

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

March 1 @10:00 a.m.
Second Sunday of Lent
"Resisting"
Rev. Julie Kline
Psalm 13

March 8 @10:00 a.m.
Third Sunday of Lent
Rev. Matt Weiler
Matthew 25: 31-40

WE ARE 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 to 3-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. You can find previous recordings of worship services on our website (www.umc-kzo.org) under the Livestream tab, or find us on our YouTube page.

Church Staff

Rev. Julie Kline..... Lead Pastor
Rev. Matt Weiler Community Formation
Jacqueline Stilger Organist/Dir. of Music
Cari Beth Croak..... Associate Dir. of Music
Julia Librizzi..... Children & Families
Drew Bolton Bldg. Superintendent
Linda Hamill Office Manager
Christiane Stakely Office Assistant
Erika Jones..... Communications
Cody Collmenter Bookkeeper
Bryan Heany..... AV Team Leader
Alison Ericson Building Host
Samantha Lee..... Building Host
Jacob Ericson Building Host
Eamon Bronson..... Building Host
Jim Tiffany..... Custodian
Ruth Butters Young Adult Resident

We are a Reconciling Congregation, Welcoming ALL.



Worship Leaders: Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Matt Weiler, Deb Search Willoughby, Julia Librizzi
Director of Music/Organist: Jacqueline Stilger
Associate Director of Music: Cari Beth Croak
Musicians: Chancel Singers, Bells and First Beats
Audio-Visual Team: Bryan Heany, Lucas McGinnis, Kennedy Hayes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Sunday School for preschool - 5th graders meets today in room 206 (second floor) following worship until 12:30pm.

Sunday School for infants - 4 year olds meets from 9:45am to 12:30pm in room 208.

Special Event Today! Beloved Community of FUMC, You are warmly invited to join us for a special **Congregational Celebration of Our Shared Life** today following worship. This gathering is an opportunity for us to come together as a church family to reflect on, celebrate, and look forward to all that God is doing in and through our ministries. During this celebration, we will share highlights and reports from our 2025 Church Conference, as well as stories of how our mission, vision, and values have come to life in the past year. We will also look ahead to the ways we hope to continue living out our calling in 2026. A booklet entitled "Our Shared Life: 2025-26 Ministry Reports & Celebrations" will be available, featuring reports and reflections from our various ministries. Your presence and participation are important as we celebrate our shared journey and discern the road ahead together. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing in this meaningful time as a congregation!

Mosaics of Words and Glass mobile - Since they're hard to miss, you may have already noticed the grouping of mobiles outside the sanctuary doors! This project was part of the "Our Story is Never Over" series. These mobiles began as circles of colored glass, representing the different stages of a dandelion's life cycle and symbolizing resilience, transformation and the hope in possibility. Made one evening by 30 individuals, they are as unique as snowflakes—and as each one of us! In a subsequent session, a group composed of the original participants (along with some new) gathered to assemble the resulting pieces into a glorious new whole.

As part of the final "Pivot" in this series, the mobiles will be featured, along with other stories, poems and written reflections that have been created during this project, in a dramatic production to be written by local playwright Buddy Hannah and our own Jennifer

Clark. Watch the bulletin board and easel for more information!

Youth Group is open to all 6th-12th grade students and meets every Sunday evening during the school year from 6pm-7:30pm in the Youth Lounge.

Faith Milestones: A youth-group-style meeting for our 3rd - 5th grade children which meets once a month on Sunday evenings from 6 - 7:30. The next meeting will be March 15. Contact Julia Librizzi for more information at jlibrizzi@umc-kzo.org.

Manna, our young adult ministry, gathers every Tuesday in the youth lounge from 6:30-8:00pm. Contact Ruth Butters at RuthTButters@gmail.com.

The Bernie Foulk Memorial Lenten Organ Recital Series will take place Thursdays at 12 noon in the Sanctuary beginning February 26. The first performance will feature Omar Padilla, Director of Music at St. Philip Catholic Church, Battle Creek. A reception with refreshments and a chance to meet the musician will follow. For information on the entire series, see the posters around the church!

