

Welcome to Worship!

** Please stand as you are able.*

In these opening moments, let us center our spirits on God. Prayers may be offered by filling out a pink or green card and passing it to the side aisle during the lighting of the peace candle. Please also register your attendance in the gray registration book.

GATHERING MUSIC “

CALL TO WORSHIP *(all reading the bold)*

Psalm 63:1-4

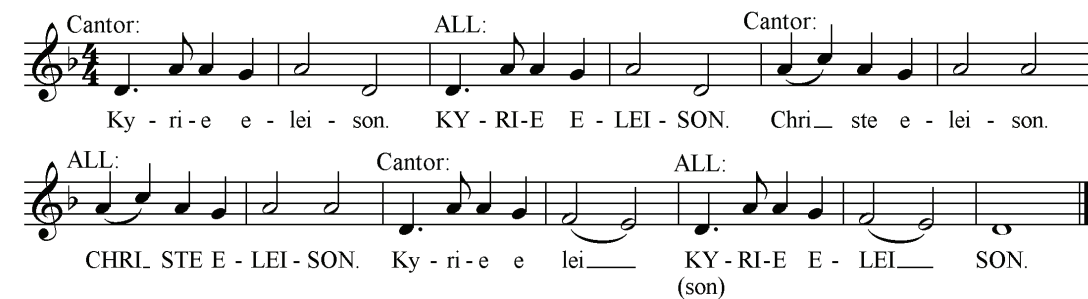
O God, you are my God. I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where no water is.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

Kyrie eleison



Cantor: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. ALL: KY - RI - E E - LEI - SON. Cantor: Chri - ste e - lei - son.

ALL: CHRL. STE E - LEI - SON. Cantor: Ky - ri - e e lei. ALL: KY - RI - E E - LEI - SON. (son)

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(Translation: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.)

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE

We light this candle during every Sunday worship service to remember that Christ is in the world offering peace. Today we add our gratitude for all the ways in which that peace is already present.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(praying together)*

Guide our feet, holy God, on your path, for we are tempted to stray. We turn toward the cheap success, the fleeting fame, the passing fad. We are always looking to someone else, or to some purchase, or some experience to fill our souls. But we confess, nothing lasts except the constant pull of your love. Holy God, tune our hearts to your commands, fill our minds with your counsels, and keep our eyes on Jesus, who is our trustworthy companion and guide. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HYMN 142 *(red hymnal) “If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee”

*GREETING *(all reading the bold)*

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

This practice of the early church is an expression of unity, signifying that there is nothing between us but the love of Jesus Christ. The traditional greeting is “The peace of Christ be with you,” with a response, “And also with you.”

*GOSPEL

Mark 10:13-16 *(The Message)*

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON “A Journey to Hope: Choosing Your Traveling Companions”

CONSECRATION FOR MISSION

COMMUNITY AND PASTORAL PRAYERS

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(praying together)*

OFFERING INVITATION

OFERTORY ANTHEM

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, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(praying together)

As we follow Christ on the path of obedience, God, we are always reminded of your desire for us to trust your love. Take these gifts and make them become for us an act of faith in your grace and mercy for all. Bless them as you have blessed us. Amen.

HYMN 178 *(red hymnal) “Hope of the World”

*OUR SHARED LIFE

***SUNG BLESSING** “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

God be with you till we meet again;

by his counsels guide, uphold you,

with his sheep securely fold you;

God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE “

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, February 28
Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Vernon
A Journey to Hope: Identity
Luke 4:1-13

Sunday, March 7
Rev. Julie Dix
Holy Communion
A Journey to Hope: Work
Mark 10:35-44

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, February 21

8:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Java & Jive - Youth Center
9:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School - 2nd floor
9:30 a.m. 3Cs - 310
9:30 a.m. Lenten Book Study: *If the Church Were Christian* - 304
9:30 a.m. Reading Together: *Snow Falling on Cedars* - Parlor
9:30 a.m. Inquirer’s Class - Chapel
10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
11:00 a.m. Festival Worship - Sanctuary
12:15 p.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
12:15 p.m. Congregational Budget Meeting - Sanctuary
4:00 p.m. Martha’s Table - First Congregational Church
6:00 p.m. Youth Tribe - Youth Center
6:00 p.m. First Singers - Choir Room

MONDAY, February 22

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

TUESDAY, February 23

12:00 p.m. All Staff Meeting - Parlor
1:30 p.m. Worship Planning - 305
4:15 p.m. Children’s Music Rehearsal - Choir Room
5:30 p.m. Lenten Book Study Pizza Dinner - 304
6:15 p.m. Lenten Book Study - 304
7:00 p.m. Church Council - Parlor
7:00 p.m. NA - Youth Center
7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry - 305, 310, Chapel

