



First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

May 5, 2024
10:00 AM

Conquering Love & Complete Joy

JOHN 15: 9-17

212 S Park St
Kalamazoo, MI
www.umc-kzo.org

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

PRELUDE *Prelude*

G. Nivers

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lori Owen-Rodgers (Co-Church Council Chair)

One: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.

All: **By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey God's commandments.**

One: For the love of God is this, that we obey God's commandments. And God's commandments are not burdensome,

All: **for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.**

One: Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

All: **This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.**

One: Let us worship God with love and faith!

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #2214** *At the Font We Start Our Journey* (FWS-black hymnal)

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLES

WELCOME & PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Julie Kline

SUNG RESPONSE #2219 *Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil*

(FWS-black hymnal)

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

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

Rev. Dan Duncan

HYMN #2233 *Where Children Belong*

(FWS-black hymnal)

***GOSPEL READING** *John 15: 9-17*

MESSAGE *Conquering Love & Complete Joy*

Rev. Julie Kline

HYMN #2050 *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth*

(FWS-black hymnal)

HOLY COMMUNION

One: God is with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to God.**

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

All: **It is good and beautiful to give God our praise.**

One: God of love, we thank you, for you have embodied your love and your delight in us.

All: **Your Creation is a gift of love.**

One: In Christ you have laid down your life for us.

All: **Your grace is a gift of love**

One: In love you set us free from all that oppresses, and choose us to join you in working for justice, that all your Beloved may know fullness of life.

All: **Your love has conquered the world.**

One: You call us to this meal, to feast on your love and to share in your joy. Therefore with all Creation we praise you.

SANCTUS (Musical Setting A, UMH red-hymnal pg. 17)

One: Blessed are all who come in your name, and blessed is Jesus, your Christ, who embodied your love.

All: **He fed the hungry, healed the broken, and gathered the outcast.**

One: In Christ you befriended us, that his joy may be ours.

All: **He laid down his life for us, a gift of love and delight; but you raised him from the dead, for love conquers even death.**

One: As long as we break this bread and share this cup we remember his death and resurrection, until he comes again.

All: **Therefore, remembering these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as a living and holy sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of our faith:**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (Musical Setting A, UMH red-hymnal pg. 18)

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and cup, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ.

All: **Pour out your Spirit on us, that we may be for the world the body of Christ.**

One: May the love that is born of you radiate in our hearts.

All: **May we love you with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, and love our neighbor as ourselves.**

One: We did not choose you, but you have chosen us.

All: **Send us to go and bear the fruit of compassion and justice, for the healing of the world, that your joy may be in us, and our joy may be complete.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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**

COMMUNION ANTHEM *Let Us Break Bread Together*

arr. Arlen Clarke

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *If Ye Love Me*

Thomas Tallis

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, your commandments are not burdensome. Help us to hear with joy, to be changed in trust, and to live in faith, bearing your love into this world in the name of Christ. Accept the gifts we bring today and multiple them for the healing of the world. Amen.

OUR SHARED LIVES

***HYMN #610** *We Know That Christ Is Raised*

(UMH-red hymnal)

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

J. Pachelbel

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Julia Librizzi,
Rev. Dan Duncan, Lori Owen-Rodgers

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

Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Lucas McGinnis,
Thom Victor

Acolytes: Lilly Nolan, Kaden Seals

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 Study in Acts: 9:00 am in Room 304.

Family Foundations: 11:15 am - Room 209.

Living the Questions; Honoring Creation: 11:15 am
The class will run until May 15th in the Parlor.

Round Two of Splendid Suppers for Seven will take place in June and July, and we are recruiting hosts! If you're willing to open your home for an evening of fabulous food and great conversation, please email us at: Layleaders@umc-kzo.org. As host (s), you choose the date that works best for you and provide the main course and beverages. Guests sign up for the date that works best for them and bring a side dish, salad or dessert to contribute to the meal. This is a great chance to get to know people in our congregation that you may not have met before! Sign-up to attend will begin today.

May Mission of the Month: The Seita Scholars Program at WMU supports students aged 18-25 who have aged out of the foster care system. These scholars receive financial support and work with a Campus Coach to build a network that enhances their skill sets. The program also assists former foster care students on campus who are not SEITA Scholar recipients. To meet the personal needs of these students, the program relies on contributions from individuals and organizations in the community.

Bay Shore Day Camp On The Road: Attention families of K-5th graders, Bayshore is back! Lunch and snacks will be included! The theme for this year will be "I AM " Through Old Testament stories about Moses and the Israelites and New Testament stories about followers of Jesus. This day camp is for children entering kindergarten through 5th grade. Monday August 12 - Thursday August 15, 2024, 8:30am to 4:30pm. There is no cost, but space is limited, so please register your children today. Contact Ms. Julia at jlibrizzi@umc.org for more information.

