

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation Caring For and About God's Community

November 27, 2022 - 10:00am - First Sunday in Advent

* Please Stand if you are able

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude:

"People, Look East"

French Carol; arr. Dale Wood

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>.



*Opening Hymn UMH #211: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (vs. 1, 2, 4, 6)

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| 1) O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. | 4) O Come, thou root of Jesse's tree,
An ensign of thy people be.
Before thee rulers silent fall;
All people on thy mercy call. [Refrain] |
| 2) O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in her ways to go. [Refrain] | 6) O Come, thou dayspring, come and cheer,
Our spirits by thy justice here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
[Refrain] |
- Refrain:* Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

*The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

David Marks and Anne Marks-Gaertner

READING (see attached if you'd like to follow along)

UNISON PRAYER: **Christ our Hope, restore us by your light, shining in the darkness. Help us to watch and wait with hope for your Kingdom and compassion for your people. Amen.**

CHORUS – FWS #2186 "Song of Hope"

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain: Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

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: *“Savior of the Nations, Come”*

by Johann Walter; arr. Rudy Davenport

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: **God of Hope, we thank you for the promise of your Kingdom, and for the gift of your son who came among us two millennia ago, and who promises to come again one day to fully right your world. Help us to watch and wait with hope, and to work expectantly. May these gifts we bring honor you and give hope to others in your Holy Name. Amen.**

Hymn #196: *“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”*

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| 1) Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart. | 2) Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne. |
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Children's Message – A special moment just for kids

Special Music:

“Rhymes and Reasons”

by John Denver

Dr. Robert Miller, Guitar/Vocals

Scripture Lesson:

Isaiah 2:1-5

Pew Bible O.T. pg. 594

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: ² In days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³ Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go

forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴ He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Response to the Word

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

P: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon: "SIGNS OF HOPE: SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES" *Pastor Amy Terhune*

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #206: "I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light"**

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| 1) I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus,
God set the stars
to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. | 2) I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness,
shine on my path, and show me
the way to the Father. <i>[Refrain]</i> |
|--|--|

Refrain:
In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

3) I'm looking for the coming of Christ,
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run
with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *[Refrain]*

***Benediction:** *(by Randy S. Clay, in The Journal of Worship Resources, Vol. 18.1; <http://www.deerhaven.com/files/JWRAdvChrEpi10-11.pdf>)*

L: Go forth and walk the path of the Lord, living as one instructed in the ways of the Lord.
Take the weapons of the world, and let hope shape them into instruments of peace, health, and well-being. Praise be to our God who shows us the way!

P: We go in hope to love and serve the Lord and all God's creation. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*** Postlude:** "Wake, Awake for Night is Flying" *by Philipp Nicolai; arr. Michael Burkhardt*

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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 and Katie Moon
Audio Visual Technicians	Nic Courier, Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune

Advent Wreath Lighting: First Sunday of Advent

Adapted from Derek Weber, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/advent-candle-lighting-liturg-2022>

HOPE: Up to Restoration

Reader One: “I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord!’” (Psalm 122:1 NRSV)

Reader Two: We are glad. Whether we drove in or climbed up, whether we logged on or tuned in. We are glad to be here in this community, with this family. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome. It is a place where, together, we can wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come.

Reader One: “Many peoples shall come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that we may learn God’s ways and walk in God’s paths’” (Isaiah 2:3 NRSV).

Reader Two: We light this candle as a sign of our hope – our joyous hope that we can be restored: our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored! As we watch and wait with all God’s people for the promise to be fulfilled, we watch and wait with hope.

Light the first purple candle on the Advent wreath.

Reader One: Let us pray.

People: Christ our Hope, restore us by your light, shining in the darkness. Help us to watch and wait with hope for your Kingdom and compassion for your people. Amen.

