

# First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation Caring For and About God's Community  
November 26, 2023 - 10:00am - Reign of Christ Sunday

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

**Prelude:** Variations on "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

German Chorale; arr. David D. Brensinger

**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 write out a yellow prayer card if you have prayer concerns  
and joys to be shared.

**\*Opening Hymn UMH #66:** "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

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| 1) Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,<br>to the throne thy tribute bring;<br>Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,<br>evermore God's praises sing.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br>Praise the everlasting King.  | 3) Father-like, God tends and spares us;<br>well our feeble frame God knows;<br>Mother-like, God gently bears us,<br>rescues us from all our foes.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br>Widely yet God's mercy flows. |
| 2) Praise the Lord for grace and favor<br>to all people in distress;<br>Praise God, still the same as ever,<br>slow to chide, and swift to bless.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br>Glorious now God's faithfulness. | 4) Angels in the heights, adoring,<br>you behold God face to face;<br>Saints triumphant, now adoring,<br>gathered in from every race.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br>Praise with us the God of grace.           |

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**\*The Call to Worship:**

(adapted from Fred Drummond, <http://www.tearfund.org/>.)

**One:** Holy God, Move among us in this time of worship. Open our eyes to see as you  
see and weep as you weep

**All:** Open our hearts to love the broken and care for those without hope.

**One:** Open our hands to hold what we have lightly and share cheerfully with all in need.

**All:** Open our mouths to speak for the voiceless and to advocate for justice.

**One:** Open our ears to the gentle whispers of your Spirit and to obey your word to us.

**All:** Open up our lives to the call of your voice, to the cry of the needy, to the last  
wishes of the dying, to the movement of your Holy Spirit in and through us.

\* Please stand if you are able

**Prayer Chorus FWS #2070: “He Is Exalted”**

*He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him!*

*He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise his name!*

*He is the Lord, forever his truth shall reign; Heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name!*

*He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!*

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

**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 choose to support your church family in this exciting and challenging time of mission/ministry. Enjoy the musical selection as a time to give thanks to God for all with which you have been blessed.*

*Use the QR codes or pledge/give online here:*

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



**The Offertory:** “All Creatures of Our God and King”

*German Tune; arr. Phillip Keveren*

**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:** Generous God, as we bring our gifts, help us to see you in those most in need. Use our gifts to feed the hungry, clothe those exposed, welcome the stranger, care for the sick, and forge connections with those imprisoned, and so enable others to see your care in us, through Christ. Amen.

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

**\*Hymn UMH #203: “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”**

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| 1) Hail to the Lord's Anointed,<br>Great David's greater Son!<br>Hail in the time appointed,<br>His reign on earth begun!<br>He comes to break oppression,<br>To set the captive free;<br>To take away transgression,<br>And rule in equity. | 2) He comes with succor speedy<br>To those who suffer wrong;<br>To help the poor and needy,<br>And bid the weak be strong;<br>To give them songs for sighing,<br>Their darkness turn to light,<br>Whose souls, condemned and dying,<br>Are precious in his sight. |
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3) He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,  
Spring in his path to birth.  
Before him, on the mountains,  
Shall peace, the herald, go,  
And righteousness, in fountains,  
From hill to valley flow.

4) To him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand forever;  
That name to us is love.

**Scripture Lesson:**

Matthew 25:31-46

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 29

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup> and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup> Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, <sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup> Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, <sup>42</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ <sup>44</sup> Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’ <sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ <sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”

**Response to the Word**

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

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**The Sermon**

“DARKNESS TURNED TO LIGHT”

*Rev. Amy Terhune*

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

**\*Closing Hymn FWS #2190: “Bring Forth the Kingdom”**

- 1) You are salt for the earth, O people: Shine so holy and bright, O people:  
Salt for the Kingdom of God! Shine for the Kingdom of God! *Chorus*  
Share the flavor of life, O people:  
Life in the Kingdom of God!
- 2) You are a light on the hill, O people: Light for the City of God!
- 3) You are a seed of the Word, O people: Bring forth the Kingdom of God!  
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,  
Grow in the Kingdom of God! *Chorus*
- 4) We are a blest and a pilgrim people: Bound for the Kingdom of God!  
Love our journey  
and love our homeland:  
Love is the Kingdom of God! *Chorus*

*Chorus:*  
*Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,*  
*Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;*  
*Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,*  
*Bring forth the City of God!*

**\*Benediction:**

*(by Caren L. Caldwell in “Touch Holiness” ed. Ruth C. Duck & Maren Tirabassi, pg. 270)*

**One:** Beloved, follow Christ our Divine Ruler, who has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. When confronted with the vulnerability and suffering of others this week, may God give us the will to make those choices that will keep us in tune with His generous love, and thereby create small colonies of heaven on earth for all people.