February Mission of the Month

One of our Community Ministry Partners, the Kalamazoo YWCA, provides shelter and assistance to women and children in a crisis situation, victimized by domestic assault or trafficking. Please consider donating the following:

- Towels (bath, hand, washcloths)
- Toothpaste
- Kids waterproof gloves/mittens
- Soap/bath gel
- Sanitary products
- Lotion
- Deodorant
- Women's socks & underwear

Donations can be placed in the box by the food pantry. Thank you!

Hot Potatoes 2.0: From March 1st to March 29th, the Adult Academy Class will look at another round of Hot Potatoes, this time based in the worship theme for Lent – "Roll Down Justice." John Boley will facilitate, and among other things we will look at Contextual Theology, Liberation and Gender-Based Theologies, Faith and Authoritarianism, and Christology. All are invited.

❄️ Weather Closing Policy - We are always open on Sundays (except for extreme circumstances). Week-day 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, WWMT News website, and our Facebook page for church closing notices.

February 22, 2026

10:00 a.m.

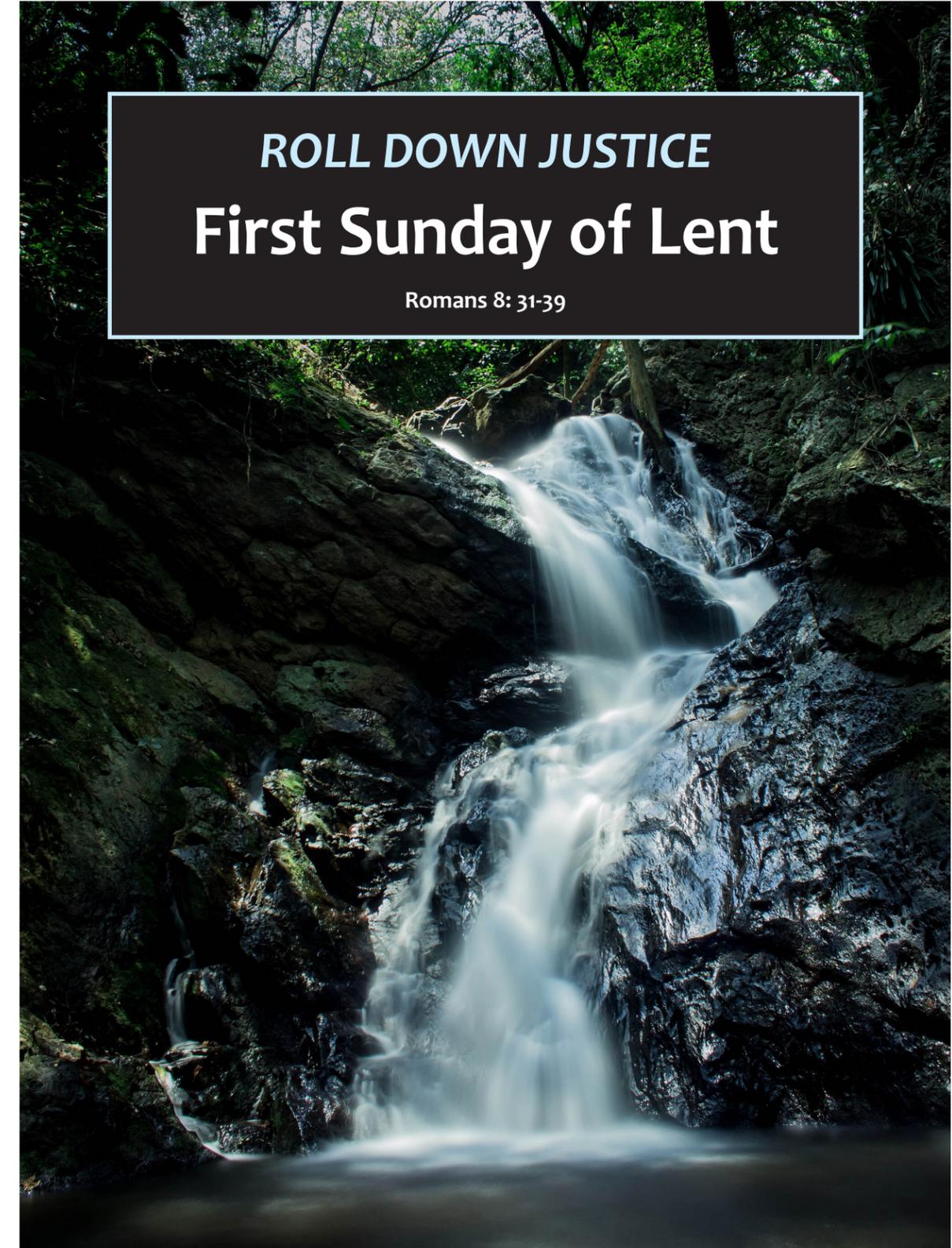
First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

