

# First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation Caring For and About God's Community  
July 16, 2023 - 10:00am - 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Pentecost Season

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

**Prelude:** "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" by George Elvey; arr. James Pethel

**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 #139:** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

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| 1) Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,<br>the King of Creation.<br>O my soul, praise him,<br>for he is thy Health and Salvation.<br>All ye who hear,<br>now to his temple draw near.<br>Join me in glad adoration.                          | Ponder anew what the Almighty can do<br>Who with his love doth befriend thee.   |
| 2) Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things<br>so wondrously reigning<br>Bears thee on eagle's wings,<br>e'er in his keeping maintaining.<br>God's care enfolds all,<br>whose true good he upholds.<br>Hast thou not known his sustaining? | 4) Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish<br>thy life and restore thee,<br>Fitting thee well for the tasks<br>that are ever before thee.<br>Then to thy need,<br>God as a mother doth speed,<br>Spreading the wings of grace o'er thee. |
| 3) Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper<br>thy work and defend thee.<br>Surely his goodness and mercy<br>here daily attend thee.  | 5) Praise to the Lord,<br>O let all that is in me adore him.<br>All that hath life and breath<br>come now with praises before him.<br>Let the Amen<br>sound from His people again,<br>Gladly forever adore him!                       |

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**\*Opening Prayer:** (adapted from Dr. Lisa Hancock, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org>.)  
**Creator God, open us today to your life-giving grace and transformative love. As we notice our internal struggles, empower us to greet the wheat and the weeds in our own hearts with care and integrity. As we recognize the challenges and suffering in our community, inspire us to meet the weeds and the wheat in our neighbors with acceptance and hope. We know that you alone have the final say, and so we give ourselves over to you as instruments of hospitality and grace that we would tend our neighbors even as we are tended by you. Amen.**

\* Please stand if you are able

**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 FWS #2159 – “Jesus, Draw Me Close”**

*Jesus, draw me close, closer, Lord, to you. Let the world around me fade away.  
Jesus, draw me close, closer, Lord, to you. For I desire to worship and obey.*

**Silent Meditation and 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:** “The Rose”

*by Amanda McBroom; arr. Tom Roed*

**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, as we bring our gifts to you this day, enable us to give generously, and without judgement, since all of us stand in need of your grace. May these gifts be instruments of your grace in our neighborhoods and our world, that each may know their preciousness and inherent worth in your eyes, through Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

**Scripture Lesson:**

Matthew 13:24-30

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 14

<sup>24</sup> He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup> but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup> And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup> He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup> But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

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

**\*Hymn FWS #2060: “God, The Sculptor of the Mountains”**

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| 1) God the sculptor of the mountains,<br>God the miller of the sand,<br>God the jeweler of the heavens,<br>God the potter of the land:<br>You are womb of all creation,<br>We are formless; shape us now.   | 3) God the dresser of the vineyard,<br>God the planter of the wheat,<br>God the reaper of the harvest,<br>God the source of all we eat:<br>You are host at every table,<br>We are hungry; feed us now. |
| 2) God the nuisance to the Pharaoh,<br>God the cleaver of the sea,<br>God the pillar of the darkness,<br>God the beacon of the free:<br>You are fount of all deliverance,<br>We are sightless; lead us now. | 4) God the unexpected infant,<br>God the calm, determined youth,<br>God the table-turning prophet,<br>God the resurrected Truth:<br>You are present every moment,<br>We are searching; meet us now.    |

**Scripture Lesson:**

Matthew 13:36-43

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 14

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup> the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup> and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears, listen!

