

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

HYMN #2233 *Where Children Belong* (FWS, black hymnal)

BLESS THE CHILDREN

After the blessing, children 4 years old to 6th grade are invited to their own kind of worship on the 2nd floor called "Godly Play."

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 18:33-37

This is what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "Ruled by Grace"

Rev. Julie Kline

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

written by Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes

We give our hearts to You, God, eternal creator and ruler of all that is and all that is to come, whose power and grace is unsearchable yet evident in the world around us, hidden in the ordinary, present in all things. We follow you, Christ, our Sovereign, who appeared in Jesus among the poor, teaching, healing, and doing miracles, gathering a community, and proclaiming your Realm of Grace. In your death and resurrection you have overthrown the powers of this world and established your Realm among us. The Risen Christ lives and reigns; Christ prevails even amidst all evil, suffering and injustice; Christ directs our lives and confirms our hopes. Hidden in your humble appearance, vulnerability and powerlessness, you are our Sovereign, and the ruler of all Creation. We live by your Holy Spirit within and among us, the power of your reign in our hearts that guides and strengthens us to respond to your desire, to live in love, and to work as the Body of Christ for your realm of mercy and justice. We renounce worldly powers and values, and pledge allegiance to your love and grace, which redeems the world and grants the gift of eternal life. Amen.

HYMN #2036 *Give Thanks*

(FWS, black hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

We pass the plates as an expression of worship and thanksgiving to God. As the plate is passed, bless it with your hands and heart and offer your thanksgiving, even if you've chosen another avenue of giving. Our loose change will be given to UMCOR, the denominational disaster response and recovery. You are also invited to fill out the attendance pad located at the end of the row in the pew. Please pass it down the row for others to sign.

*OFFERTORY *O Christ the Same*

C. Courtney

O Christ the same, through all our story's pages, our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears; Eternal Lord, the king of all the ages, unchanging still amid the passing years: O living Word, the source of all creation. Who spread the skies and set the stars ablaze; O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation, we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays. O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide; Still as of old upon your body bearing the marks of love in triumph glorified: O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven, O Prince of life, in all your saving power; O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given: we bring our thanks for this the present hour. O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping our lives and loves, our days and years remain; our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping, our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain: O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows and hopes when earth shall fade and flee; beyond our brief tomorrow, we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

*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

Loving Creator, whose reign is everlasting, we offer these gifts with grateful hearts. May they serve to proclaim your truth and extend your kingdom of justice, peace, and love. Transform our offerings and our lives to bear witness to the hope and promise of Christ, our king. In his holy name, we pray. Amen.

OUR SHARED LIVES

***HYMN #698** *God of the Ages*

(UMH, red hymnal)

BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Kyrie*

F. Couperin

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, November 24
10:00 am Sunday Worship
11:15 am Sunday School for all ages
11:15 am Confirmation Class - 305
1:00 pm Finance Committee - Parlor
6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Center

Monday, November 25
9:30 am Deck the Halls - Sanctuary, hallways

Tuesday, November 26
9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom
4:15 pm First Beats - Choir Room
4:30 pm Food Pantry
6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center
6:30 pm Church Council - Parlor/Zoom

Wednesday, November 27
8:00 am Yoga - Zoom
9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor
11:30 am Prayer Group - Chapel
12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook

Thursday, November 28
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Friday, November 29

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

FWS - The Faith We Sing



First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

212 S. Park St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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

Christ the King Sunday

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 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* arr. P.Collins

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Lori Owen-Rogers, Church Council Co-Chair

ONE: Loving God of power and justice and peace, in our broken world, we seek a new order

ALL: where there is courage to speak truth to power.

ONE: We seek a new order

ALL: where there is mutual support in church and community.

ONE: We seek a new order

ALL: where there is abundant time for healing.

ONE: We seek a new order

**ALL: where there is peace and freedom for all. Come, let us worship!
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN #154** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* (UMH, red hymnal)

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLES

WELCOME AND PASSING THE PEACE Rev. Julie Kline

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE Rev. Matt Weiler

MUSICAL RESPONSE #138 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (UMH, red hymnal)

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 93

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Lori Owen-Rogers

Director of Music: Jacqueline Stilger

Organist: Bernie Foulk

Trumpets: David Brown, Mike McMinn, Liem Nguyen

Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Drew Eaton, Kennedy Hayes, Lucas McGinnis, Zachary Jackson

Acolytes: Lilly Nolan, Michael Bovid

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spring Valley Elementary Food Baskets. In gratitude to all for the generous donations of food and money to Spring Valley Elementary Thanksgiving Baskets. This evening the youth will deliver boxes of food and turkeys to 13 families. Additionally, we will donate money to Communities in Schools at Spring Valley to purchase home lunches for students during Christmas break. We are blessed to be a blessing!

