

First United Methodist Church

*Welcome! We are a Congregation Caring For and About God's Community
January 1, 2023 - New Year's Sunday - ONLINE ONLY*

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Rung Prelude:

"Huron Carol" by Jean de Brebeuf; arr. Catherine McMichael

Prelude:

"Good King Wenceslas" Swedish Carol; arr. William H. Bates

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 #221:** *"In The Bleak Midwinter"*

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| 1) In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago. | 3) Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air;
But his mother only,
in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss. |
| 2) Our God, heav'n cannot hold him,
nor the earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ | 4) What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man,
I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him:
give my heart. |

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Wesley's Covenant Prayer for the New Year:

Lord God, I am no longer my own but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed for you or laid aside for you, exalted for you or brought low for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and whole-heartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious, blessed God, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. May this covenant I've made on earth be ratified in heaven, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

** Please Stand if you are able*

Time of Silent Meditation

The Pastoral Prayer lifting Celebrations and Concerns

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 continue to support your church family as we recover from this season of pandemic. 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/>



Offertory: “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

by G.F. Handel; arr. Melody Bober

The Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving: Emmanuel, God-With-Us, as we enter this new year, renew our commitment to You, and to the world you love. Accept these gifts, given in love and devotion, and use them to make the angels’ song for peace and goodwill a reality in this community and around the world. Amen.

Scripture Lesson:

Isaiah 43:1, 8-12, 18-21

Pew Bible O.T. pg. 631-632

¹ But now thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, and who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine... ⁸ So bring forth the people who are blind yet have eyes, who are deaf yet have ears! ⁹ Let all the nations gather together, and let the peoples assemble. Who among them declared this and foretold to us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to justify their declarations, and let them hear and say, “It is true.” ¹⁰ But you are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am God. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. ¹¹ I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior. ¹² I am the one who declared and saved and proclaimed, not some strange god among you; you are my witnesses, says the Lord, and I am God... ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ For I am about to do a new thing; even now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

Special Music:

“The Bells of Christmas”

by Robert Longfellow

Mark Ode, guitar/vocals

arr. Scott Petito / Leslie Ritter

A Dramatic Reading:

“IT’S NEW YEAR’S MORNING AND...”

written by Pastor Amy Terhune

Jim Doane, Roger Spann, Carla Piazza Wistehuff – Readers

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #251: “Go Tell It On The Mountain”**

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.

2) The shepherds feared and trembled,
When lo! Above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus that
Hailed the Savior’s birth. *[Refrain]*

1) While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
There shown a holy light. *[Refrain]*

3) Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that
Blessed Christmas morn. *[Refrain]*

***Benediction:**

L: Beloved, in this new year, may God give us flexibility for change, patience to wait, courage to act, and eyes to recognize Christ in the least likely of our brothers and sisters, that we may grow in wisdom and favor with God and others. And now, go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord and all God’s creation. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*** Postlude:**

“The Snow Lay on the Ground”

French Carol;; arr. Wilbur Held

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First United Methodist Church

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Senior PastorRev. Amy Lee Brun Terhune
.....pastoralbt@outlook.com / (989) 274-6363 (cell phone)
Office Administrator/TreasurerDina Draper
Custodian Tina Castle
Organist..... Bryan Latimer
Director of Music & Chancel Choir Rod Bieber
Bell Choir DirectorCatherine McMichael
Nursery Supervisors.....Diane Maturen, Carolyn Rottiers
Audio Visual Technicians..... Nic Courier, Brian Hatch, Andy Sharrow, Izzy Terhune

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mark Abbe, David Barker, John & Myrna Cammin, Bonnie & Pat Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Dr. Kirk Herrick, Glenn Hinds, Barb Kropp, Walt & Joyce Maltman, Camille Marek, Sheldon Markley, John Mertz, Merlyn Mondol, Jackie Moore, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Dave & Jean Nelson, Ron Perry, Anne Ruffle, Eugenia Shek, Wendy Southgate, and Mac & Joanna Thompson. Also, please pray for all who are grieving, for UMCOR, for all suffering from Covid-19, and for a way to peace/equality for humankind.

WEEKEND FOOD BACKPACKS – Hunger doesn't take the weekend off, therefore we provides 48 backpacks to send home on weekends with children at Westdale and Arrowwood Elementary Schools whose families struggle with food insecurity. **NEW SCHEDULE FOR NEXT TERM WILL BE OUT SOON!!! We need people to help deliver food to the schools sometime during the school day on Mondays each week.** To help, call the church office at (989) 799-0131 or sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-food>.

TAIZE WORSHIP – Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 7:00pm

YOUTH NEWS – MISSION TRIP ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – Sunday, Jan. 8 6:00pm
ALSO, Sunday, Jan. 15, 4-6pm - Superbowl painting for mission trip at Painterly Pottery, 923 N. Water Street, Bay City, MI.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED from December 24 through January 2. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 8:30am. Dina Draper and Pastor Amy will be on vacation during that time. However, in the case of a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Amy's cell phone at (989) 274-6363.

CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY – Saturday, January 14, 9:30am-Noon. Once APFG moves out and the back classrooms are empty, there is some cleaning and rearranging that needs to be done to get our building ready for the next phase of ministry.

LYRICS REPRODUCED HERE by permission: CCLI#1003593.

PROGRAM COMMITTEES will meet Monday, January 9 – Nurture at 6:00pm – Reach, Prepare, and Send at 7:00pm. **TRUSTEES** will meet Tuesday, January 10 at 7:15pm.

FREE COMMUNITY DINNERS will resume on the 2nd Tuesday of each month beginning January 10. Sign up online or call the church office at (989) 799-0131 to help set up, serve, cook, or clean-up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community>. You can sign up to donate food at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-food2>.

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

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**