

First United Methodist Church

Loving the Whole City, Loving the City Whole!

November 17, 2024 - 10:00am - 26th Sunday in Pentecost

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Bells on High Prelude: “Rondo Exultate”
“Carillon”

by Margaret R. Tucker

by H. Dean Wagner

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 #733:** “Marching to Zion”

1) Come, we that love the Lord,
And let our joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accord,
Join in a song with sweet accord
And thus surround the throne,
And thus surround the throne.

Refrain: We're marching to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward
to Zion,
The beautiful city of God.

2) Let those refuse to sing
Who never knew our god;
But children of the heavenly king,
But children of the heavenly king

May speak their joys abroad,
May speak their joys abroad. (*refrain*)

3) The hill of Zion yields
A thousand sacred sweets
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Or walk the golden streets,
Or walk the golden streets. (*refrain*)

4) Then let our songs abound,
And every tear be dry;
We're marching thru Emmanuel's ground,
We're marching thru Emmanuel's ground,
To fairer worlds on high,
To fairer worlds on high. (*refrain*)

PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION

***The Call to Worship:**

(by Rev. Mindi, <http://rev-o-lution.org/>)

One: When we pass through the waters, God is there with us.

All: **When we suffer and feel hopeless, God is there with us.**

One: When we are joyful and celebratory, God is there with us.

All: **Whether we feel triumphant or defeated, God is there with us.**

One: Come let us worship God with grateful hearts!

All: **Let us give thanks that our Emmanuel is there with us always.**

** 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 #2025 – “As the Deer”

*As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart’s desire and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart’s desire and I long to worship you.*

Silent Meditation and the 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: “*I Want To Be Ready*”

Afro-American Spiritual arr. John Thompson

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: Merciful God, we offer these gifts as a token of our faith and devotion. In a world full of uncertainties, may these offerings be used to spread your hope and love. Teach us to listen to your voice amid the noise and to trust in your steadfast presence. Bless our giving, that it may build your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Bells on High Anthem: “*An American Folk Hymn Sampler*”

by Fred Gramman

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

Chorus UMH #191: “*Jesus Loves Me*”

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

¹ As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” ² Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.” ³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” ⁵ Then Jesus began to teach them, saying, “Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs. ⁹ “As for yourselves, beware, for they will hand you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. ¹⁰ And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. ¹¹ When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say, but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak but the Holy Spirit. ¹² Sibling will betray sibling to death and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, ¹³ and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

Response to the Word

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

All: Thanks be to God!

***Hymn FWS #2020: “We Are God’s People”**

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| 1) We are God’s people,
The chosen of the Lord,
Born of the Spirit,
Established by the Word.
Our corner stone is Christ alone,
And strong in Christ we stand;
O let us live transparently, and
Walk heart to heart and hand in hand. | 3) We are the body,
Of which the Lord is head.
Called to obey Christ,
Now risen from the dead.
God wills us be a family
Diverse, yet truly one;
O let us give our gifts to God and so
Shall God’s work on earth be done. |
| 2) We are God’s loved ones,
The bride of Christ, our Lord.
For we have known it,
The love of God outpoured.
Now let us learn how to return
The gift of love once given;
O Let us share each joy and care, and
Live with a zeal that pleases heaven. | 4) We are a temple,
The Spirit’s dwelling place,
Formed in great weakness,
A cup to hold God’s grace.
We die alone, for on its own,
Each ember loses fire;
Yet joined in one the flame burns on
To give warmth and light, and to inspire. |

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn FWS #2284: “Joy In the Morning”**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) There'll be joy in the morning
on that day,
There'll be joy in the morning
on that day,
For the daylight will dawn
when the darkness is gone,
There'll be joy in the morning
on that day. | Every heart, every voice
on that day will rejoice,
There'll be peace
and contentment evermore. |
| 2) There'll be peace
and contentment evermore,
There'll be peace
and contentment evermore, | 3) There'll be love
and forgiveness everywhere,
There'll be love
and forgiveness everywhere,
And the way of the Lord
will that day be restored,
There'll be love
and forgiveness everywhere. |

***Benediction:** [by Valerie Bridgman in *The Africana Worship Book, Year B* (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2007), pg. 221.]