New Membership Opportunity: As we worship together, we frequently refer to the vow of faithfully participating in the congregation through your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. This is one of the vows that is made as persons are received into our community of faith. Another profession of faith that is regularly used as a part of our communal prayer life is that we accept the freedom and the power given by God to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. A series of new membership classes will be held on May 5, 12, and 19 after worship in the chapel. If you would like to explore further the commitment and joy of membership in The United Methodist Church, please contact Pastor Julie at jkline@umc-kzo.org.

Congregational Easter Picture: Before you leave today, please stop by the Perks Area and check out our second annual Easter picture. It's a great reminder of our value of sacred relationships and inclusion. It also captures the joy and spirit of our Easter celebrations.

Kalamazoo Community Chorale: Join us for a special afternoon with the Kalamazoo Community Chorale as we present "When Dreams Take Flight". This Sunday, May 5th, at 3:00 PM in our sanctuary. All are welcome, it's a celebration of community and song.

Adult Mission Trip: We invite adults of any age to join us on a mission trip to Detroit, October 3-6. We will be staying at and working through Cass Community Social Services, a Detroit-based agency connected with Cass Community United Methodist Church. For questions, or to sign up, please contact Dan Duncan.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, May 12

10:00 am Worship

Rev. Michelle King Deacon

Loving Boundaries

Luke 5:12-16

Sunday, May 19

10:00 am Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler

Pentecost/Confirmation

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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1KALAMAZOOfirstunitedmethodistchurch)

Church Staff

Rev. Julie Kline Lead Pastor
Rev. Matt Weiler Comm. Formation
Jacqueline Stilger Director of Music
Julia Librizzi Children & Families
Thom Victor Technology Specialist
Bernie Foulk Organist
Drew Bolton Bldg. Superintendent
Christine Landreville Office Manager
Walt Whitfield Bookkeeper
Christiane Stakely Office Assistant
Jose Celorio ... Communications Coord.
Michael Lee Custodian
Andrew Weare Building Host
Ava Loncharte Building Host
Jonathan Townley Youth/YA Intern

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, May 5

9:00 am Bible Study in Acts - Rm. 304

10:00 am Sunday Worship - Sanctuary

11:15 am Sunday School for all ages

11:15 am New Member Class - Chapel

11:15 am Youth Council - Youth Center

3:00 pm Kalamazoo Community Chorale Concert

6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Center

Monday, May 6

11:30 am Prayer Group - Chapel

Tuesday, May 7

9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom

12:30 pm Staff Meeting - Parlor

4:15 pm First Beats - Choir Room

4:30 pm Food Pantry

6:30 pm SPRC - Parlor/Zoom

6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, May 8

8:00 am Yoga - Zoom

9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor

12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live

12:30 pm Food Pantry

2:00 pm Stephen Ministry - Rm. 310

3:00 pm HON - Zoom

Thursday, May 9

9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship Room

2:30 pm Michigan Historic Preservation Network

6:00 Grief Group - Chapel

6:30 pm G.R.I.T. Team - Parlor

6:00 pm Chancel Singers Potluck - Off-Site

Friday May 10

2:00 pm Memorial Service - Jill Christian

Saturday May 11

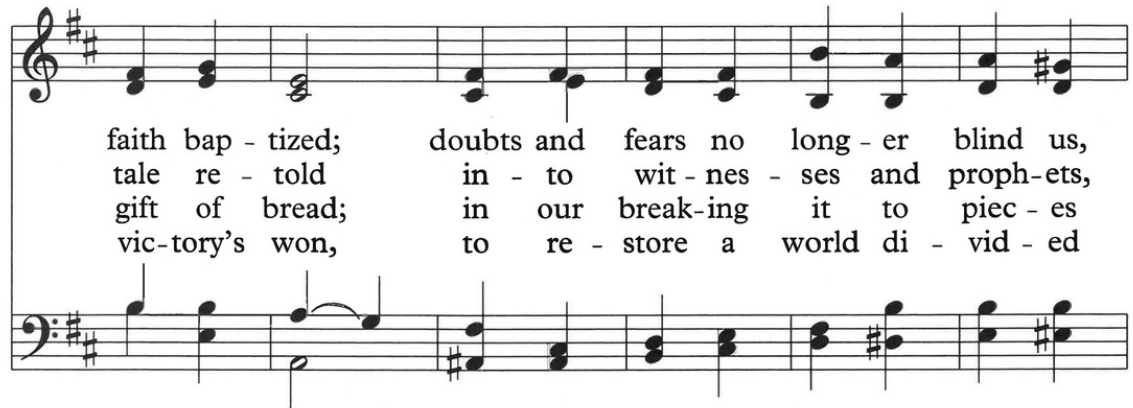
1:00 pm Memorial Service - Ellen McDonald

