

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION p. 17 Musical Setting A (UMH-red hymnal)

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. Please bring forward your ministry fair sign-up and place in the basket.

One: The Holy One be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts to the One who is Love.

All: **Our hearts are open to God.**

One: Let us give thanks and praise to the Holy One.

All: **We give you thanks O God!**

One: Indeed, we give you thanks, O God...

SANCTUS (p.17 UMH-red hymnal)

One: Because of his relentless pursuit of love, he was seized by those in power...

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (p.18 UMH-red hymnal)

One: Pour out your Spirit on these gifts, O God. Make this a meal that nourishes...

All: **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & RECEIVING BREAD & CUP

COMMUNION ANTHEM *Bread of the World* John Abdenour

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**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 *With a Voice of Singing* Martin Shaw

*DOXOLOGY #94 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy Spirit, source of wisdom and peace, fill us with unparalleled generosity as we encounter the human race each day. Receive the gifts we bring today and use them to bring healing and restoration. Remind us, God, of the compassion shown by Christ, who forgave even those amidst hatred. Teach our hearts to reflect such loving kindness, through understanding and gratitude, that joy may flourish in all relationships and communities. Amen.

OUR SHARED LIFE

*HYMN *Be Kind to One Another*



Be kind to one a - noth - er, be ten - der heart-ed
Be kind in all your speak-ing and hear what oth - ers
Be kind with-in your cir - cle, but look past what you
O God of love, you've taught us. You've shown us what to



too. For giv - ing one a - noth - er, as
say. Be o - pen to Christ's teach - ing, and
see; Be kind to those in troub - le, the
do: Be just, com - mit to kind - ness, walk



Christ has par-doned you. Re - frain from an - y
in all mat - ters, pray. Be gen - tle, lov - ing,
poor, the re - fu - gee. The world is filled with
hum-bly here with you. Your Spir - it gives us



gos - sip, for gos-sip is a sin. Be o - pen to new
faith - ful and keep a hum-ble mind. Re mem-ber what is
vio - lence; write let-ters, call out sin! Don't ev - er sit in
cour-age to tru - ly live this way. May love be-come our



friend - ships, and wel-come peo - ple in.
truth - ful. In ev - 'ry thing be kind.
si - lence and let the e - vil win.
mes - sage; may kind-ness win the day.

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Tune: *Aurelia* by Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Dance No 4* Philip Glass

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 8
10:00 am Sunday Worship
11:00 am Sunday School for all ages - Parlor
6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Center

Monday, September 9
1:00 pm Building & Grounds - Parlor
2:00 pm Leadership Team - Zoom

Tuesday, September 10
9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom
4:15 pm First Beats
4:30 pm Food Pantry
6:30 pm Manna - Bonfire
6:00 pm SPRC - Parlor/Zoom

Wednesday, September 11
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
2:00 pm Stephen Ministry - Rm. 310
3:00 pm HON - Leader Home

Thursday, September 12
9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship Rm.
6:00 pm Handbell Ensemble - Wesley Hall
7:15 pm Chancel Singers - Choir Rm.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, September 15

10:00 am Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler

To Be Clear is to be Kind

Mark 8:27-38

Sunday, September 22

10:00 am Worship

Rev. Matt Weiler

ASP Sunday

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

www.umc-kzo.org

Church Staff

Rev. Julie Kline..... Lead Pastor
Rev. Matt Weiler Comm. Formation
Jacqueline Stilger Director of Music
Julia Librizzi..... Children & Families
Thom Victor..... Tech. Support Specialist
Bernie Foulk..... Organist
Drew Bolton Bldg. Superintendent
Christine Landreville..... Office Manager
Walt Whitfield..... Bookkeeper
Christiane Stakely Office Assistant
Jose Celorio ... Communications Coord.
Andrew Weare Building Host
Ava Loncharte Building Host
Jim Tiffany..... Custodian
Ruth Butters..... Young Adult Resident

WORSHIP LEADERS

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

Director of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

Organist

Bernie Foulk

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rejoice Sunday: Throughout the summer, we've highlighted the various ministries that make our church. Each ministry offers unique opportunities for fellowship, service, and spiritual growth. We hope you've found one that you like. Rejoice Sunday is the perfect day to start getting involved. It's a time for celebration and connection, where you can join one of these ministries. Please express your interest with the sign-up sheets provided and bring forward at the time of communion.