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

**\* Postlude: Flourish on “Come, Thou Almighty King”**

*by Felice de Giardini; arr. Gilbert Martin*

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*First United Methodist Church*

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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

**TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!!** Liturgist: Cal Mott / Greeters: Sue Arceo / Ushers: Bob Bula, John Cammin Jr., Chuck Priem, / Coffee Hour: NEEDED / Sound System: Angie Smith / Nursery: Katie Moon

**PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, David Barker, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Myrna Cammin, Wayne & Suzanne Clark, Judy Dawe, Bonnie & Pat Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Dr. Kirk Herrick, Marion Hoffman, Dr. Larry Kelly, Pete & Sarah Kettlehohn, Barb Kropp, Marilyn Latimer, Joyce Maltman, Camille Marek, Bonnie Markley, Merlyn Mondol, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Wendy Southgate Murphy, Teddy Reichard, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Angie Smith, Rev. Kathy Snedeker, Mac Thompson, Peg Wilken, and Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and an end to war in Ukraine and Israel/Gaza.

**OUR SYMPATHY** is extended to the family of Larry Hagerty, who passed away Monday, Nov. 13. A Celebration of Life is planned for TOMORROW, Monday, November 27 at 11:00am with an hour of visitation beforehand and a reception afterwards. Sign up to help with the receptions at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-46226530-funeral>

**NEEDED** – We are in need of a few folks to serve as Greeters once a month. A greeter stands at one of the entrances, welcomes people in and helps newcomers find their way to restrooms, coat racks, and the visitor's desk. If you're willing to serve, please call the office at (989) 799-0131. Thank you!

**NEEDED** – Individuals/Families to light the Advent Wreath on Sundays throughout December (12/3, 12/10, 12/17, 12/24 morning, and 12/24 Christmas Eve). Speak with Pastor Amy to participate.

**HANGING OF THE GREENS TODAY** following worship

**ADVENT ADULT BOOK STUDY** on "*The Angels of Christmas*" by Susan Robb, explores the four angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus with Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds, including a deep dive into the history of the angelic visits in the Old Testament and how their message impacts living our faith in today's world. The Advent Book Study is 4 weeks.

6:00-7:00pm in person on Tuesdays: 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19

7:30-8:30pm online on Wednesdays: 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** - Monday 12/11/23 and runs 12-6 pm in Gibbs Hall. We will need volunteers to assist the day of the drive. There are 2 shifts of volunteers at 11:45-3:00 and 2:45-6:00. Volunteer to work a shift, bake goodies or give blood by contacting Hilda Kidder @ [hkidder@gmail.com](mailto:hkidder@gmail.com) or (989) 274-3670. Thank you!

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continuing Tuesday, Dec. 12 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu next month: Mexican Night.

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

**THE GREIF/SHARE GROUP** – meets weekly on Mondays from 11:00am-12:15pm. We will NOT meet on Monday 11/27 due to the funeral for Larry Hagerty.

**THE BACKPACK PROGRAM** for children struggling with food insecurity has begun. Sponsor a child for \$150/year. Sign up to pack food and help deliver to area schools at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-44603782-backpack>

**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** Facebook: **@firstumcofsaginaw** Instagram: **saginawfumc**



**PFLAG Great Lakes Bay**

# LGBTQ+ Library Book Drive

**Nov. 16 - Dec. 31, 2023**

## Ways to Donate or Support:

**1**  
Buy a Book  
via Our  
Amazon  
Registry

**2**  
Donate  
Lightly Used  
Books

**3**  
Make a  
Donation to  
PFLAG GLB

For more information, visit:

[pflagglb.com/library](http://pflagglb.com/library)



## First United Methodist Church 2023 Christmas Miracle Offering

This year, our Miracle Offering will be divided  
evenly and used to:

- 1) Provide gift cards for the families of children who receive weekend backpacks, many of whom, struggle with food insecurity.
- 2) Support Eric & Angie Smith as they continue to pay down treatments for cancer.

**GIVE ONLINE HERE**



Select "Christmas Miracle Offering"  
from the dropdown Menu