Perks! Please stop in the Perks Café area by the parking lot after worship for refreshments and fellowship!

Adult Academy Class. Led by Carol Hodges in the parlor, DOUBT is a class based on the book/video, "Wrestling with Doubt: Finding Faith" by Adam Hamilton. We will look at the importance of doubt in the spiritual lives of Christians, as well as examining common beliefs with which many people struggle. This class will meet on Sundays through Dec. 8.

Splendid Suppers for Seven. Sign-ups for December's Suppers for Seven is full! Stay tuned for round five that will be scheduled early in the new year.

November/December Mission of the Month: Salvation Army Angel Tree. We invite you to take a tag from the Christmas tree located in the Perks area and help make Christmas brighter for children in our community. Please return gifts unwrapped, with the gift tag attached, to the church by Sunday, December 15. Gift cards should be placed in the lock box (below the key box, besides Chris Stakely's desk) for safekeeping.

Help Us Deck the Halls! Volunteers are needed to help us get the church ready for Advent and Christmas. We will be putting up trees, wreaths, garland, and more on TOMORROW at 9:30 a.m. Coffee and donuts will be served. Please contact Deb Karnemaat at (269) 330-0375 or email dskar@charter.net if you would like to help!

Name Tags. There are still some name tags that have not been picked up. If you ordered a name tag, it is available at the Welcome Center.

Downtown Outreach Churches' Collaboration (DOCC). During the Bronson Park Tree Lighting Ceremony, our church will join with other churches around the park handing out an invitational brochure of Advent and Christmas events and services. On Friday, Nov. 29 from 4:45 to 7 pm, volunteers are needed to hand out these brochures at a table in front of our church. The DOCC Team welcomes you to help greet members of our community and hand out these brochures for a 30-60 minute block of time. Please contact Ann Sweany, rasweany@charter.net or Donna Oudersluys, donnaoudersluys@gmail.com if interested!

Immigration Naturalization Clinic. On Wed., Dec. 4 from 9am-4pm in room 304, the Immigration Law & Justice Team will need volunteers to help the clinic with hospitality. Contact Ann Sweany by emailing rasweany@iljmi.org if you would like to help with food or greeting.

Advent Concert Series. Enjoy your lunch hour on Thursdays during Advent with an uplifting 50-minute concert. Meet the musicians and share in refreshments after the concerts. Freewill offering. For our first concert on Dec. 5, we welcome back the popular Frank Silva Jazz Trio, presenting tunes of the season.

Children & Families Advent Fun Event! Mark your calendar to join us on Fri., Dec. 6 from 6-8pm in Wesley Hall to create your families' Christmas gingerbread house. Contact Julia Librizzi, jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org, with questions.

New Year's Fest. First Church will again be part of the downtown Kalamazoo New Year's celebration with entertainers in the sanctuary and Wesley Hall. Volunteers are needed to help throughout the evening. Shifts are two hours each but flexible with your schedule. Everyone who volunteers will receive a pass to attend other shows around the park. Sign-up in the Perks area on Sunday mornings or email Sharon and Dan Bunker at djbunker@charter.net.

Generosity Capital Campaign. Thank you to all those who have submitted their 2025 Estimate of Giving card. Your pledge is invaluable in helping us build a balanced budget. As of Nov. 20, we have received 135 pledges for a total of \$735,734. If you need an Estimate of Giving card, they can be found in the pew pockets.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 1

10:00 a.m. Worship

First Sunday of Advent

Rev. Julie Kline

"You Are a Blessing"

Luke 1:26-38 & Isaiah 43:1-7

Sunday, December 8

10:00 a.m. Worship

Second Sunday of Advent

Rev. Matt Weiler

"We Can't Go Alone"

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

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

Church Staff

Rev. Julie KlineLead Pastor

Rev. Matt Weiler.....Comm. Formation

Jacqueline Stilger..... Director of Music

Julia Librizzi Children & Families

Thom Victor Tech Support Specialist

Bernie FoulkOrganist

Drew Bolton Bldg. Superintendent

Christine Landreville Office Manager

Christiane Stakely..... Office Assistant

Jennifer Stupica Communications

Walt WhitfieldBookkeeper

Bryan Heany Lead A/V Technician

Andrew Weare.....Building Host

Ava Lonchante.....Building Host

Eamon BronsonBuilding Host

Jim Tiffany.....Custodian

Ruth Butters.....Young Adult Resident