Sunday School for all ages: From September 8-29, join us after worship for 2 different classes:

Kindness is Contagious: Pass it On" (Fellowship Room) Kindness is doing what you can, where you are, with what you have. Our world needs kindness more than ever. God calls us to kindness. Are you up for the task? Over four weeks, Jennifer Clark will guide us as we dive into various dimensions of kindness by reflecting upon what the Bible, scientists, and several modern-day writers have to say about this often overlooked and misunderstood quality of being. We'll also discuss tips for how to strengthen our kindness muscle for positive growth and transformation.

"Christ and Culture" (Parlor) Most of us who consider ourselves to be devout believe that we practice a form of Christianity that is almost "pure." But we also live in a pluralistic society with its culture and sub-cultures, and so we also recognize that our faith and our culture are engaged together in a dance that is sometimes joyful, and often times confusing. Join Rev. John Boley for an exploration of "Christ and Culture," examining how our Christian faith interacts with cultural dynamics. We will use as a primary source the classic work "Christ and Culture" by H. Richard Niebuhr. All are invited to attend. There is no need to purchase this book or read it ahead of time. A good time will be had by all. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sunday School begins on September 15, 2024, 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. Join us after church on Rejoice Sunday, September 8, in the Arches (the space right next to the nursery at the top of the stairs with the big windows that look out on the parking lot) on the 2nd floor for an open house. You can register your child for Sunday School, see the classrooms, meet some teachers, and get the schedules for Family Fun Events, Faith Milestones for 3rd-5th graders, and Sunday School this year.

Parent and Youth Meeting After Worship: Everyone (Parents and Youth) is invited to the Youth Lounge this Sunday following worship for a 45 minute meeting / orientation to our year together. We'll introduce our leaders, talk about our year together and provide a schedule of events. Hopefully any questions you have will be answered.

Confirmation Classes: Confirmation classes begin this Fall after worship on September 15th 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

Yard Signs Available: Make sure to find a sign-up sheet to buy a yard sign and help us promote kindness in our community.

Kindness Campaign: This campaign is an invitation to consider how we want to be treated, and how we treat others, even those with whom we disagree. What's possible when our community leans into kindness? Join us as we come together to find out!

Family camping July 11-13, 2025. At Lake Michigan Family Campground, Pentwater MI Full hook up sites, electric and water sites, and platform tent sites available. Call 231-869-5627 to make reservation. One night deposit required to hold spot. We have a group of sites blocked off for our group



First United Methodist
Church of Kalamazoo

REJOICE SUNDAY

REV. JULIE KLINE

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

PRELUDE *Capriccio*

J. Froberger

***OPENING PRAYER**

Healing God, we rejoice to be in your presence this day and all of our days. May we strive to emulate your benevolent nature by embracing openness and friendliness as neighbors. Let our daily interactions serve as testaments to your divine kindness and mercy. May our shared smiles, acts of compassion, our work of justice, and our desire for understanding foster stronger bonds in our community. In Jesus' name we humbly pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN #114** *Many Gifts, One Spirit*

(UMH-red hymnal)

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLES

WELCOME & INVITATION TO MINISTRIES

Rev. Julie Kline

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

HYMN #2174 *What Does the Lord Require of You*

(FWS-black hymnal)

PSALM #145

(UMH-red hymnal)

PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Matt Weiler

***GOSPEL READING** *Mark 7: 24-37*

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Julia Librizzi

HYMN #2233 *Where Children Belong*

(FWS-black hymnal)

MESSAGE *Open Hearts*

Rev. Julie Kline

HYMN #2152 *Change My Heart, O God*

(FWS-black hymnal)

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.*

September 8, 2024
10:00 AM

212 S Park St
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www.umc-kzo.org