WEDNESDAY, February 24

7:30 a.m. Dawn Patrol - Fellowship Room
9:30 a.m. UMW Executive Board - Parlor
4:30 p.m. Trustees - Fellowship Room
7:00 p.m. MOP/Justice Team - Parlor
7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

THURSDAY, February 25

9:30 a.m. First Stitches - Fellowship Room
11:00 a.m. Lenten book Study - Allen Library
12:30 p.m. Weavings - Allen Library
1:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel
6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal - Fellowship Room
6:30 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall
7:00 p.m. GLBT Youth - Youth Center
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

FRIDAY, February 26

SATURDAY, February 27

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 visiting 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.

Child care is provided on the second floor. There is a family "cry" 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>.

Park Street Perks! All are welcome to coffee and donuts available near the parking lot doors from 9:30-10:40 a.m. Please sign up to help bring donuts, etc. on the board in the welcoming area. Fair Exchange coffee is available for purchase at \$10 a bag.

LEADING US IN WORSHIP TODAY

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Vernon, Rev. Julie Kline, Dorothy Osborne

Minister of Music

Jacqueline Stilger

Organist

Bernie Foulk

First Singers Director

John Leeger

ASSISTING TODAY

Ushers

Roger Williams (head usher), Miriam Cook, Steven Vorbrich, William Vorbrich

Greeters

Larry & Marilyn Stieglitz; Andrew & Sally Vorbrich

Office

Jeanne Plott

Welcome Center

Fay Woolrich

Van Driver

Daryl Ost

Audio & Lighting

Jacob Texel

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

Daryl & Suzanne Ost

The rosebud on the altar is in celebration of the February 8th birth of Lucinda Joan Louise Hawver, daughter of Joe and Beth Hawver.

The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the Glory of God and in honor of Doug Vernon's birthday on February 26, given with love from Jane, our children and grandchildren.

Prayer concerns may be written on a pink or green prayer card and passed to the outside aisle where they will be collected by an usher, and shared in the pastoral prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Julie Kline to travel to Nicaragua. Pastor Julie will be commissioned this morning for her Feb. 26—March 7 trip with the Wesley Foundation. Following worship, Julie will have prayer bracelets available if anyone would like to make a contribution to the mission trip.

Lent study books for sale at the Welcome Center. "If the Church Were Christian" by Phillip Gulley, \$18.

Congregational meeting. An all-church meeting to share information and possible solutions to balancing the 2010 budget will be held immediately after the 11 a.m. worship TODAY in the sanctuary. Bring your thoughts and ideas on how to balance our budget. Please plan on being present for this important meeting.

2010 Financial Perspective update. Since the January 13 *First Word* 2010 Financial Perspective insert, we have received additional pledges of \$24,594 from 33 families, representing 28 increased pledges and 5 new pledges. Our goal is \$46,500. We now have a grand total of 337 pledging units pledging \$810,178. The very optimistic goal is \$850,000.

First United Methodist Church

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Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Phone 269-381-6340; Fax 269-381-1678

www.umc-kzo.org

Academy Classes Beginning Today

- 1) Reading Together 2010: *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson.
- 2) Inquirer's Class for those exploring the idea of membership at FUMC, five weeks of info on Methodism and sharing a faith journey.
- 3) 3Cs will continue to explore *Tell it Slant* by Eugene Person, the author of *The Message*.
- 4) Lenten book study of *If the Church Were Christian: Rediscovering the Values of Jesus*, by Phillip Gulley will also include week-day and a Tuesday evening study group.

The Annual Youth Auction is coming! Last year's silent auction went so well that we are doing the same format for 2010. Each Sunday in March a table will be available to sign-up and receive a bidder number so that bidders may bid on their favorite items. We will be taking auction donations during February. Donation forms are available at the Welcome Center. You can also email information on the item/service you would like to donate to jamccubbin@aol.com. If you have questions, please contact Julie Kline at the church or Andrea McCubbin 665-0049.

UMW invites congregation to hear missionary Karen Ujereh. On Wednesday, March 3 @ 10:30 a.m. in the parlor, Karen Ujereh, missionary with the board of Global Ministries of the UMC will speak on her support in several African countries and her primary responsibility as supervisor of the MicroCredit Program, a program that enables people to begin their own businesses.



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

February 21, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Tune into WKZO 590 AM every Sunday at 11:10 a.m. for our LIVE church radio ministry.

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast in memory or honor of a loved one, please contact the church office. (\$150/Sunday)

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.