

Welcome to Worship!

** Please stand as you are able.
Please silence cell phones.*

You are invited in these beginning moments of worship to offer prayers, using the prayer cards if desired, and passing them to an usher. Also, please take a moment to sign in using the gray registration pad found in the pew pocket near the outside aisle. Please pass it to your neighbors in your pew.

*“We are ready to put our faith, hope and love in action for Jesus Christ!”
~ from the Sending Forth Prayer, 2010 UMW Assembly*

PRAISE

PRELUDE *“Ricercar”* G. Frescobaldi

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(all reading the bold)* Jan Bundy

It is the Spirit who draws us here,

with a yearning to praise that which is bigger than us.

It is the Spirit who draws us here,

raising in us desire to give thanks and to share the bountiful gifts of life.

It is the Spirit who draws us here,

opening our spirits to the reality of what we are called to do.

It is the Spirit who draws us here,

that we may become ready to truly live for such a time as this.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 547 *(red hymnal)* *“O Church of God, United”*

*LIGHTING THE PEACE AND LENTEN CANDLES

We light the peace candle during worship every Sunday to remember that Christ is in the world offering peace; and to pledge our part in receiving and sharing it.

*GREETING/INTRODUCTION TO UNITED METHODIST WOMEN/PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST Joyce Treece

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY

MEDITATION Suzanne Ost

When we arrived this morning we entered into the normal bustle of a church on a Sunday morning: friends greeting each other, choir members getting their robes, children bringing their energy and enthusiasm. Now that we are sitting together in the pews, I invite you to close your eyes...and consider the word, “sanctuary.” A sanctuary is a place set aside for sacred things, It is a place of refuge and protection. This room is a sanctuary. The season of Lent is a kind of sanctuary, extended in time. And one of the things Lent teaches is that you, too, are a sanctuary. There is inside you a place for sacred things, a place where God abides. *(followed by silent time)*

As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the darkness and pain caused by the lack of basic needs—lack of food, of shelter, of education, of healthcare, of love.

(a candle is extinguished)

Let us pray. Carolyn Betke

Loving God, we open our hearts to you. We invite you into our inmost being, only to find you are already there. Strengthen us in our quiet places and then lead us into the work of justice and peace. Amen.

HYMN 2275 *(black hymnal)* *“Kyrie” (Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy)*

PROCLAMATION

INTRODUCTION TO OUR MORNING SPEAKER Suzanne Ost

LESSONS FROM THE OLD & NEW TESTAMENTS Carolyn Betke

Esther 4: 12-14 (OT, p. 447)

1 Corinthians 12: 4-11 (NT, p. 174)

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE *“One Person, One Mission, One Kingdom”* Angela Cunigan

RESPONSE

SILENT/COMMUNITY PRAYERS & THE LORD’S PRAYER Rev. Sandy Elfring

Our 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.**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING INVITATION Carolyn Betke

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Coins received will be designated for the support of United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for our work around the world. Please sign the attendance pads as they are passed down the aisle.

OFFERTORY *“Have Mercy, Lord”* J.S. Bach

*DOXOLOGY 95 *(red hymnal)* *“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”*
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, all heavenly hosts; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(praying together)* Carolyn Betke

Gracious God, from you comes every good and perfect gift. Your goodness has created us, your bounty has sustained us, your patience has borne with us, your love has redeemed us. Now give us a heart to love and serve you. Enable us to show our thankfulness for all your goodness through the giving of ourselves into your service, and these gifts, tithes and offerings to your glory. Amen

*OUR SHARED LIFE Rev. Shelly Wisdom-Long

*CLOSING HYMN 555 *(red hymnal)* *“Forward Through the Ages”*

*SENDING FORTH *(praying together)* Joyce Treece

By faith we go forth, strengthened by those who have gone before us, empowered by the Holy Spirit and those who surround us. We are ready to run with perseverance the race that is set before us. We are ready to put our faith, hope and love in action for Jesus Christ! Amen. (The Prayer of Sending Forth from the 2010 UMW Assembly)

POSTLUDE *“Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow”* J. Pachelbel

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, April 17

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Palm Sunday

Children’s Palm Procession @ 11 a.m.

Rev. John Boley

“Staying for the Whole Parade”

Matthew 21: 1-7

Thursday, April 21

Maudy Thursday Worship @ 7 p.m.

Rev. Julie Kline

Taizé-style worship

Holy Communion/Stripping of the Altar

Friday, April 22

Good Friday Worship @ 7 p.m.

Rev. John Boley

“Seven Last Words”

Selected verses from the Gospels

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, April 10

8:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

12:15 p.m. 20/30’s Lenten Book Study - Lower Lounge

12:15 p.m. Special Church Conference - Sanctuary

1:00 p.m. WMU - Sanctuary

4:00 p.m. Martha’s Table - First Congregational Church

6:00 p.m. First Singers - Choir Room

6:00 p.m. Notified Rehearsal - Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Tribe - Youth Center

MONDAY, April 11

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Patrol - Fellowship Room

7:00 p.m. SPRC - Parlor

TUESDAY, April 12

10:00 a.m. Worship Planning - 305

12:00 p.m. All Staff Meeting - Parlor

4:15 p.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

WEDNESDAY, April 13

7:30 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Fellowship Room

12:00 p.m. Lenten Concert: Jacqueline Stilger - Sanctuary

2:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry - 307, 304

4:00 p.m. Kalamazoo Wild Ones - Fellowship Room

4:39 p.m. Trustees - 305

5:30 p.m. Acappazoo - Choir Room

5:30 p.m. Wesley Foundation Dinner - Wesley Hall

5:30 p.m. Music Worship Team - Parlor

7:00 p.m. Companions in Christ - Chapel

7:00 p.m. Children & Families Ministry Team - 203

7:00 p.m. Disciple 1 - 304

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

THURSDAY, April 14

9:30 a.m. First Stitchers - Fellowship Room

10:30 a.m. Lenten Book Study - 304

12:00 p.m. A Classroom - Parlor

1:00 p.m. Any Soldier Packing - Perks Gathering Area

1:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel

2:00 p.m. Wesley Foundation - Parlor

5:30 p.m. Depression/Bipolar Support Alliance - Chapel

6:00 p.m. Handbell Ensemble - Fellowship Room

6:30 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall

7:00 p.m. Lenten Book Study - Movie Lounge

7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

FRIDAY, April 15

6:00 p.m. WMU Choral Concert Rehearsal - Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Family Fellowship - Wesley Hall/Movie Lounge

