

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation Caring For and About God's Community
October 9, 2022 - 10:00am - 19th Sunday in the Season of Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Bell Prelude: "Come, Lift Your Hearts On High"

by Dan Edwards

Welcome and Announcements – Please sign in on the Attendance pads,
or use your phone and the QR Code to the right to sign in electronically
or use this link: <https://form.jotform.com/211785166356159>



The Stewardship Moment:

Mr. David Marks

***Opening Hymn UMH #140:** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

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|---|--|
| 1) Great is thy faithfulness,
O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be. | 2) Summer & winter & springtime & harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness,
mercy, and love. [Refrain] |
| <u>Refrain:</u>
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand has provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me! | 3) Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence
to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today
and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine,
with ten thousand beside! [Refrain] |

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***The Call to Worship:**

L: People of God, we have gathered here together this day to worship God.

P: But sometimes things get in the way. And sometimes we lose heart. The news can be so negative. People are stressed and anxious. Worries weigh on us.

L: All of that is true. Yet we gather today to affirm that the Good News of the gospel is still valid. God hears our prayers. God knows our needs. God feels our suffering.

P: We have gathered to worship God, who gives us strength when times are hard.

L: We have gathered to worship God, who gives us bright hope for tomorrow.

P: We gathered to affirm that there is goodness in the world and in the people around us. We gather to pray for our community and to devote ourselves again to trusting God's love and grace each day. Thanks be to God who listens to our prayers and empowers our persistence in faith and work.

Prayer Chorus FWS #2157: “Come and Fill Our Hearts”

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!*

Time of Prayer – *During the Prayer Chorus and/or silent meditation, ushers will collect your yellow prayer cards and deliver them to the pastor.*

Silent Meditation

Lifting our Celebrations and Concerns In Prayer

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.

Living Our Gratitude

♪ *Please help support your church family. Enjoy the musical selection as a time to give thanks to God for all with which you have been blessed.*

Use the QR code to the right or give online here:

<https://www.firstumcsaginaw.org/give/>



The Offertory: “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

By William Bradbury; arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

The Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; **UMH #94**

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!

The Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving: Ever-present God, we bring ourselves and our gifts to you, praying that in your hands, they may be justice, comfort, healing, and grace not only to one another, but to our community and to all people, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Children’s Message – *A special moment just for kids*

Bell Anthem: “For the Beauty of the Earth”

*Orig. Music by Conrad Kocher
Arranged and Directed. by Catherine McMichael*

Scripture Lesson:

Luke 18:1-8

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 76

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’ ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’ ”

⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

Response to the Word

L: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

P: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

STEWARDSHIP I: “STRENGTH IN CONNECTION”
Strength for Today and Bright Hope for Tomorrow

Rev. Amy Terhune

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #526:** *“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”*

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|---|--|
| 1) What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer. | Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer. |
| 2) Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
Take it to the Lord in prayer. | 3) Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there. |

***Benediction:**

L: Beloved, may you go from this place awakened to God’s voice amidst the noise of this world. May your prayers produce in you a countenance of joy, a gracious demeanor, and a peaceful heart; that you may not be discouraged, but strong today with bright hope for tomorrow. And may the God who is always listening guide your way in the world this week with gentleness and compassion.

P: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord and all God’s people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*** Postlude:**

“Standin’ In The Need Of Prayer”

Afro-American Spiritual

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STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2023
Saginaw First United Methodist Church

In the third chapter of the Old Testament book of Lamentations, the Prophet Jeremiah (who wrote both Jeremiah and Lamentations) expresses the grief, pain, suffering, and hardship he has born in exile. Affliction, darkness, physical torture - these are the experiences Jeremiah laments, leading him to articulate his grief: "My soul is bereft of peace". Yet in spite of all this, he goes on to write in verses 21-23: "But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning, for great is your faithfulness!"

Those words became the basis of Thomas Chisholm and William Runyan's beloved hymn *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (UMH #140). In fact, they say that only the hymn *In The Garden* was more requested when the Hymnal Committee revised the hymnal in 1989. *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* remains one of those classic and well-loved hymns that many remember from childhood, and that even those not raised in the church can sing at a funeral or a wedding. It celebrates God's eternal presence with us, and God's unchanging compassion for humankind. The third verse of the hymn reminds us of God's blessings:

- Pardon for sin
- Peace that endures
- God's own presence to cheer and to guide
- Strength for today
- Bright hope for tomorrow
- 10,000 more blessings besides



As we think about the future of Saginaw First UMC, I'm reminded of Chisholm and Runyan's words, and the blessing it is that God gives both strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow. As we look towards our stewardship campaign and our church's needs for 2023 and beyond, we'll be celebrating the strengths of today, and sharing some of our brightest hopes for tomorrow as we build on the strengths and the legacy of yesterday. This morning, we hear about the persistent widow in Luke 18 who sought justice from an indifferent judge. Her persistence inspires ours, for God has purposed us for love and service in this community, and God gives both strength and bright hope so that we can make a lasting difference in an indifferent world.

