

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.

“Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” Philippians 4: 8 (NRSV)

PRAISE

PRELUDE *“Andante Tranquillo”*

F. Mendelssohn

INTROIT *“Seek Ye First”*

First Bells

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

We gather, centered in the promises of God,

Caught in the web of grace,

Whirled in wonder and joy,

Welcomed into the house of blessing.

We gather, surrounded by a cloud of witnesses,

Lifted up by stories of faith,

Moved by challenging words and heartfelt prayers,

Touched by joyous music and the power of God’s love.

***HYMN OF PRAISE 384** *(red hymnal) “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

***GREETING**

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.”

OPENING PRAYER *(praying together)*

Surprising and persistent God, you never give up on us. You seek us, follow us, call us. We cannot escape from your yearning for us, and only when we turn to you do we find the sweetness of life, the reason for living, an ever-flowing fountain of joy. Thank you for your amazing grace that surprises us, comforts us and renews us. Give us hearts of gratitude, and forever let us sing your praise. Amen.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE

HANDBELL ANTHEM *“Morning Procession”*

Vicki Smith

PROCLAMATION

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Following Time With Our Children, “Live B.I.G.” for ages 4 through early elementary is provided on the secure 2nd floor. Parents can pick up children at the 2nd floor check-in desk following worship (take the west stairwell or elevator).

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 4: 1-9 (NT, p. 198)

This is what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE *“Really Good Software”*

RESPONSE

RESPONSE 2197 *(black hymnal) “Lord of All Hopefulness”*

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 *“Rejoice in the Lord”*

anonymous, 16th century

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all: the Lord is e’en at hand. Be careful for nothing: but in all prayer and supplication, let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

***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)*

You have made us and you have made us new, O God. In the joy of our thanksgiving

we offer to you our lives and our gifts. We give them in love and in the hope that you

will make your creation new through us and through our offerings. Amen.

***OUR SHARED LIFE**

***CLOSING HYMN 160** *(red hymnal) “Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart”*

***BLESSING**

GOING FORTH *“Tokkata in D”*

M. Reger

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, October 23

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Ministry Showcase

Laity Sunday

Lay Leader John Clark

“Neighbor? What Neighbor?”

Matthew 22: 34-40

Sunday, October 30

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Ministry Showcase

Rev. Shelly Wisdom-Long

“What it Really Is”

1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, October 16

Ministry Showcase 9:30am—12:30pm

8:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Park Street Perks - Perks Gathering Area

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

9:30 a.m. Inquirer’s Class - Chapel

3:00 p.m. United Nations - Parlor

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

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

6:00 p.m. Notified Rehearsal - Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Youth Tribe - Youth Center

MONDAY, October 17

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

TUESDAY, October 18

Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions 2-8pm

10:00 a.m. Worship Planning - 305

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

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

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

7:00 p.m. Ruth Circle - Parlor

7:30 p.m. Early Music Michigan - Sanctuary or Chapel

WEDNESDAY, October 19

Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions 2-8pm

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

10:30 a.m. Community for Healing Counseling - 304

11:30 a.m. A Classroom in the Life - Parlor

1:00 p.m. Julia/Phoebe/Miriam Circles - Fellowship Rm.

1:00 p.m. Lydia Circle - Friendship Village

5:15 p.m. Finance Committee - 305

5:30 p.m. Outreach Team - Allen Library

5:45 p.m. Fermata Kalamazoo - Choir Room

7:00 p.m. Disciple II - 304

7:00 p.m. NA - Fellowship Room

THURSDAY, October 20

Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions 2-8pm

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

1:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Chapel

5:00 p.m. Nominating Committee - 305

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

6:00 p.m. Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal - Choir Room

6:30 p.m. NA - Wesley Hall

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

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

FRIDAY, October 21

Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions 2-8pm

5:00 p.m. PrimeTimers Dinner - Fricano’s

6:00 p.m. First Family Fun Night - Wesley Hall, Theatre

SATURDAY, October 22

Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions 9:30-4pm

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

John Ross, jross@umc-kzo.org

Worship Leaders

Rev. John Boley, Rev. Julie Kline, Rev. Shelly Wisdom-Long, Michael Seals

Minister of Music Jacqueline Stilger
Organist Bernie Foulk
First Bells Director Liza Wolfe

Ushers

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

Acolytes

Carly Braginton, William Hawthorne

Office

Joyce Treece

Greeters

Archie & Jan Murrish
Bill & Mary Smith

Welcome Center

Sharon Dougan
Terry Mishler

Audio & Lighting

Bob Lane

Van Driver

Jay Gross

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert H. Peterson, from the Peterson family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ministry Showcase. On Sundays through November 13, several ministries of First Church will showcase what they are all about in the Marketplace. Please take a few minutes to stop at the tables in the Marketplace to visit with the participants of these ministries today: Parish Nurse, United Methodist Women, Stephen Ministry, Outreach Team, First Stitchers, and Communications Team.

Inquirer's Class. Those interested in joining the church are invited to this class that is offered during the 9:30 am Sunday School hour in the Chapel through Nov. 14. Rev. John Boley leads. Inquiries about the class are welcome. Contact Pastor Boley at 381-6340.

Pictorial Directory Photo Sign-ups. Have you signed up for a time to have your family photo taken for the upcoming pictorial directory? This is the **last week** for photo sessions. You can sign up at the Welcome Center for your photo appointment.

UMW Sloppy Joe Sale. UMW is taking orders today for sloppy joe (\$5/container). You can pick up your order Sunday, October 23. Proceeds will benefit UMW's mission programs for women and children. (There will NOT be a bake sale on October 23.)

Young People: a small group ministry. This new fellowship group of young adults is getting together for a rousing game of Apples to Apples in the lower level lounge today after the 11 a.m. worship. Rev. Julie Kline invites ages 18–35 to join her in this fun time of fellowship followed by discussion of future ideas for the group. Cinnamon rolls and apple cider will be provided. The group plans to meet the 2nd Sunday of every month and invites your ideas and hopes for a Young People's Ministry.

First United Methodist Church

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

Stephen Ministry. A 20-session training class for those interested in being trained as a Stephen Minister will begin in late October at Centerpoint Church on 10th Street. Applications for the training class are available in the Stephen Ministry mailbox in the office. If you need more info, please contact Rev. John Boley.

First Family Fun Night, Fri. Oct. 21, 6-8pm
Family style fun in Wesley Hall. Chili dinner, desserts, games and pumpkin carving! Please RSVP Andrea Murphy so we have enough pumpkins for everyone.

October Mission of the Month. Our mission of the month is a collection for new and gently used Halloween costumes. We will give the costumes to the children from the Gospel Mission and Family Shelter at our Trunk or Treat event on October 30th. Please put your costume donations in the large basket in the office.

"Why Talk About Climate Change?" presented by Dr. Julie Doll from the MSU Kellogg Biological Center, Sunday, October 23 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Parlor. She will present scientific information about climate change and lead us in a discussion about our faith and climate change. Come for new knowledge and dialogue. How can we as a congregation work toward a solution? Sponsored by the Justice Team.

Logo Development. We are looking for creative people of all ages to help develop a new church logo. If interested in more information or being on the team, contact Jonathan Richardson at 269-720-0166 or email him at jt62@chartermi.net.

All Saints Sunday, Nov. 6. On this day we honor the lives of family members that have died in the past 12 months. If there is someone you think we may not know about that you would like us to add to the list of saints that will be read that morning, drop a note off for Christi in the office or email her at clandreville@umc-kzo.org.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO

October 16, 2011

11:00 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.