One: Beloved, May the Spirit that leads through fire and flood; the Spirit that baptizes with power; the Spirit of expectation and hope; lead, strengthen, and guide you this week and always. Amen.

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

***Postlude:** “How Firm A Foundation”

Early American Hymn arr. Wilbur Held

First United Methodist Church

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Custodian..... Tina Castle
Organist..... Bryan Latimer
Director of Music & Chancel Choir..... Rod Bieber
Bell Choir Director..... Catherine McMichael
Nursery Supervisors..... Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians..... Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: **Thank you for your service!!** Liturgist: Bill Cowdry / Greeters: Jane MacQueen and Stacy Sharrow / Ushers: Tom Kraynak, Bill Draper, Austin Tomlinson, and Carla Piazza-Wistehuff / Coffee Hour Hosts: Jackie Matlock and Dee Mills / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Sound System: Izzy Terhune

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: Merlyn Mondol (now at Healthsource), Teddy Reichard (now home)

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, David Barker, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Myrna Cammin, Judy Dawe, Bonnie & Pat Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Don Hammond, Wayne Henney, Dr. Kirk Herrick, RuthAnn Hilton, Marion Hoffman, Sue Johnson, Sharon Ketcham, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Mark Leffler, Joyce Maltman, Bonnie Markley, Merlyn Mondol, Ron Moon, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Ron & Noreen Southgate, Kathy Winkowski, and Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and for war to end in Ukraine and in Israel/Gaza.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to Jacquie Matlock and family upon the death of Jacquie's brother Allen Jerome on Oct. 31, 2024. Memorial services were held last week in Midland.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR today given by the family of Camille Marek, whose life we celebrated this week, and by Jacquie Matlock in memory of Rachel Jerome.

YOUTH GROUP for middle and high school students will meet TONIGHT, Nov. 17 from 6:00-7:30pm

PLEDGE CARDS welcome anytime. It's not too late! If possible, please submit your 2025 pledge by Nov. 30, as this will help us solidify our budget. But we'll take them anytime☺!

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, continue Tuesday, Dec. 10 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu for December: Loaded Nachos. Sign up to Donate Food at the Welcome Desk. Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community>

REBECCA FELLOWSHIP women's circle meets Tuesday, November 19 at 11am.

SENIOR GAME DAY Wednesday, November 20 from 3-5pm

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP will meet on 2nd Sundays, continuing Sunday, Dec. 8 at 6:00pm

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>

HANGING OF THE GREENS will take place following worship NEXT Sunday, November 24.

ADVENT BOOK STUDY (4 WEEKS) begins in person at 6pm on Tues. 11/ 26 and online at 7:30pm on Wed. 11/27. The book is entitled "Keep Watch With Me" by Claire Brown and Michael T. McRay. Books available in the main office for \$15. Free books available to those who need them.

THE CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK will take place this year on Sunday, December 22. Cookies will be \$5/dozen. All proceeds go to fund the Youth Mission Trip to Milwaukee this June 2025. Please consider baking/donating cookies for the walk to help the kids out. 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**

Bluesky: **FirstUMCSaginaw.bsky.social**

Facebook: **@firstumcofsaginaw**

Instagram: **saginawfume**



Creating Peace Through Interfaith
Dialogue | Cooperation | Understanding



We're coming together to make a difference. This year, the Interfaith Saginaw offering will go to support the Partnership Center in Saginaw.



Interfaith Saginaw

Invites you to our 8th Annual Interfaith Service of Thanksgiving

The Jesus Christ Church of Latter-Day Saints
1415 N. Center Road, Saginaw, MI 48638

Sunday, November 24, 2024 – 3:00pm