

# Welcome to Worship!

*\* Please stand as you are able.*

*Please silence cell phones and other alarms.*

You are invited in these beginning moments of worship to offer prayers, using the prayer cards if desired, and passing them to an usher. Please take a moment to sign in using the gray registration pad found in the pew pocket near the outside aisle, and passing it to your neighbors. We would also appreciate it if you would turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*“What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, He is Lord of heaven and earth.” Acts 17: 23b–24a (NRSV)*

## PRAISE

PRELUDE “Canzona”

G. Frescobaldi

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *(all reading the bold)*

Something deep inside us calls us,

**beckons us.**

We are looking for truth

**that anchors us in the midst of competing voices.**

We are searching for life

**that sparkles with joy and glows with warmth.**

We are finding our way

**to the risen Christ, to new community, to everlasting love!**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 539 *(red hymnal)* “O Spirit of the Living God”

\*LIGHTING THE PEACE and EASTER 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/PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Lord be with you!

**And also with you!**

MORNING PRAYER *(praying together)*

O Lord, as we once again light the Easter candles, we remember who we are: Easter people, blessed by your miracle of life after death. Help us to always know you, to open our hearts to what you give to us: joy that is beyond all understanding, faith that is deep and whole, and a song of hope that heals our very being and enables us to know that we are never alone. Amen.

RESPONSE “A Repeating Alleluia”

Calvin Hampton



## PROCLAMATION

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Children who are in first grade and older are invited to remain in worship today. Activity bags for young children are available on a cart in the hallway. The nursery is available for younger children. Summer worship enrichment for children ages 4 through 3rd grade begins next Sunday in room 203.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 17: 23-31 (NT, p. 137)

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE “Groping for God”

RESPONSE 2065 *(black hymnal)* “More Precious than Silver”

SILENT, COMMUNITY & THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

RESPONSE 2065 *(black hymnal)* “More Precious than Silver”

## RESPONSE

OFFERING INVITATION

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 “Sing, Be Joyful, Alleluia”

G.P. Telemann

Sing, be joyful, alleluia. God made heaven and earth, alleluia!

\*DOXOLOGY 94 *(red hymnal)* “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(praying together)*

**Gracious and loving God, you have abundantly blessed our lives with the gift of yourself revealed in Jesus. We offer these gifts and the service of our lives praying that they may be used to make visible the truth of your great love for the world. In Jesus’ name. Amen.**

\*OUR SHARED LIFE

\*HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 715 *(red hymnal)* “Rejoice, the Lord is King”

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Offertorio”

D. Zipoli

## UPCOMING WORSHIP

**Sunday, June 5**

**10 a.m.**

**Graduate Sunday/Holy Communion**

Rev. John Boley

Faith & Science Sermon Series

“The Creator of Heaven and Earth”

Genesis 1

**Sunday, June 12**

**10 a.m.**

**Pentecost Sunday**

Rev. John Boley

Faith & Science Sermon Series

“The Creator of Heaven and Earth 2”

Genesis 1

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**SUNDAY, May 29**

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Summer Perks - Gathering Area

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

6:00 p.m. “Notified” Rehearsal - Sanctuary

**MONDAY, May 30**

MEMORIAL DAY—church closed

**TUESDAY, May 31**

10:00 a.m. Worship Planning - 305

12:00 p.m. Clergy/Directors Meeting - 305

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

5:30 p.m. Reconciling Ministries Team - Willoughby home

7:00 p.m. Academy Class Planners - Willoughby home

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

**WEDNESDAY, June 1**

West Michigan Annual Conference—Grand Rapids

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

9:30 a.m. Community for Healing Counseling - 303, 304

9:30 a.m. UMW - Parlor & Kitchen

5:30 p.m. Acappazoo - Choir Room

6:00 p.m. CFM Team - 203

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

**THURSDAY, June 2**

West Michigan Annual Conference—Grand Rapids

1:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel

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

6:30 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall

7:00 p.m. Wheaton Eagle Scout Court of Honor - Parlor

**FRIDAY, June 3**

West Michigan Annual Conference—Grand Rapids

**SATURDAY, June 4**

West Michigan Annual Conference—Grand Rapids

9:00 a.m. ASP Tool Training - Local 357 Union Hall

## 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 also 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](mailto:jkonrad@umc-kzo.org)