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

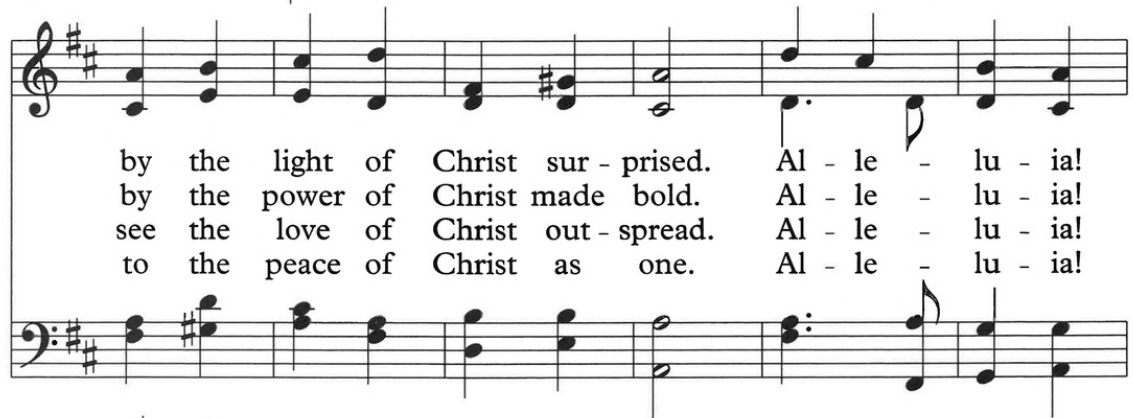
At the Font We Start Our Journey 2114



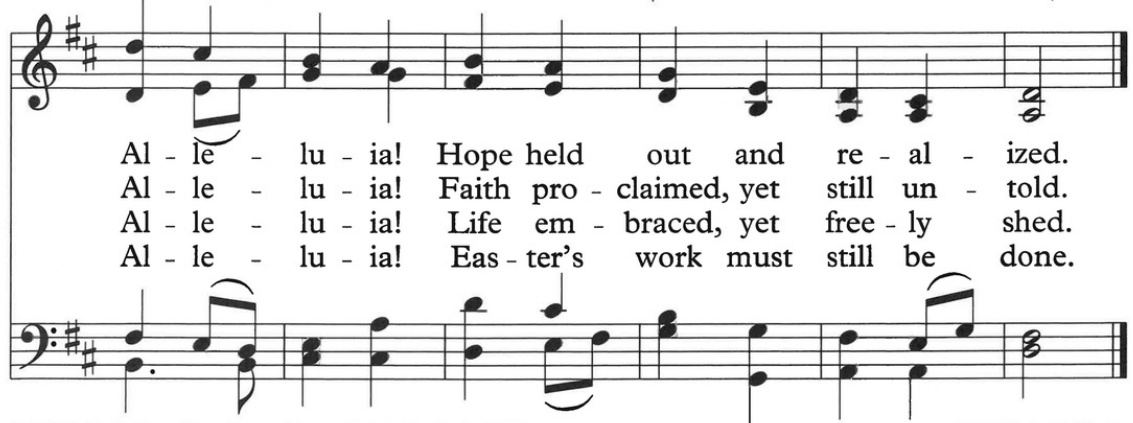
1. At the font we start our jour - ney, in the Eas - ter
 2. At the pul - pit we are fash - ioned by the Eas - ter
 3. At the al - tar we are nour - ished with the Eas - ter
 4. At the door we are com - mis - sioned, now the Eas - ter



faith bap - tized; doubts and fears no long - er blind us,
 tale re - told in - to wit - nes - ses and proph - ets,
 gift of bread; in our break - ing it to piec - es
 vic - tory's won, to re - store a world di - vid - ed



by the light of Christ sur - prised. Al - le - lu - ia!
 by the power of Christ made bold. Al - le - lu - ia!
 see the love of Christ out - spread. Al - le - lu - ia!
 to the peace of Christ as one. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Hope held out and re - al - ized.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Faith pro - claimed, yet still un - told.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Life em - braced, yet free - ly shed.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter's work must still be done.

WORDS: Jeffery Rowthorn (Acts 10:36-43; Col. 3:15)
 MUSIC: John Goss

LAUDA ANIMA
 87.87.87

2219 Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

Good-ness is strong-er than e - vil; love is strong-er than

hate; light is strong-er than dark - ness; life is strong-er than

death. Vic-tory is ours, vic-tory is ours through him who

Oh, vic-tory is ours, vic-tory is ours

loved us. Vic-tory is us.

through him who loved us. Oh, us.

