

April 3, 2026
7:00 pm

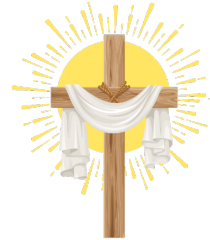
First United Methodist Church

212 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI
(269) 381-6340 • www.umc-kzo.org

Coming up: Easter Sunday Service

April 5th @10:00 a.m.

Easter ends the season of Lent as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a jubilant celebration resounding with "alleluias" and the trumpet-filled pronouncement, "He has risen." On this joy-filled day, we will celebrate Holy Communion and collectively raise our voices singing the "Hallelujah Chorus." Invite your friends and family to join us!



Nursery care and livestreaming available.

Leading us in worship this evening:

Rev. Julie Kline
Rev. Matt Weiler
Michael Bovid
Diane Owen-Rogers

Director of Music - Jacqueline Stilger

Associate Director of Music - Cari Beth Croak

Musicians - Chancel Singers, Lisa Stucky, piano accompanist

Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday school resumes at 11:00 a.m. on April 12.

Sunday morning child care is available on the second floor from 9:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

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.**

Good Friday Tenebrae: Service of Shadows

"That It Might Be Buried" Prayer/Poem by Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling

Let there be a rending.
A rending of ways contrary to
the faith I purport in you.
Let the rending penetrate the flesh,
stripping away the marrow and sinew
until the cancer is exposed in its fullness.
Let it be extracted that it might be buried.
Let there be an emptying.
An emptying of arrogant ego that elects itself
the standard bearer of truth and right and morality
and Godly-living.
An emptying of the arrogant ego that perverts humility and
feeds selfish thoughts and desires.
Let there be an emptying from the depths of my very being.
May the arrogant ego be emptied that it might be buried.
Let there be a purging.
A purging of the bias that
rears its ugly head and betrays a
resistance to a full measure of love and acceptance
of all other races, traditions, nationalities, faiths, and ways of loving.
Let there be a purging of bias that it might be buried.
Let there be an eviction.
An eviction of capitalistic greed and consumption
that profits on the backs of children, women, and men
who yearn for self-determination and safety and health and security.
Let there be an eviction of the lust of things that leads to a
denial of the death, hurt, and harm that make their acquisition possible.
Let there be an eviction of greed that it might be buried.
Let there be a searching.
A searching so complete that no hiding place exists.
A searching for aspects that have not yet been offered,
not yet molded and made after your will.
Let there be a searching for anything that precludes
full solidarity with your Divine will.
Let there be a searching so that anything remaining
that is not like you may be buried.
Let there be a total surrender, so much so that I am
buried with you on this Good Friday.
So that I may rise anew with you early on Easter morn. Amen.



The service of Tenebrae, meaning “darkness” or “shadows”, has been practiced by the church since medieval times. Once a service for the monastic community, Tenebrae later became an important part of the worship of the common folk during Holy Week. We join Christians of many generations throughout the world in using the liturgy of Tenebrae. Tenebrae is a prolonged meditation on Christ’s suffering. Readings trace the story of Christ’s passion, music portrays His pathos or power, and the power of silence and darkness suggests the drama of this momentous event. As lights are extinguished, we ponder the depth of Christ’s suffering and death.

Please pray in silence until worship begins.

PRELUDE *Variations on “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”* (Johann Pachabel)

WELCOME & PRAYER

Rev. Julie Kline

**Our God, Mother, Father, 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Diane Owen-Rogers

One: The people stood yelling,

ALL: “Crucify!”

One: and it breaks our hearts every time.

For Jesus’ death occurs every time someone is ignored, mistreated, or oppressed.

ALL: “Crucify!”

One: tears away at God’s Beloved.

Hymn #286 *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

(UMH - red hymnal)

FIRST OF THE SHADOWS John 18:1-12 Jesus Is Arrested

The first candle is extinguished.

Michael Bovid

ANTHEM *All for Love* (Robert Young)

Chancel Singers

SECOND OF THE SHADOWS John 18:13-18; 25-27 Peter Denies Jesus

The second candle is extinguished.

A PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Rev. Matt Weiler

ASSURANCE OF BLESSING

THIRD OF THE SHADOWS John 18: 28-38 Trial of Jesus before Pilate

The third candle is extinguished.

HYMN #292 *What Wondrous Love is This*

(UMH - red hymnal)

FOURTH OF THE SHADOWS John 18: 38-19: 16a Jesus Is Condemned to Death

The fourth candle is extinguished.

HYMN #298 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

(UMH - red hymnal)

FIFTH OF THE SHADOWS John 19:16b-27 From the Cross, Jesus Calls Forth Beloved Community

The fifth candle is extinguished.

HOMILY

Rev. Julie Kline

PRAYER

Sixth of the Shadows John 19: 28-30 Jesus Dies

The sixth candle is extinguished.

ANTHEM *Solus Christus (Christ Alone)* (Heather Sorenson)

Jesus is dead . . . It is finished.

The seventh candle is extinguished.

Chancel Singers

SEVENTH OF THE SHADOWS John 19: 38-42 Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

HYMN #288 *Were You There*

(UMH - red hymnal)

PRAYERFUL RECESS

Jesus is laid in the tomb, and his followers leave him to God, in the silence and rest of Sabbath.

You are invited to leave in silence into the shadows of this night.

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

Prayer/Poem ©Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling. Used with permission for “Roll Down Justice” Lent series by the Worship Design Studio.
Tenebrae: Service of Shadows, Prayers for Good Friday (adapted) was written by the Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel, Conference Minister, Missouri Mid-South, United Church of Christ.