In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth - er's



lead, find the room for hope to en - ter, find the
 pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our
 pain, let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e -



frame where we are freed: Clear the cha - os and the
 be - ing, touch - es base, mak - ing space with - in our
 brate the space we gain: There's a place for deep - est



clut - ter, clear our eyes that we can see all the
 think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun, rais - ing
 dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care, in the



things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
 cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
 Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare.

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray

MUSIC: Attr. to B. F. White

BEACH SPRING

87.87 D

Words © 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

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

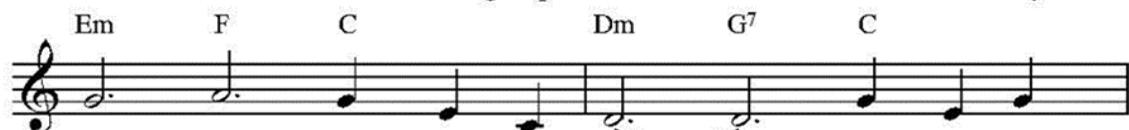
Irregular

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Beloved Child, Beloved Community



1. Hear well this good news, trust the word spo - ken, Re - ceive a
 2. Born of the Spir - it, tem - pered and test - ed, washed in the
 3. Sis - ters and bro - thers, neigh - bors and stran - gers, serve one a -
 4. Go forth in my name, show forth my kind - ness, re - new the
 *5. Let us dream God's dream, glimpsed on the moun - tain, first by the



new name, be - come my own: _____ you are Be -
 wa - ter, for - give - ness known. _____ Blessed and a -
 no - ther in har - mo - ny. _____ You are Be -
 good earth through works of love. _____ Peace be a -
 one King, then King a - gain; _____ a dream de -



lov - ed, pre - cious and cho - sen, with you I'm
 noin - ted with grace un - mea - sured, you are Be -
 lov - ed chil - dren to - geth - er in a be -
 mong you -- that is the wit - ness: my Spir - it
 ferred now, wait - ing the foun - tain where jus - tice



well - pleased to make my home.
 lov - ed, my child, my own.
 lov - ed com - mun - i - ty.
 with you, sent from a - bove.
 rolls down and praise as - cends.

WORDS: John Middleton, 2004

MUSIC: Trad. Gaelic melody

BUNESSAN

55.54 D

*Alternate text for Martin Luther King Day observance.

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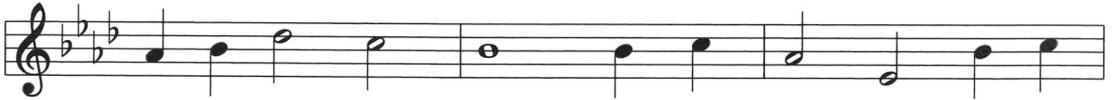
The text of this hymn grew out of my reading of Henri Nouwen's *Life of the Beloved* and articles about Martin Luther King's vision of Beloved Community. This text is a way of bridging personal and corporate experiences of belovedness. The fifth stanza is an alternate for special occasions, such as Martin Luther King's birthday. (John Middleton, 41 Pine Tree St., Lexington TN 38351, phone 731-968-0578, email pinetrealmanac@yahoo.com).

Womb of Life

2046



1. Womb of life, and source of be - ing, home of
 2. Word in flesh, our broth - er Je - sus, born to
 3. Brood - ing Spir - it, move a - mong us; be our
 4. Moth - er, Broth - er, Ho - ly Part - ner; Fa - ther,



ev - ery rest - less heart, in your arms the worlds a -
 bring us sec - ond birth, you have come to stand be -
 part - ner, be our friend. When our mem - ory fails, re -
 Spir - it, On - ly Son: We would praise your name for -



wak - ened; you have loved us from the
 side us, know - ing weak - ness, know - ing
 mind us whose we are, what we in -
 ev - er, One - in - three, and Three - in -



start. We, your chil - dren, gath - er 'round you, at the
 earth. Priest who shares our hu - man strug - gles, Life of
 tend. La - bor with us, aid the birth - ing of the
 one. We would share your life, your pas - sion, share your



ta - ble you pre - pare. Shar - ing stor - ies, tears, and
 Life, and Death of Death, Ris - en Christ, come stand a -
 new world yet to be, free of ser - vant, lord, and
 word of world made new, ev - er sing - ing, ev - er



laugh - ter, we are nur - tured by your care.
 mong us, send the Spir - it by your breath.
 mas - ter, free for love and u - ni - ty.
 prais - ing, one with all, and one with you.

WORDS: Ruth Duck (John 1:14; 20:19-23)
 MUSIC: Skinner Chávez-Melo

RAQUEL
 87.87 D

Words © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.; music © 1985 Skinner Chávez-Melo

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 dark-ness 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 a-lone.

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide
I will tend the poor and lame,
till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

1.
All who dwell in dark and sin
Who will bear my light to them?
I have wept for love of them.
I will speak my word to them.
I will set a feast for them.
I will give my life to them.

my hand will save.
They turn a - way.
My hand will save.

2.
Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain (Harmony)
Here I am, Lord.

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

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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