WORDS: From *An African Prayer Book*, selected by Desmond Tutu
MUSIC: John Bell

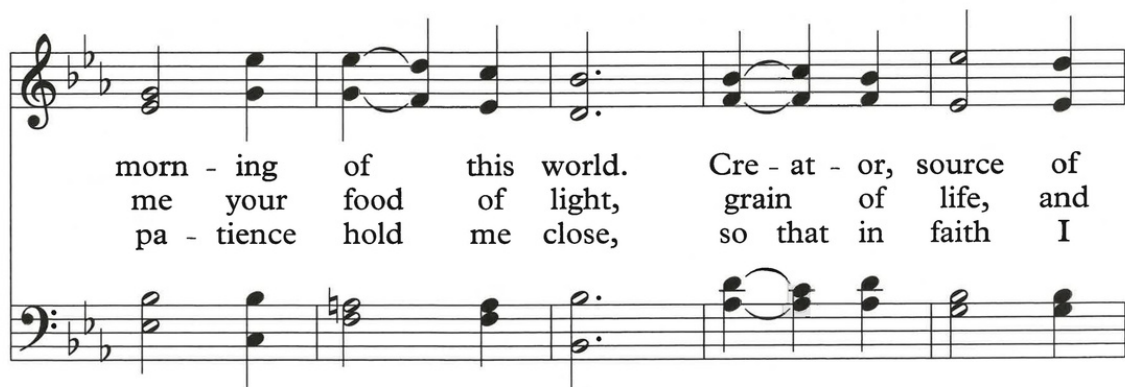
GOODNESS IS STRONGER
Irregular

Words © 1995 Desmond Tutu, admin. by Doubleday (a div. of Random House);
music © 1996 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland), admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth 2050



1. Moth-er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright
 2. Moth-er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing
 3. Moth-er - ing Spir - it, nur - t'ring one, in arms of

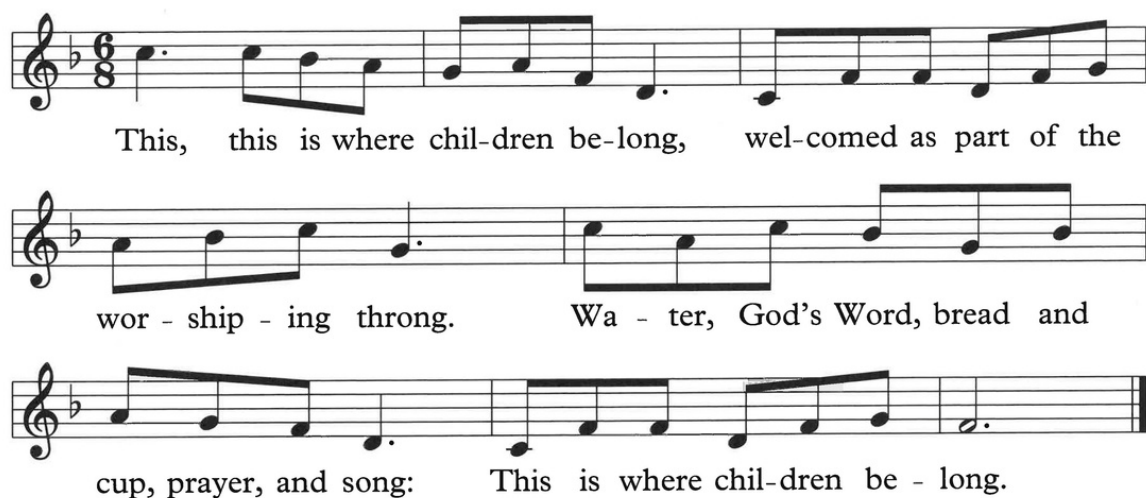


morn - ing of this world. Cre - at - or, source of
 me your food of light, grain of life, and
 pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I



ev - ery breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.
 grape of love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.
 root and grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

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.

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might.

This musical system is in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The melody features a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure. The lyrics are: "Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might."

Music continued

17-B WORD AND TABLE: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the

This musical system continues the melody on a treble clef staff with a bass line on a bass clef staff. It features two triplet markings over eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the"

high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the

This musical system continues the melody on a treble clef staff with a bass line on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the"

Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

This musical system concludes the phrase on a treble clef staff with a bass line on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est."

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!

THE SACRAMENTS AND RITES OF THE CHURCH

610 We Know That Christ Is Raised

Unison

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2. We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3. A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

Em-braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
The un - i - verse re - stored and whole will sing:

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!