SATURDAY, April 16

1:00 p.m. WMU Choral Concert Rehearsal - Sanctuary

OUR MISSION

We are called to

- Experience God's love
- Celebrate God's love
- Share God's love

OUR VISION

We are a Faith Community

- Alive in Christ
- Open to all
- Growing in faith
- Serving our neighbors
- Active in the world

We're glad you are our guest today!

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Center as you exit the side sanctuary doors so that we may personally welcome you and present a gift of love from First Church. Please register your attendance in the gray pad found in the pew pocket.

Child care is provided on the second floor. There is a family room in the right balcony.

Worship activities for children can be found on a cart outside the side sanctuary doors.

LARGE print Bibles and United Methodist Hymnals are available at the Park Street entrance.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the Welcome Center. If you need assistance, please speak with one of the ushers. Please return hearing devices to the Welcome Center following worship.

Today's service is being recorded. You can request a free copy from the office. A basket on the table near the parking lot entrance has previous Sunday recordings on CD. You can also access Sunday worship recordings from our website: <http://www.umc-kzo.org/mp3.asp>.

Worship CDs

Recordings of past Sunday morning services are available in the Perks gathering area. If you would like to be on a mailing list for CD recordings, please contact

Joe Konrad, jkonrad@umc-kzo.org

Worship Leader

Angela Cunigan, Red Bird Missions

Minister of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

Organist

Bernie Foulk

Ushers

Lou Bradley, Do Brown, Mary Bullock, Deanna Hogarth, Lois McGlinsey

Greeters

Linda Fazio, Mildred Hedrick, Marian Starbuck

Office

Jeanne Plott

Audio & Lighting

Gordon Bundy

Van Driver

Andrew Lehman

Martha's Table Fellowship (4 p.m. @ FCUCC)

Dude

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sally Gross, mother of Jay Gross, given by Jay, Laura, Noah, Natalie and Molly Gross.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guests! We are glad you are worshipping with us today! Please stop at the Welcome Center as you exit the side sanctuary doors so that we may personally welcome you and present a gift of love from First Church.

United Methodist Women Missions Sunday. We welcome guest preacher Angela Cunigan, Associate Director of Conference Ministries at the Red Bird Missionary Conference in Beverly, Kentucky this morning. We hope you will enjoy her story and support the ministries of the Red Bird Mission. An offering envelope is included with today's bulletin for your donation.

Special Church Conference TODAY. All members are invited to attend this special meeting that will be held immediately following the 11:00 worship in the Sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the adjustment of 2011 salaries for our clergy and directors.

Easter lily orders. Please have your Easter lily order and check in to the office today. On Easter, your plant will be a part of our traditional Easter cross in the chancel. You will be able to take your plant home after the 11:00 service that morning. Plants cost \$8 each.

April "Mission of the Month." A basket is available in the office for your donations of personal hygiene items for Ministry with Community.

Forward in Faith II: Expanding God's Welcome coming in May. We will reflect on all we have accomplished as a church community—not only the recent renovations to our facilities, but in the expansion and effectiveness of our church ministries. Be a part of this exciting time where we will plan for our future.

First United Methodist Church

212 S. Park St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
Phone 269-381-6340; Fax 269-381-1678
www.umc-kzo.org

Lenten Organ Recitals. Enjoy relaxing lunch-hour organ concerts during Lent. Our last concert is April 13 at noon and will feature our own Minister of Music, Jacqueline Stilger. The concert is open to the public. Free will offering.

Wesley Meal and Sharing; Wednesday, April 13, 5:30—7 p.m. in Wesley Hall. All are invited to enjoy a chicken and rice dinner cooked by the students of the Wesley Foundation. The students will also have displays and talk about their recent mission trips and ongoing mission goals. Your free will offering will support their past and future mission trips.

Family Fellowship Fun Night. Friday, April 15 @ 6 p.m. Join the CFM Team and their families for an evening of food, games, movies and good fellowship. \$15 per family covers it all, including child care.

Easter brunch. Join us for brunch on Easter morning (April 24) between 9:00 and 11:00 in Wesley Hall. Proceeds will benefit the purchase of a new kitchen range. Good will offering.

Easter morning child care. Nursery care will be available for the 8:30 service as well as the brunch. During the 11:00 service, child care will be available for infants through 2nd grade.

Welcome Center volunteers needed. Please sign up for the Sunday(s) of your choice at the Welcome Center.

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday greeters needed. Please contact the office if you would like to help at either of these 7 p.m. services.

Volunteers needed to make phone calls. Dave Lundquist is looking for volunteers willing to make phone calls for a project he is working on for our Annual Conference. If you can spend an hour or two during the next week or so to help him with this project, please contact Dave at 352-0582 or dlundquist@ameritech.net and he will give more details.



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

April 10, 2011

8:30 a.m.

Experience, Celebrate and Share God's love



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Song of Hope

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling our hearts with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

From *The Faith We Sing* Methodist hymnal

We are a Reconciling Congregation.

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.