UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP

November 15 @10:00 a.m.
25th Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler
"Trust and Faithfulness"
Psalm 90 / Matthew 25:14-30

November 22 @10:00 a.m.
Reign of Christ Sunday
Rev. Dr. Matt Weiler
Psalm 95 / Matthew 25:31-46

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE OUR GUEST TODAY! If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Center.

Children are welcome! Child care with trained staff is provided on the second floor for infants to 4-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. Dr. 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
Jim Tiffany.....Custodian
Em Norwood..... Young Adult Resident

Kalamazoo First United Methodist Church's Call To Action

In response to racism and bias: as part of Kalamazoo First United Methodist Church's vow to resist oppression in all its forms, we commit ourselves to the decisive action that is needed to resist and dismantle racism at every level. This action must go beyond our historically empty rhetoric about repentance and broken promises to be a church that is a credible and active witness for peace, equity, and justice in the face of harm visited upon communities of color. We beckon our clergy and lay leadership to unapologetically shine the light of truth on our church community so that we recognize our complicity in systemic racism, recognize and condemn white supremacy as sin, and seek a deep knowing of what God calls us to do. We make these vows so that every person—especially Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)—may live in safety, health, and freedom.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Julie Kline, Vickie Winfield, Julia Librizzi
Director of Music: Jacqueline Stilger
Associate Director of Music: Cari Beth Croak
Musicians: Chancel Singers; Chris Haber, string bass
Acolytes: Isla and Jonah Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving Baskets: The Youth have partnered with Communities in Schools and Spring Valley Elementary School again this year to provide Thanksgiving Baskets to 20 families in need. Following worship today you will receive a list of food items needed and we ask that you bring those items to worship next Sunday where youth will be present to receive your donations. Food items will be sorted on Sunday evening the 15th during Youth Group time, and then delivered to families after worship on the 22nd. Any money donated will be used to purchase frozen turkeys. Extra food items and money will be given our Loaves and Fishes Pantry. Thank you as always for your generosit

Perks: You are welcome to join us after worship for coffee, tea, and fellowship in the Perks Area. y!

Children's Sunday School: Preschool - 5th graders meet in Room 206 (2nd floor) following worship until 12:30pm. Sunday School for infants - 4-year-olds meets from 9:45am - 12:30pm in room 208.

Membership Class will meet in the Chapel after worship today. New members will be inducted during worship on Sunday, November 15.

Lord's Prayer Academy Class continues today. As we look at the very familiar Lord's Prayer, we will pay attention to language options and zoom out for a broader perspective, approaching it with curiosity and wonder. The hope is that we will all deepen our connection to God and our commitment to further God's vision for creation. The class meets the first four Sundays in November, led by Len Schoenherr.

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.

Family Foundations Sunday School for Parents: Rev. Matt and Deacon Cara Weiler are teaching Foster's approach to building spiritual disciplines in our parenting lives. We will meet today after worship in room 209. Coffee and tea will be available. The third Sunday of each month will be a review week.

Faith Milestones Meets Today: Our group for 3rd - 5th grade children is meeting this evening from 6:00 to 7:30pm. We will be learning about prayers and blessings and Advent. 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. For more information, contact our Young Adult Resident, Em Norwood, at enorwood@umc-kzo.org.

First Stitchers Visitor this Thursday: Kandi Torres, the Volunteer Services Manager at Bronson Hospital, will be coming to a First Stitchers gathering on Thursday morning, November 12th at 10am in the Fellowship Room. She will be sharing their needs on the NICU and Pediatric floors and possibly bringing some samples and patterns. We hope you can join us to learn more about how we can share God's love with these little ones!

Loaves & Fishes Annual Food Pantry Concert Saturday, November 14, come and enjoy 4 bands and a comedy act as we collect donations for the food pantry. Doors open at 4:30pm; at 5:00 there will be an open jam session, and the show starts at 5:30. No ticket required, just bring a shelf-stable item or cash donation. It promises to be a great time!

Inclusive Language Statement

In our worship, as a Reconciling Congregation, we strive to witness to the wholeness of God, embracing the diversity of images of God that are found within Scripture. We will seek to include male, female, and gender-neutral language and imagery for God, and utilize language that helps to avoid binary terms in pronouns and images of people. In our songs and liturgy, we invite you to use pronouns that best express your practice and affirm your faith.

Cover art by John August Swanson

212 S. Park Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo

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umc-kzo.org

SING OUT SUNDAY



1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

Good morning, and welcome to worship at First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo on this Sing Out Sunday. Whether you are worshiping in the sanctuary or online, we are grateful to gather with you. Please make your presence known in the attendance pads or by greeting one another in the YouTube chat. Today the church sings: in joy and in sorrow, in waiting and in hope, our voices join the song of God. Please rise in body or spirit for the call to worship.

