

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation Caring For and About God's Community
May 14, 2023 - 10:00am - 6th Sunday in Easter / Mother's Day

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude: "Day By Day / God Careth For You"

by Jeff Bennett

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 #111:** "How Can We Name A Love?"

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| 1) How can we name a Love That wakens heart and mind, Indwelling all we know Or think or do or seek or find? Within our daily world, In every human face, Love's echoes sound & God is found Hid in the commonplace. | 3) When people share a task, And strength and skills unite In projects old or new, to make or do With shared delight, Our Friend and Partner's will Is better understood, That all should share, create, and care, And know that life is good. |
| 2) If we awoke to life Built on a rock of care That asked no great reward but firm, Assured, was simply there, We can, with parents' names, Describe, and thus adore, Love unconfined, a father kind, A mother strong and sure. | 4) So in a hundred names, Each day we all can meet A presence, sensed and shown at work, At home, or in the street. Yet every name we see, Shines in a brighter sun: In Christ alone is Love full grown And life and hope begun. |

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***The Call to Worship:**

(adapted from the Song of St. Anselm)

L: Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you gently and tenderly.

P: Often you weep over our sins; tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.

L: You comfort us in sorrow, bind up our wounds, and with pure milk you feed us.

P: Jesus, by your dying we are born to new life; by your anguish we come forth in joy.

L: Despair turns to hope; through your gentleness, we find comfort in fear.

P: Your warmth gives life to the dead, your touch makes sinners righteous.

L: Lord Jesus, in your compassion, bring us grace and forgiveness; lovingly remake us.

P: For just a nursing mother cannot forget her infant child, so you remember us; so you cradle us in your loving arms. Thanks be to God! Amen.

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

Prayer Chorus W&S #3159: “Let Our Earth Be Peaceful”

1. Let our earth be peace - ful, let our hearts be
2. Let our ways be mind - ful, mend - ing what is
3. Let our lives be fruit - ful, beau - ti - ful and

hope - ful, let our hands be gen - tle
hurt - ful, do - ing what is need - ful
play - ful, ev - ery day be thank - ful

for the love of God. for the love of God.
for the love of God.

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

♪ *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:

“Breath of Heaven”

by Chris Eaton and Amy Grant; arr. Marianne Kim

Scripture Lesson:

Luke 1:26-38

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 53

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Response to the Word

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

P: Thanks be to God!**Sermon:**

Tatyana Spaulding, Guest Preacher

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD**Closing Hymn UMH #408: "The Gift of Love"**

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| <p>1) Though I may speak with bravest fire, And have the gift to all inspire, But have not love, my words are vain, As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.</p> <p>2) Though I may give all I possess, And striving so my love profess,</p> | <p>But not be given by love within, The profit soon turns strangely thin.</p> <p>3) Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, Our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; By this we worship, and are freed.</p> |
|---|---|

Benediction:(adapted from Nathan Nettleton; <https://laughingbird.net/>)*

L: Beloved, nothing is impossible with God. Go forth, therefore, as servants in His Holy Name, committed to let it be with you according to his word, giving thanks in all things. And may grace, mercy and peace, from God our Creator, through Jesus our Savior, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit our Nurturer, be with you this day and evermore.

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

Postlude:"O Happy Day Medley"**by McDonad/Hawkins; arr. Jeff Bennett*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Anne Marks-Gaertner /
Greeters: Judy Gerken & Jackie Moore / Ushers: Bonnie Arnst, Keith Courier, Max Mondol /
Coffee Hour: ?? / Welcome Desk: Jill Spaulding / Sound System: Angie Smith /

WELCOME to Tatyana Spaulding, our guest preacher. Tatyana will begin her graduate education at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary this fall. Congratulations, Tatyana!!

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mark Abbe, Ed Babinski, 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, Bonnie Markley, John Mertz, Merlyn Mondol, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Wendy Southgate Murphy, Ron Perry, Al & Teddy Reichard, Madge Richmond, Anne Ruffle, Eugenia Shek, Jerry Taylor, and Rev. Richard Turner (now home). Also, please pray for UMCOR, for all suffering from illness/famine/oppression, and for an end to war in Ukraine.

OUR SYMPATHY to Al & Teddy Reichard on the death of Al's brother Fred on May 8, 2023.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP MEETING on Monday, June 5 at 7:00pm.

GRADUATES – If you have a student graduating this year from High School, College, University, Grad School, Trade School, or Military, please be sure to get their information into the main office. **Please do not assume we know!!!** Email firstumcsaginaw@gmail.com. WE NEED TO KNOW: Name, Where graduating from, Degree (*if applicable*), Honors, and Future Plans. Also, please send a picture!! Graduation Sunday this year is later than usual, scheduled for June 11, 2023.

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS have resumed on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Our next free meal is Tuesday, May 13. Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community>

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>. **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.

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.

THE MEN'S CLUB will meet next Sunday, May 21 at 8:30am. The program will feature Dr. Lou Constan speaking about his trip to the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor. Spouses and significant others are invited to attend.

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, willing to submit to 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!

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!

PASTOR AMY IS AWAY on family vacation until Friday, May 26, 2023. While away, Rev. Rob Richards from Four Points UMC (Swan Valley, Hemlock, LaPorte, and Nelson) will be covering pastoral emergencies and St. Mary's hospitalizations on her behalf. He may be reached at (989) 751-5818. Also, Rev. Janet Myers, Covenant Hospital Chaplain, will be covering Covenant Hospitalizations. She may be reached at (989) 583-6042.

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**

First United Methodist Church

4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638-6242; (989) 799-0131; Fax (989) 799-4240
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 Supervisor Katie Moon
Audio Visual Technicians.....Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune

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