212 S. Park Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

269.381.6340
umc-kzo.org

ROLL DOWN JUSTICE First Sunday of Lent

Romans 8: 31-39



Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

We would like to connect with you. Please fill out the attendance pad located at the end of the pews 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 *Our Father, Who Art in Heaven* (G. Boehm)

WELCOME

Rev. Julie Kline

One: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

THE CALL & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Our acolytes light the Christ Candle to remember Jesus as the light of the world—conquering darkness and offering new life.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Deb Search Willoughby

One: Holy and Living God, we open to you this day.

ALL: May peace flow. Let justice roll.

One: Wake us from our slumber and help us see.

ALL: May peace flow. Let justice roll.

One: Let no one feel outside *Your* love, outside *our* love.

ALL: May peace flow. Let justice roll.

Roll _____ down! Roll down, jus-tice! Roll like an
e-ver flow-ing stream, flow-ing stream, roll down!

Words and music by Mark Miller based on "Roll Down Justice"
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*PASSING THE PEACE

You are invited to turn to your neighbor and greet them with gestures and words of peace, such as "Peace be with you." This practice symbolizes reconciliation, unity, and the sharing of Christ's love amongst our community.

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

Rev. Matt Weiler

MUSICAL RESPONSE *May Peace Flow* (Thompson/Miller)

Chancel Singers

WE PROCLAIM

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

Julia Librizzi

Blessing the Children

A WORD FOR HUMANITY

SCRIPTURE Romans 8: 31-39 (CEB)

Deb Search Willoughby

This is what the spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER POEM¹ "Speak a Word" (Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling)

MESSAGE "Walking Each Other Home"

Rev. Julie Kline

***HYMN #611** *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

(UMH-red hymnal)

WE RESPOND

PETITIONS

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 ANTHEM *Child of God* (Mark Miller)

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, whose holy justice shines! Whose mercy through all ages binds;
Through Christ our love and hope increase; All glory be to God, our peace.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: For the gift of unconditional love,

ALL: we give thanks.

One: For the way in which these offerings will become gifts of love embodied,

ALL: we give thanks.

One: For the gift of this community bound and working together,

ALL: we give thanks.

*OUR SHARED LIFE

CLOSING HYMN #269 *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

(UMH-red hymnal)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Fantasia in D Minor* (J. Pachelbel)

At the close of worship, the acolytes take the Light of Christ down the center aisle to symbolize that as Christ's followers, we bear the Light of Christ to the world.

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal FWS-The Faith We Sing

¹Prayer/Poem © Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling. Used with permission for "Roll Down Justice" Lent series by the Worship Design Studio.



THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, February 22

10:00 am Worship Service - Sanctuary
11:00 am Sunday School for all ages
11:15 am Membership Class - Rm. 305
6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Center

Monday, February 23

11:40 am Similarities (NA) - Wesley Hall

Tuesday, February 24

9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom
11:40 am Similarities (NA) - Wesley Hall
4:15 pm First Beats - Choir Room
4:30 to 6:30 pm - Food pantry open
6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, February 25

8:00 am Yoga - Zoom
9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor
11:40 am Similarities (NA) - Wesley Hall
12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 to 2:30 - Food pantry open
6:30 pm Church Council - Parlor/Zoom

Thursday, February 26

9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship Room
11:40 am Similarities (NA) - Wesley Hall
12 noon Lenten Concert - Sanctuary
1:00 pm Disciple Bible Study - Wesley Hall
5:45 pm Handbell Choir - Wesley Hall
7:15 pm Chancel Singers - Choir room