### **Worship Leader**

Rev. Shelly Wisdom-Long, Rev. Sandy Elfring, Jim Spurr

### **Director of Music**

Jacqueline Stilger

### **Organist**

Bernie Foulk

### **Ushers**

Dan Bunker (head usher), Greg Gill, Andrew Gill, Nic Aranda, Christopher Aranda, Michael Deaton

### **Acolyte**

Elise Warnicke

### **Greeters**

Kim & Larry Taylor

### **Office**

Harriet Chalker

### **Audio & Lighting**

Greg Anderson

### **Van Driver**

Andrew Lehman

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

Thell Woods, Miriam Downey

**The flowers on the altar** are given to the glory of God and in honor of, and gratitude to, those who support others through prayer, the Prayer Chain, Prayer Group, and all faithful individuals.

## 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.

**Today is Peace with Justice Sunday.** When you give to this special offering, you support ministries to remove human violations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United States and worldwide. Your gift will help remove unjust systems and equip the victimized to live more fulfilled lives. Please give generously if you are able next Sunday.

**Forward in Faith II.** Thanks to all who participated in the Forward in Faith II building capital campaign events in May—the colorful footstep-led Progressive Perks tours that included historical “Did you know?” background info on the church, prayers, faith-sharing stories, delivering our pledges on Commitment Sunday, and sharing fellowship at the hot dog picnic. As of May 19, 148 families and individuals have offered pledges of \$953,244. Pledge cards are being received on a daily basis. Please remember to return yours as soon as possible. Extra pledge cards are available at the Welcome Center.

**Memorial Day.** The church will be closed Monday, May 30, for the Memorial Day holiday.

**Bronson Park VBS.** Get your child signed up for a fun-filled week (June 20-24) of PandaMania VBS. Sign up is available today in the Market Place. Please consider taking a “panda tag” home that lists needed VBS supplies. Your help in providing these supplies is deeply appreciated by the VBS team.

## First United Methodist Church

212 S. Park St.

Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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

[www.umc-kzo.org](http://www.umc-kzo.org)

**8:30 Worshippers Meeting, June 5 @ 8:30 a.m.** Those who normally attend the 8:30 service are invited to a meeting to discuss future ideas for the 8:30 service. Coffee and cinnamon rolls will be available.

**“Summer-Full of Scripture.”** Summer worship enrichment for children ages 4 through grade 3 begins Sunday, June 5. Each week during the summer, children will have the opportunity to hear Bible stories, make crafts and enjoy a snack after “Time With Our Children.” Adult leaders are needed. Please contact Pastor Shelly or Andrea Murphy if you'd like to volunteer.

**Graduates!** We will honor all our high school and college graduates on Sunday, June 5. Please send graduate info to Jennifer at [jstupica@umc-kzo.org](mailto:jstupica@umc-kzo.org).

**Justice Team and MOP.** Mark your calendars for two justice-making dates: 1) Thursday, June 9, 7 p.m. MOP Rally at St. Joseph's gym, and 2) Thursday, June 23, 7 p.m., MOP's Nehemiah Rally at St. Catherine's gym.

**Pentecost Sunday, June 12.** Remember to wear red or other flame-colored clothing to worship on June 12 to commemorate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and tongues of fire that rested over the heads of the disciples as they were gathered together for the Jewish harvest festival.

**Heather McDougall Recognition.** Join us on Sunday, June 12 as we recognize Heather's accomplishments and new appointments to Keeler and Silver Creek UMCs. Please offer her and her daughters your prayers and good wishes!

**Camp New Day Drivers Needed July 10 and 15.** Chuck Wilson is still looking for help in transporting campers to Camp New Day in Reed City on either or both of these two days, please contact Chuck at 388-5899. (The church's van is being used for the ASP trip that week.)



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

May 29, 2011

10:00 a.m.

*Experience, Celebrate and Share God's love*



**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.*