<i>First United Methodist Church</i>	
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e-mail: firstumsag@aol.com website: http://firstumcsaginaw.org	
Senior Pastor	Rev. Amy Lee Brun Terhune
	pastoralbt@outlook.com / (989) 274-6363 (cell phone)
Office Administrator/Treasurer	Dina Draper
Custodian	Tina Castle
Organist.....	Bryan Latimer
Director of Music & Chancel Choir	Rod Bieber
Bell Choir Director	Catherine McMichael
Nursery Supervisors.....	Diane Maturen, Aimee Priem, & Carolyn Rottiers
Audio Visual Technicians.....	Nic Courier, Brian Hatch, Andy Sharrow, Izzy Terhune

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS / STAFF: Thank you for your service!!

Liturgist: David Marks

Ushers: Keith Courier, Norm Jones, Max Mondol

Nursery: Diane Maturen

Greeters: Judy Gerken and Jackie Moore

Coffee Hour Hosts: Sharrow Family

Sound Board: Angie Smith

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mark Abbe, Ed Babinski, David Barker, John & Myrna Cammin, Bonnie & Pat Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Dr. Kirk Herrick, Glenn Hinds, Barb Kropp, Joyce Maltman, Camille Marek, Sheldon & Bonnie Markley, John Mertz, Merlyn Mondol, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Wendy Southgate Murphy, Ron Perry, Al & Teddy Reichard, Anne Ruffle, Eugenia Shek, and all who are grieving. Also, please pray for UMCOR, for all suffering from Covid-19, for the war in Ukraine, for an end to division in our nation, and for a way to peace/equality for humankind.

KID'S CLUB – Next Sunday 10/16, 11:30-1:00pm includes lunch, Bible lesson, crafts, and fun for elementary-age children.

BIBLES FOR CHILDREN – Next Sunday, 10/16 during worship, all kids who are in first grade this year, or would have been in first grade in the spring of 2020, 2021, and 2022 will be receiving their gift Bibles from the church. If you have a qualifying child, and have not received an invitation, please contact the church office.

HALLOWEEN SUPPER – On Monday, Oct. 31, we will hand out free hot dogs, chips, water, and candy to families out Trick or Treating. **PLEASE DONATE HALLOWEEN CANDY TO HAND OUT.** There's a collection bin in the Lobby Area. We also need volunteers on Halloween Night. Sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-halloween> to help out or call the church office at (989) 799-0131 to volunteer. Thank you!

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH – Rebecca Fellowship – Tuesday, October 18 at 11:00am.

MEN'S BREAKFAST – Sunday, October 16, at 8:30am.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS – PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Tuesday, October 18, 7:00pm on ZOOM.

SPRC – online with the District Superintendent – Monday, October 24, 7:30pm

CHARGE CONFERENCE – here at Saginaw First UMC, Sunday, October 23, 3:00-5:00pm.

SCHOOL BACKPACK PROGRAM for hungry kids begins next week.

Sign up to pack bags on Sundays or deliver bags to schools on Mondays here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-food>

COFFEE HOUR hosts needed. Sign up at the welcome desk or sign up and view instructions online here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-coffee>. You may also call the church office at (989) 799-0131 to sign up. Thank you!

THE NURSERY is resuming full operation. We are pleased to welcome back our trained/vetted Nursery staff: Katie Moon will run the nursery on 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays, and Diane Maturen will run the nursery on 2nd and 4th Sunday. Little ones age 4 and under are welcome at any point during the service. The Nursery is located down the hallway just east of the lobby kitchenette.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Be sure to check in on Facebook! The more of us that do, the more people learn about who we are!

Facebook: **First United Methodist Church of Saginaw**

YouTube: **Saginaw First UMC**

Instagram: **saginawfumc**

Twitter: **FirstUMCofSaginaw**

Sat. Nov. 19

Winter Wonderland CRAFT BAZAAR

This fall, Pastor Amy and the team that went on the 2022 Mission Trip to Puerto Rico gave a presentation regarding the need in places they go. The devastation left behind by natural disasters is sometimes incomprehensible. They go with God to do God's work and help out as needed.

Would you like to help raise money for the Youth Mission Trip in 2023, but aren't sure how? We have a suggestion!!

We are looking for crafty people to participate in a Winter Wonderland Bazaar on November 19, 2022 here at First UMC. The Bazaar will run from 9:00am – 3:00pm. We need BOTH vendors and customers!!

If you'd like to be a vendor, contact Kathy Winkowski at (989) 245-1036, or sign up online on the church website at <http://www.firstumcsaginaw.org/winter-wonderland-bazaar/>. You can both register AND pay the registration fee online at the church website or use the QR Codes at the bottom of this page. Or you can mail your fee into Kathy or the church office. In addition to the basic table fee, vendors will be asked to donate one item to a raffle. Paper registration forms are located at the Welcome Desk.

If you're not "crafty", come and look at the many vendors. There will be great Christmas Gift ideas and lunch from the Men's Group. If you can't come Saturday, a few donated items will also be available after church on Sunday, November 20, and you can pick something up then.



← register
here

pay→
here

