

PRELUDE *Blessed Jesus, We are Here*

J.S. Bach

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Rev. Matt Weiler

INVOCATION: PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT (UMH #329)

O Great Spirit, whose breath gives life to the world, and whose voice is heard in the soft breeze;
 We need your strength and wisdom.
 Cause us to walk in beauty.
 Give us eyes ever to behold the red and purple sunset.
 Make us wise so that we may understand what you have taught us.
 Help us learn the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.
 Make us always ready to come to you with clean hands and steady eyes,
 so when life fades, like the fading sunset, our hearts come to you without shame. Amen.

OPENING HYMN *Up From the Grave He Arose (UMH 322)* Bernie Foulk, Jacqueline Stilger, Andy Vorbrich

Low in the grave he lay, Je - sus my Sav - ior, wait - ing the com - ing day, Je - sus my
 Death can - not keep its prey, Je - sus my Sav - ior; he tore the bars a - way, Je - sus my
 Lord! ^(Refrain) Up from the grave he a - rose, with a might - y tri - umph o' er his foes; he a - rose a vic - tor from the
 dark do - main, and he lives for - ev - er, with his saints to reign. He a -
 rose! He a - rose! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!

Words and music by Robert Lowry, 1874

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father/Mother/God, 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.**

HYMN OF RESPONSE *Come, Let Us with our Lord Arise* (FWS 2084)



1. Come, let us with our Lord a - rise, our
2. This is the day the Lord has made, that
3. Then let us ren - der him his own, with



Lord, who made both earth and skies: who died to save the
all may see his love dis-played, may feel his res - ur -
sol - emn prayer ap - proach his throne, with meek - ness hear the



world he made, and rose tri - um - phant from the dead;
rec - tion's power, and rise a - gain, to fall no more,
gos - pel word, with thanks his dy - ing love re - cord,



he rose, the Prince of life and peace,
in per - fect righ - teous - ness re - newed,
our joy - ful hearts and voic - es raise,



and stamped the day for - ev - er his.
and filled with all the life of God.
and fill his courts with songs of praise.

WORDS: Charles Wesley (Ps. 118:24; 1 Cor. 6:14; Heb. 4:16)

MUSIC: Trad. English melody

SUSSEX CAROL

88.88.88

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SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 24:36b-48

Laurie Nelson

A TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

Julia Librizzi

MESSAGE *Hello to Joy*

Rev. Matt Weiler

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Laurie Nelson

We confess that at times our doubts and fears override our hope and faith. Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of Your love and instead fall into despair and gloom. Lift up our spirits, Lord, and help us to remember the promise of new life here and now, not just the hope of resurrection for the future. We give thanks for Your Son, Jesus the Christ, who continues to offer us new life, who continues to turn us around and upside down, who continues to break down the walls of death in our own life. Forgive us, restore us and renew us. In the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE *Have Mercy*

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1. Have mer - cy on me. Have mer - cy on me. O
 2. O help my un - be - lief. O, help my un - be - lief. O
 3. Have mer - cy on me. Have mer - cy on me. O

Lord, have mer - cy. O Lord, have mer - - - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy. O Lord, have mer - - - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy. O Lord, have mer - - - cy.

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

The tomb is empty. The stone is rolled away. There is no darkness now, only light. God continues to renew us and restore us. We are forgiven, loved and restored, receiving the gift and promise of new life and resurrection now. Go and share the wondrous news of God’s love in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

Laurie Nelson

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING INVITATION

DOXOLOGY (UMH #94)

**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!**

OUR SHARED LIFE

HYMN OF SENDING FORTH *Christ is Alive* (UMH #318) vs. 1,3, & 5

1. Christ is a - live! Let Chris-tians sing. His cross stands
 3. Not throned a - far, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
 5. Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and all cre -



Words: Brian Wren, 1968 © 1975 Hope Publishing Co. Music: *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Ricercar*

G. Gabrieli

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We are a Reconciling Congregation, welcoming all.

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.***

www.umc-kzo.org



The staff is here to empower and equip the congregation for ministry and mission. Email staff by entering the first letter of their first name and the entire last name, and then: @umc-kzo.org; jkline@umc-kzo.org.

Rev. Julie Kline, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Matt Weiler, *Pastor of Community Formation*

Bernie Foulk, *Organist*

Jacqueline Stilger, *Director of Music*

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Rev. Keith Treman, *Pastor of Congregational Care*

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