

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation Caring For and About God's Community
April 23, 2023 - 10:00am - 3rd Sunday in the Easter Season and
Native American Awareness Sunday

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude:

"We Meet You, O Christ"

by Carl F. Schalk

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>

Please fill out your yellow prayer cards



***Opening Hymn UMH #384:** *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

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| 1) Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
All thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation;
Enter every trembling heart. | 3) Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love. |
| 2) Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit;
Let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty. | 4) Finish, then, thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise. |

** Please stand if you are able.*

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

The Call to Worship:

(adapted from Thom Schuman, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com>)

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

P: Christ is risen indeed! Thanks be to God!

L: We have not seen the risen Christ, but we recognize him in the lives of those transformed by grace.

P: We have not seen Jesus face-to-face, but we have seen him in the faces of others: of the needy, of the stranger, of everyone whose love encourages us.

L: We have not touched the wounds from the cross,

P: But we have been called to bring healing to the scarred of the world. May we be agents of healing and wholeness in a fearful and doubting world.

Prayer Chorus UMH #420: *“Breathe On Me, Breath of God” (vs. 1)*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.*

Time of Silent Meditation

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

♪ *You can support your church family by giving in person or online.
Enjoy the musical selection as a time to give thanks to God
for all with which you have been blessed. Thank you!
Use the QR code to the right or give online here:*

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



Offertory:

“Many and Great, O Lord, Are Your Gifts”

arr. Nicholas Palmer

In tribute to Native American Awareness Sunday

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: Holy God, we bring our gifts to you this day, as well as our very selves. Despite all our doubts and questions, you receive us and breathe peace into our confusion. May our gifts this day advance that peace to a world in need, and so bring the assurance of your grace and the hope of your resurrection to all, through Christ. Amen.

Children's Message – *A special moment with the Pastor just for kids*

Choral Anthem

Scripture Lesson: John 20:19-31

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 109

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Response to the Word

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

P: Thanks be to God!

Sermon:

“PEACE BE WITH YOU”

Pastor Amy Terhune

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #318: “Christ Is Alive”**

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| <p>1) Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.</p> <p>2) Christ is alive! No longer bound
To distant years in Palestine,
He comes to claim the here and now
And dwell in every place and time.</p> <p>3) Not throned afar, remotely high,
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,</p> | <p>But daily, in the midst of life,
Our Savior in the Godhead reigns.</p> <p>4) In every insult, rift, and war,
Where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
He suffers still, yet loves the more,
And lives, though ever crucified.</p> <p>5) Christ is alive, and comes to bring
Good news to this and every age,
Till earth and all creation ring
With joy, with justice, love, and praise.</p> |
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***Benediction:**

(adapted from Peter L. Haynes, <http://rockhay.tripod.com/>)

L: "Peace be with you," Jesus says to us in this room. "As the Father sent me, so I send you." No doubt or fear can lock God out of our lives. As you leave this place, know that you do not go forth alone. And may these words echo through your mind, as well: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Therefore, my friends: Go in peace.

P: We go out to love and serve the Lord and all God’s creation. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Postlude:**

“This Joyful Day of Days”

arr. Dale Wood

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Custodian	Tina Castle
Organist.....	Bryan Latimer
Director of Music & Chancel Choir.....	Rod Bieber
Bell Choir Director.....	Catherine McMichael
Nursery Supervisors.....	Katie Moon
Audio Visual Technicians.....	Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune
Lyrics Reproduced in Bulletin by permission: CCLI#1003593.	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Roger Spann /
Greeters: Belinda Hatch and Stacy Sharrow / Ushers: Tom Kraynak, Bill Draper, Larry Haggerty
/ Welcome Desk: Robin Schwellenbach / Nursery: Katie Moon / Sound System: Izzy Terhune

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mark Abbe, Ed Babinski (now on hospice at Samaritas), David Barker, Barry Brown, Myrna Cammin, Judy Dawe, Bonnie & Pat Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Dr. Kirk Herrick, Barb Kropp, Joyce Maltman, Camille Marek, John Mertz, Merlyn Mondol, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Wendy Southgate Murphy, Ron Perry, Al & Teddy Reichard, Madge Richmond, Anne Ruffle, Eugenia Shek, and Rev. Richard Turner (now home). Also, please pray for UMCOR, for all suffering from illness, for an end to war in Ukraine, for those suffering famine in East Africa, for our Southern Border, for peace/equity for humankind, and for the MSU community.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY given by Edna Blaisdell in memory of Marlan Blaisdell, Gary Blaisdell, Clifford & Mildred Spicer, and Beverly Shaw.

OUR SYMPATHY TO: Bonnie Markley and Family on the death of Sheldon Markley on April 11, and to Phyllis & Wayne Henney and Family on the death of Phyllis' sister Colene Moore on April 8.

FUNDRAISER for Angie Smith – April 30, 11am-1pm. See Attached Flyer. Sign up to help out at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-angies>.

FREE COMMUNITY DINNERS have resumed on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. **WE WILL HAVE A FREE COMMUNITY MEAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP TODAY 4/23/2023.**

SCHOOL BACKPACK PROGRAM to help families facing food insecurity. To deliver food to schools on Thursdays, sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-food>. Stay today and help pack up food. **NEEDED FOR BACKPACK KIDS at the Middle School and High School** – Reusable water bottles (no more drinking fountains in school) and sanitary pads/tampons for girls. Donate in the box in the front entryway or at the Welcome Desk. Thank you.

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!

REBECCA WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP will be collecting supplies for His Restoration Ministries at their May 16th meeting, but the whole church is encouraged to support this effort. At this time their needs are:

- Diapers size 6-18 months
- Boys clothes size 6-12 months
- Cleaning supplies (laundry/dish soap Pinesol, bleach, window cleaner and toilet bowl cleaner.)

A crib will be set up in the Narthex to collect these items. All are encouraged to support this project.

NOW HIRING: FUMC is in need of an additional person to work the Sunday morning nursery during worship – preferably someone who can work every other weekend. The candidate must be at least 18 years old and would be interviewed by representatives from our Staff Parish Relations Committee and Pastor Amy. The candidate will also need to pass a background check and participate in training required by the Michigan Conference. This is a paid position. If interested, submit a resume or apply online at: <https://form.jotform.com/231084936036153>. 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!

YouTube: **Saginaw First UMC**

Twitter: **FirstUMCofSaginaw**

Facebook: **@firstumcofsaginaw**

Instagram: **saginawfumc**

FUNDRAISER BRUNCH For Angie Cowdry Smith

To help offset expenses of Cancer Treatment

Eggs

French Toast

Bacon / Sausage

Fresh Fruit

Coffee

Juice



SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2023
11:00 am – 1:00pm



No set ticket price – donations requested.
← *Give ONLINE using this QR Code*

First United Methodist Church of Saginaw
4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638