

PRELUDE	When We are in the Highest Need	J.S. Bach
*OPENING PRAYER		Ruth Butters
God of love, through the prophet’s words you teach us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk with humility. Through the apostle, you have told us that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. In Jesus, you have shown us kindness in his words and actions. In our worship, you form us that we might be an alternative light pointing to a better way. May we encounter your grace this day, that we may live and breathe your kindness with every step we take. Amen		
*OPENING HYMN #88	Maker in Whom We Live	(UMH-red hymnal)
LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLES		
WELCOME		Rev. Matt Weiler
LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE		
PSALM #19		(UMH-red hymnal)
One: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.		
All: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.		
One: There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;		
All: yet their voice goes out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,		
One: which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.		
All: Its rising is from the end of the heavens and its circuit to the end of them, and nothing is hid from its heat.		
One: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;		
All: the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;		
One: the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.		
All: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.		
One: Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.		
All: But who can detect one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults.		
One: Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression.		
All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.		
*PASSING THE PEACE		Rev. Julie Kline

* Please rise in body or in spirit

ANTHEM	Shalom	Dan Forrest
BLESSING OF CHOIR & SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRIES		
*GOSPEL READING	Mark 8:27-38	
A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL		
	HYMN #2233	Where Children Belong
		FWS-black hymnal)
CHILDREN’S BLESSING		
MESSAGE	Lose Yourself in Kindness	Rev. Matt Weiler
HYMN #2130	The Summons	(FWS-black hymnal)
PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.		
CALL TO OFFERING		
OFFERTORY	Keep God’s Light Before You	Mark Patterson
*DOXOLOGY #94		
	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		Cora Welter
Lord, who gives us everything we have, we return with joy a portion of what we have, giving to the work of your church and your world what is already yours: ourselves, our lives, and our means. Make good come from these gifts. Teach us to use what we have with wisdom and kindness. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.		
OUR SHARED LIFE		
*HYMN #77	How Great Thou Art	(UMH-red hymnal)
BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	Whoever Lets Guide Them	J.S. Bach

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

MISSION

We are called to:
· Experience God's Love
· Celebrate God's Love
· Share God's Love

VISION

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

CORE 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, September 15

10:00 am Sunday Worship
11:00 am Sunday School - Parlor/Fellowship Rm.209
11:15 am Confirmation Class Rm.305
6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Center
6:00pm Retired Clergy Group - Friendship Village

Monday, September 16

1:00 pm Building & Grounds - Parlor
5:00 pm Finance - Zoom

Tuesday, September 17

9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom
9:45 am Book Club - Chapel
12:30 pm Staff Meeting - Parlor
4:15 pm First Beats
4:30 pm Food Pantry
6:30 pm Manna - Bonfire

Wednesday, September 18

8:00 am Yoga - Zoom
9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor
11:30 am Prayer Group - Chapel
12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 pm Food Pantry
2:30 pm Pantry Team Mtg. - Parlor
3:00 pm HON - Leader Home

Thursday, September 19

9:00 am Trustees - Zoom
9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship Rm.
6:00 pm Handbell Ensemble - Wesley Hall
7:00 pm Stewardship Team Meeting
7:15 pm Chancel Singers - Choir Rm.

Friday September 13

6:00pm Family Fun Night Candle Making

Saturday September 14

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, September 22
10:00 am Worship
Rev. Matt Weiler
ASP Sunday

Sunday, September 29
10:00 am Worship
Rev. Julie Kline
The Deep Gladness
of Inclusive Love
James 3:1-12

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/UCALAMAZOOfirstunitedmethodistchurch)

Church Staff

Rev. Julie Kline..... Lead Pastor
Rev. Matt Weiler Comm. Formation
Jacqueline StilgerDirector of Music
Julia Librizzi.....Children & Families
Thom Victor..... Tech. Support Specialist
Bernie Foulk.....Organist
Drew Bolton Bldg. Superintendent
Christine LandrevilleOffice Manager
Walt Whitfield..... Bookkeeper
Christiane StakelyOffice Assistant
Jose Celorio ... Communications Coord.
Andrew WeareBuilding Host
Ava LoncharteBuilding Host
Eamon Bronson.....Building Host
Jim TiffanyCustodian
Ruth Butters..... Young Adult Resident



DAILY PRAYER

O God of love, you've taught us. You've shown us what to do: Be just, commit to kindness, walk humbly here with you. Your Spirit gives us courage to truly live this way. May love become our message; may kindness win the day.

WORSHIP LEADERS

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

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

Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Drew Eaton, Thom Victor, Phil VanOrman, Lucas McGinnis

Acolytes: Cora & Hazel Welter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 Church Conference: The 2024 Church Conference will be held on Sunday, October 6 with worship at 3 PM in the sanctuary, followed by Church Conference at 4 PM. This important annual meeting, presided over by the District Superintendent will review our mission and ministry, receive reports, and adopt objectives and goals recommended by Church Council. We will host local UMC churches that make-up our newly assigned branch from the Kalamazoo area. Please plan to attend and be part of this significant event.

Sunday School Continues: its not to late to join one of the two classes after worship.

Kindness is Contagious: Pass it On” (Fellowship Room) Join Jennifer Clark for a four-week journey into the dimensions of kindness. We’ll reflect on insights from the Bible, scientists, and modern writers about this often overlooked quality. Discover tips to strengthen your kindness muscle for positive growth and transformation. Are you up for the task? We look forward to seeing you there!

“Christ and Culture” (Parlor) Join Rev. John Boley for an exploration of “Christ and Culture,” examining how our Christian faith interacts with cultural dynamics. Using H. Richard Niebuhr’s classic work as a primary source, we will delve into this engaging topic. All are invited to attend, and there’s no need to purchase or read the book beforehand. We look forward to seeing you there!

Candle Making Family Fun Night: Children & Families Ministry invites all to a potluck dinner and candle making event on Friday, September 20, 2024 from 6-8pm in Wesley Hall. Liz Moon will lead us on how to make colorful and amazing candles, which could possibly become Christmas gifts! The cost for each candle ranges from \$3.50 to \$17.25. Please bring cash or check only! No electronic payment can be accepted. Bring a dish to pass and RSVP to jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org so we have enough supplies

Sunday School begins Today, for children and parents! Children will meet in Room 206 with our wonderful teachers: Jane Barnes, Lisa Coe, Anne Sherfield, and Joyce Moore. Family Foundations for parents will meet in Room 209, led by Katy McGinnis and Magen Lindstrom.

Faith Milestones: This is a youth group type opportunity for 3rd - 5th graders! Please join us for our first "Milestones" meeting on Sunday, September 22, from 6-7:30pm in the Arches. We will share dinner, play games and have a time to learn about the bible and how to use it in daily living, before we give a Bible Blessing in church in October.

Confirmation Classes: Confirmation classes begin Today after worship and will meet every 3rd Sunday after worship through May. We’ll go on a retreat together at Wesley Woods in the fall, and next winter we’ll experience Shabbat at Temple B’nai Israel to learn how our Jewish siblings worship. Confirmation class is open to all youth currently in 7th grade or older and continues for two full years. If you wish to join our new class please contact Rev. Matt Weiler at: mweiler@umc-kzo.org



First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

REV. MATT WEILER

LOSE YOURSELF IN KINDNESS

September 15, 2024
10:00 AM

KINDNESS
CAMPAIGN

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



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.*