**Response to the Word**

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

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon:**

ON USING GOOD JUDGEMENT

*Pastor Amy Terhune*

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***WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD***

**\*Closing Hymn UMH #428: “For the Healing of the Nations”**

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| 1) For the healing of the nations,<br>Lord, we pray with one accord;<br>For a just and equal sharing<br>of the things that earth affords;<br>To a life of love in action<br>help us rise and pledge our word. (2X)           | 3) All that kills abundant living,<br>let it from the earth be banned;<br>Pride of status, race, or schooling,<br>dogmas that obscure your plan.<br>In our common quest for justice<br>may we hallow life's brief span. (2X) |
| 2) Lead us forward into freedom;<br>from despair your world release,<br>That, redeemed from war and hatred,<br>all may come and go in peace.<br>Show us how through care & goodness<br>fear will die and hope increase, (2X) | 4) You, Creator God, have written<br>your great name on humankind;<br>For our growing in your likeness<br>bring the life of Christ to mind,<br>That by our response and service<br>earth its destiny may find. (2X)          |

**\*Benediction:**

L: Beloved, may you go forth filled with God’s grace that overflows, brimming in hospitality and care for your neighbors, as we work together with God to bring about a new, life-giving reality for all.

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

**\*Postlude:**

*Fanfare on “St. Thomas”*

*by Aaron Williams; arr. Phil Lehenbauer*

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<b><i>First United Methodist Church</i></b>	
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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.....	Katie Moon and Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians.....	Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune
Lyrics Reproduced in Bulletin by permission: CCLI#1003593.	

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THANK YOU TO TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS:** Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Roger Spann / Greeters: Belinda Hatch & Stacy Sharrow / Ushers: Tom Kraynak, Bill Draper, Larry Haggerty / Coffee Hour Host: Needed / Sound System: Izzy Terhune / Nursery: Karissa Schultz

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:** Wayne Henney, Al Reichard, Joanna Thompson

**OUR SYMPATHY** is extended to Dina Draper and family on the death of Dina's mother Barb Garcia on June 30, 2023 and to the family of Rev. Doug Leffler, who passed away on June 28, 2023, and to Jane MacQueen and family upon the death of Jane's mother Rose Prevost on June 16, 2023.

**PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Mark Abbe, Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, David Barker, Barry Brown, Myrna Cammin, Judy Dawe, Bonnie & Pat Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Dr. Kirk Herrick, Marion Hoffman, Sarah Kettlehohn, Barb Kropp, Marilyn Latimer, Joyce Maltman, Camille Marek, Bonnie Markley, John Mertz, Merlyn Mondol, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Wendy Southgate Murphy, Al & Teddy Reichard, Madge Richmond, Anne Ruffle, Eugenia Shek, Joanna Thompson, Rev. Richard Turner, and Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, the sick, all suffering from famine/oppression/wildfires, and an end to war in Ukraine.

**THANK YOU** to all who stayed last week to help with the church clean up. Your work is appreciated!

**ADULT SUMMER BOOK STUDY** – each summer, Pastor Amy leads a book study on a relevant social issue. This summer, we're studying "Common Ground: Talking About Gun Violence in America" by Donald V. Gaffney. Books are \$12 from the office, but no one will be excluded if they can't buy the book.

IN PERSON CLASS – Tuesdays at 6pm on 7/25, 8/1, 8/8, and 8/15.

ZOOM ONLINE CLASS – Wednesdays at 7:30pm on 7/26, 8/2, 8/9, and 8/16.

**DISTRICT BLOCK PARTY AT AMES UMC BUILDING** – Thursday, August 24 from 2:00-5:00pm. The purpose of this event is to connect with the neighborhood and begin to discern needs and opportunities for a new ministry expression in 2024 or 2025. Volunteers need to help cook hot dogs and set up food, oversee kids bounce house / crafts, hand out school supplies, and talk to neighborhood residents about needs and dreams.

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continuing Tuesday, August 8.

Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community>

**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!

**SCHOOL BACKPACK PROGRAM** to help families facing food insecurity. Thank you to all who helped pack bags, who delivered food, and who supported this mission financially. Please consider adopting a student or two for the 2023-24 school year. It costs the church \$150 per child to feed them for an entire school year. Currently, we feed 72 children every weekend. Thank you all!!

**A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY** is in the works to be published by Sept. 10, but we need your help. Please view the preliminary print-out at the Welcome Desk to check your information and correct as needed. If you're new and your information isn't there, please add it. You may also call the church office at (989) 799-0131 to check your information and make corrections. 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**