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE *Aria in C* (Noel Rawsthorne)

INTROIT *I Was Glad* (Craig Curry) Chancel Singers

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Vickie Winfield

One: In the long night, we listen for God's promise.
ALL: We will keep watch, for Christ is coming.
One: When grief weighs upon us, God gives us a song.
ALL: We will sing of hope that is stronger than death.
One: When our lamps burn low, the Spirit renews us.
ALL: We will encourage one another with faith and love.
One: People of God, lift up your hearts and voices!
ALL: We are awake, we are ready, and we worship with joy!

***OPENING HYMN #158** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* (UMH-red hymnal)

***WELCOME & PASSING THE PEACE** Rev. Julie Kline

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

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL Julia Librizzi

HYMN #2233 *This is Where Children Belong* (FWS-black hymnal)

Blessing the Children:

ALL: May God bless you and be with you. God loves you. So do we!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of every hour, open our ears to your Word and awaken our hearts to your presence. When the night feels long, keep hope alive within us. Fill the lamps of our faith, teach us to encourage one another, and make us ready to follow Christ in love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

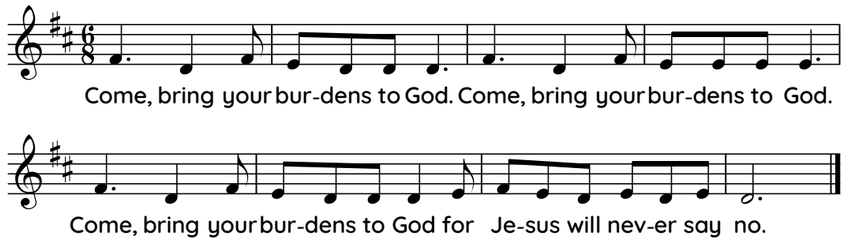
CHORAL ANTHEM *Keep Your Lamps* (arr. Andre Thomas)

***GOSPEL READING** Matthew 25:1–13

One: This is what the Spirit is saying to the church.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "A Long Night" Rev. Julie Kline

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & SUNG RESPONSE *Come, Bring Your Burdens to God*



Traditional South African tune

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.**

GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN UPDATE & NARRATIVE BUDGET Linda Lueth

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *God's Got the Whole World* (Mark Miller)

Choral Scholars: Tev Hagop Elmayan, Kameran Long, Donte Scaglione, Katy Stoddard

***DOXOLOGY #94** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* (UMH-red hymnal)

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of hope, receive these gifts and receive our lives. Use them to comfort the grieving, feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, nurture children and youth, sustain music and worship, and carry your love into our community. Keep us awake to every opportunity to serve, and make our generosity a song of praise to you. Amen.

OUR SHARED LIVES

***CLOSING HYMN #68** *When In Our Music God Is Glorified* (UMH-red hymnal)

BLESSING

CHORAL BENEDICTION *Let Us Go Forth in Peace* (Craig Curry)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Every Time I Hear the Spirit* (African American Spiritual arr. Dave Howland)

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

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, and 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.

Sunday, November 8
10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Sunday School for All Ages
11:00 am Membership Class - Chapel
11:00 am Family Foundations Class - Rm 209
6:00 pm Faith Milestones - Arches, 2nd floor
6:00 pm Youth Group - Youth Lounge

Monday, November 9
11:40 am Similarities - Wesley Hall

Tuesday, November 10
9:30 am Restorative Yoga - Parlor
9:30 am Worship Planning - Zoom
11:40 am Similarities - Wesley Hall
4:15 pm First Beats - Choir room
4:30 to 6:30 pm - Food pantry open
6:00 pm Kalamazoo Ringers rehearsal
6:30 pm Manna - Youth Center

Wednesday, November 11
8:00 am Yoga - Zoom
9:00 am Dawn Patrol - Parlor
11:40 am Similarities - Parlor
12:00 pm Cuppa Inspiration - Facebook Live
12:30 to 2:30 pm - Food pantry open
2:00 pm Cares Committee meeting
6:30 pm Bible Study - Parlor

Thursday, November 12
9:30 am Restorative Yoga - Parlor
9:30 am First Stitchers - Fellowship room
10:30 am Bible Study - Room 305
11:40 am Similarities - Parlor
5:45 pm Handbell Ensemble rehearsal
7:15 pm Chancel Singers - Choir room

Saturday, November 14
10:00 am Women's Choir practice
4:30 pm Loaves & Fishes Concert