

# First United Methodist Church

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

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

**Prelude:** *Meditation on "King's Weston"*

*by Ralph Vaughan Williams; arr. Vidas Pinkevicius*

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

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**\*The Call to Worship:**

*(adapted from Bruce Prewer, <http://www.bruceprewer.com/>)*

**One:** No one is an island. We are all joined in Christ Jesus.

**All:** **Who else is like you, loving God? Who is like you: beautiful in holiness,  
awesome in all the things you do for us?**

**One:** No one lives to themselves, no one dies to themselves. Whether we live or die, we belong to God.

**All:** **The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.**

**One:** Therefore, welcome to all who have come today.

**All:** **We have come to worship God, and to praise the Lord for all God's gifts of  
love towards us. Thanks be to God.**

\* 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 W&S #3024: “With You, O Lord”**

With you, O Lord, is life in all its full - ness, and  
in your light we shall see true light. With you, O Lord, is  
life in all its full-ness, and in your light we shall see true light.

The image shows a three-system musical score for the prayer chorus. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

**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 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: “When We Are Living”**

*Traditional Spanish Melody; arr. John Carter*

**\* 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 today, help us to celebrate our differences, to love one another even when we don't see things the same way, and to unite our hearts and efforts in service to building the beloved community through our giving, for we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

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

**Choral Anthem:**

*"The Gift of Love"*

*by Hal H. Hopson*

**Scripture Lesson:**

Romans 14:1-12

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 152-153

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own Lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. <sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. <sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

**Response to the Word**

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

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**The Sermon:**

*ON NOT LIVING TO OURSELVES*

*Pastor Amy Terhune*

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

**\*Closing Hymn FWS #2243: “We All Are One In Mission”**

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| <p>1) We all are one in mission;<br/>         We all are one in call,<br/>         Our varied gifts united<br/>         By Christ, the Lord of all.<br/>         A single, great commission<br/>         Compels us from above<br/>         To plan and work together<br/>         That all may know Christ's love.</p> <p>2) We all are called for service,<br/>         To witness in God's name.<br/>         Our ministries are different;<br/>         Our purpose is the same:</p> | <p>To touch the lives of others<br/>         By God's surprising grace,<br/>         So every folk and nation<br/>         May feel God's warm embrace.</p> <p>3) Now let us be united,<br/>         And let our song be heard.<br/>         Now let us be a vessel<br/>         For God's redeeming word.<br/>         We all are one in mission;<br/>         We all are one in call,<br/>         Our varied gifts united<br/>         By Christ, the Lord of all.</p> |
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**\*Benediction**

**L:** Beloved, go now and follow Jesus in the way of the cross. Rejoice in hope, hold fast to what is good, persevere in prayer, live peaceably with all, and welcome the weakest among you. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good, in the name of the Merciful God, the Loving Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

**\*Postlude:**

*“One Love”*

*by Bob Marley; arr. Bryan Latimer*

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<i>First United Methodist Church</i>	
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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
<b>Lyrics Reproduced in Bulletin by permission: CCLI#1003593.</b>	

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!!** Liturgist: Stacy Sharrow / Greeters: Judy Gerken and Jackie Moore / Ushers: Keith Courier, Bonnie Arnst, Norm Jones, Max Mondol / Welcome Desk: Karen Constan / Coffee Hour Hosts: Carla Piazza Wistehuff / Sound System: Angie Smith / Nursery: Katie Moon

**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, Madge Richmond, Anne Ruffle, Eugenia Shek, Mac Thompson, and Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, all suffering from flooding/wildfires/hurricanes, and an end to war in Ukraine.

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:** Suzanne Clark, Kay Mertz, Larry Potter

**OUR SYMPATHY** is extended to Teddy Reichard and family upon the death of Al Reichard on Sept. 2.

**KIDS CLUB TODAY** – following worship 11:30am-1:00pm. Kids Club is for all kids who are potty-trained through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We provide lunch, a Bible lesson, crafts, games, cooking projects, and more fun activities. Parents are welcome to return to pick their kids up at 1pm, or to stay and observe.

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continuing THIS TUESDAY Sept. 12 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu this month: Sloppy Joes, Tater Tots, and Green Beans. Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community> Sign up to Donate Food here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-food2>

**NEW MEMBER CLASS** – Saturday, September 16, 9:30-11:30am – for all interested in joining / transferring membership to Saginaw First UMC. To sign up, call the office at (989) 799-0131, or sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-newmember>. Pastor Amy would be glad to speak with you if you have questions or would like more information. New Members will be received Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> in worship. PLEASE NOTE: Members being transferred from Ames UMC are not required to attend the class, but are welcome if they want to attend. Thank you!

**RALLY DAY / MINISTRY FAIR** is scheduled for September 24, 2023 after worship. Dress casually, invite your friends, and join us to learn more about how you can get involved in ministry here. Posters and exhibits will be set up in the Narthex. Bounce House for the kids in Gibbs Hall. A POTLUCK luncheon following worship will also take place in Gibbs Hall. Bring a dish to pass.

### **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**

### **IMPORTANT MEETINGS FOR FALL 2023**


- **Monday, September 11, 6:00pm** – Nurture; **7:00pm** – Reach, Prepare, Send
- **Tuesday, September 12, 7:15pm** – Trustees
- **Thursday, September 14, 10:00am** – Lay Leadership / Nominations
- **Tuesday, September 19, 7:15pm** – Finance Team
- **Monday, September 25, 7:00pm** – Administrative Board Quarterly Meeting
- **Sunday, Oct. 29, 2:00pm** – ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE MEETING (at Auburn UMC)



## **YOU can make a difference!**

Across the City of Saginaw and Saginaw Township, hundreds of families struggle with food insecurity. Children who come to school hungry can't learn as well.

We make sure that 72 children and teens have food on the weekend when they're not at school to get meals there. You can help in three ways:

- 1) It costs \$150 to feed a child or teenager each weekend of the school year. Consider sponsoring (or partially sponsoring) a child in 2023-2024, or give online. 



- 2) Food is delivered twice a month in bulk. It must be sorted and packed into bags for each kid. Beginning in October, stay after worship on Packing Sundays and help us get the bags filled, sorted, and ready to go.
- 3) Food must be delivered to 5 areas schools EVERY week. They are Westdale Elementary School, Arrowwood Elementary School, White Pine Middle School, Heritage High School, and Mackinaw High School. Beginning in October, you can volunteer to deliver bags on Mondays or Tuesdays to the schools. Stay tuned for more information about how to sign up. Thank-you!