FWS #2186 – “Song of Hope”

May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain: Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS / STAFF: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Carla Piazza Wistehuff / Greeters: Eileen Ling & Angie Smith / Welcome Desk: Cory Sursely / Ushers: Bob Bula, John Cammin, Jim Ling, Chuck Priem / Nursery: Katie Moon / Sound Board: Angie Smith / Coffee Host: Carla Piazza Wistehuff

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mark Abbe, Ed Babinski, David Barker, Barry Brown, 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 end of war in Ukraine, for those plagued by famine in East Africa, for an end to division in our nation, and for peace/equality for humankind.

HANGING OF THE GREENS – TODAY following worship. Please plan to stay for an hour or so to help us ready the building for the Advent and Christmas. Thank you!

COLLEGE STUDENTS – if you have a student in college/university taking exams in the next few weeks, please make sure the church office has their contact information so we can send a little something to our students to let them know we're thinking of them during exams. Thank you!

COMMUNITY DINNERS – We are exploring the possibility of resuming the free community dinners on the Second Tuesday of each month from 5:30-6:30pm. However, we need to find out if there are enough willing volunteers to cook, set-up, and clean-up each month. If you are interested in being part of Community Dinners, please join us for an ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING next Sunday, December 4 immediately following worship. If you're interested in being a part of things, but cannot attend the meeting, please let the church office know of your interest. Thank you!

SCHOOL BACKPACK PROGRAM to help families facing food insecurity. To deliver food to schools on Mondays, sign up 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!

NEEDED – ADVENT WREATH READERS/LIGHTERS – we are in need of families, couples, or individuals to light the Advent Wreath each week and lead the accompanying litany. If you're interested, please let Pastor Amy know. Thank you!

SING IN THE CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS! – you may not be able to commit to singing in the choir all year long, but maybe you can help us out for the Advent/Christmas Season. Rehearsals for the Christmas Season are on Thursdays from 7:15-8:15 beginning December 1, 2022.

COOKIE WALK – Sunday 12/18 following worship. \$5 per dozen assorted cookies. All funds raised go to the youth mission trip to Appalachia in June 2023. Cookie Donations welcome and appreciated!!!!

CAMP KESUM FOR KIDS WHO'VE LOST A PARENT TO CANCER – if you're interested in supporting Camp Kesum (MSU) on Giving Tuesday, see Cathy Terhune in the lobby after worship.

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**

Instagram: **saginawfumc**

YouTube: **Saginaw First UMC**

Twitter: **FirstUMCofSaginaw**



Worship Schedule

- **First Advent 11/27/2022 – Worship 10:00am**
followed by Hanging of the Greens
- **Second Advent 12/4/2022 – Worship/Communion 10:00am**
Choir Singing
- **Advent Taizé Service – Wednesday 12/7/2022 – 7:00pm**
- **Third Advent 12/11/2022 – Worship 10:00am**
- **Fourth Advent 12/18/2022 – All Music Sunday 10:00am**
- **CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE – 5:00pm**
- **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE – 7:30pm**
 - **Christmas Sunday 12/25/2022 – 10:00am**
 - **New Year's Sunday 1/1/2023 - ONLINE ONLY**

Please note: we will not be worshipping in person on Sunday, 1/1/2023.

To give our staff a holiday weekend off, the service will be pre-recorded and streamed online Sunday morning.

Mission

THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE OFFERING will go to purchase gift cards and needed Christmas Meals for the families of the 48 Backpack Children (see above), plus additional youth from White Pine Middle School and Heritage High School. Our goal is to raise \$4K to help 80 families. Contributions needed by Thursday, December 15, 2022.

Education

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS PARTY for kids up to 5th grade – Sunday 12/11/2022 – 11:30am-1:00pm.
Includes lunch, Bible story, craft, baking project, games, and treats.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE for Youth Mission Trip to Appalachia – Sunday 12/18/2022 after worship

FOUR-WEEK ADVENT ADULT BOOK STUDY on *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph* by Adam Hamilton. Books available from the Office for \$10.
6:00-7:00pm in person on Tuesdays: 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20
7:30-8:30pm online on Wednesdays: 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21