

First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!

April 13, 2025 - 10:00am - Palm Sunday

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude from Bells on High: “Gavotte”
“For The Beauty of the Earth”

by William Boyce; arr. Sondra Tucker

by C. Kocher, arr. C. McMichael

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 a yellow prayer card if you have prayer concerns and joys to share.

***Opening Hymn W&S #3077:** “Blessed Is He Who Comes in God’s Name

1. “Bless - ed is he who comes in God’s name!”
2. As the great cit - y came in - to view
3. They did not hear him; nei - ther do we.
4. Peace is not gained through pos - ture and threat.

cried the ex - cit - ed crowd. Spread - ing their cloaks, they
Je - sus be - gan to cry. “Would that you knew the
Might is our gold - en calf. We would see Christ e -
Jus - tice is not a game. Come, Chris - tians, turn; sur -

wel - comed a King; “Peace,” they said, “here and now!”
mak - ings of peace!” he ut - tered with a sigh.
quipped with a sword, not with a shep - herd’s staff.
ren - der the pride; re - pent in Je - sus’ name.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

The Unison Prayer of Confession:

Long ago, O Lord, your people cried “Hosanna!” It means, “Save us!” Still today, we cry hosanna. Save us. Save us from our arrogance. Save us from our callous disregard for the needs and feelings of others. Save us from our greed and our sense of entitlement. Save us from our blindness to the suffering of our neighbors. And save us from ourselves – from those inward dialogues that deflate our hope and belittle our gifts. Save us for your glory, that we may be co-builders of the Kingdom with you and strong in faith to withstand times of trial, through Christ, our Savior. Amen.

**Please stand, if able*

The Words of Assurance

Beloved, hear the good news: the Lord is gracious and compassionate, endlessly patient, loving, and faithful even when we are not; forgiving sin, extending mercy to millions, and empowering true amendment of life. Thanks be to God for such amazing grace.

Prayer Chorus FWS #2154: “Please Enter My Heart, Hosanna” *(if you're reading the music, no repeats)*

Please enter my heart, hosanna. O, please lead my life today.

Gentle Lamb of God, the Christ, the Anointed One, won't you enter my heart today?

O, please hear my prayer, hosanna, these words that I need to say.

Gentle Lamb of God, the Christ, the Anointed One, won't you enter my heart to stay?

O come, Jesus, come. Hosanna! Hosanna! O Come, Jesus come today! Come to stay!

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 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

♪ *Please support your church family. 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:

“The Holy City”

by Stephen Adams; arr. Joshua Tamayo

Bryan Latimer and Catherine McMichael, Piano Duet

*The Doxology

**Praise God throughout these forty days;
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's grace and love to human hearts. Amen.**

*Tune: UMH #95
(old 100th)*

***The Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving:** God of Peace, who reigns in unexpected ways, we bring our gifts as an offering of our hearts. Just as the crowd welcomed Jesus with shouts of praise, we offer our lives in service to your kingdom. Use these gifts to bring hope, healing, and love to a world longing for your peace. Guide us to give generously with joyful hearts, knowing that in our giving, we proclaim your reign of grace through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Bells on High Anthem:

“Celebration”

by Fred Gramann

Children's Message – A special moment just for kids

*The Parade of Palms

* Hymn UMH #280: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (vs. 1, 3, 5)

Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor,
To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.

1) Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and Blessed One. [Refrain]

3) The people of the Hebrews
With palms before thee went;
Our prayer and praise and anthems
Before thee we present. [Refrain]

5) Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King. [Refrain]

Scripture Lesson: Luke 19:28-40

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 78

^{28b} ...Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.' " ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ But Jesus answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, even the stones would shout out."

Response to the Word

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

P: Thanks be to God!

Choral Anthem:

"Silence the Stones"

by Susan Bentall Boersma / Craig Courtney

*We must silence the stones with our praise; We must sing to the Ancient of Days.
Stones are ready to shout if we fail to cry out; We must silence the stones with our praise.*

*Mountains quake at the sound of God's voice! Let his people before him rejoice,
Those he chose to redeem, come and join the theme
We must silence the stones with our praise.*

*Lift his name, give him praise! Every hand to him raise
With one voice to him sing: Mighty God, the Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, and King!*

*Hallelujah, now sing the amen! Hallelujah! All glory! Amen!
From his throne our God reigns, Sing out loud the refrain
We will silence the stones with our praise!*

Sermon:

“EVEN THE STONES WOULD SHOUT”

Pastor Amy Terhune

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn FWS #2111:** “*We Sang Our Glad Hosannas*” (vs. 1, 3-5)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) We sang our glad hosannas,
And waved our branches high,
But some were silent, frowning,
As Jesus rode on by.
They sought a royal Savior
But did not understand
A king could rule by loving,
Instead of by command. | 4) We saw a suffering Jesus
Alone, without a friend,
And heard the voices shouting
Abuse until the end.
We wept as we stood watching
Love's light grow dim and die,
And cried, "Why did this happen?
God, tell us, tell us why!" |
| 3) We served him at the table
With wine, unleavened bread.
"The one who will betray me
Now eats with me," he said.
His friends would not believe him,
But one by one that night,
As soldiers came to take him,
They scurried out of sight. | 5) We buried him, not knowing
That on the third day morn
A risen Christ would greet us
And hope would be reborn.
Though evil had extinguished
The life that burned so bright,
The love of God would triumph
Like dawn that ends the night. |

***Benediction:**

(adapted from Cheryl Lawrie, <http://holdthisspace.org.au/>)

L: And now we lay down the palm branches. And with them we lay down our belief that there is another way for you to be God. The week stretches ahead – glory-less and painful. We look towards the cross, knowing it is both the most human and most divine of all journeys. Travel the road with courage, with love, and with the uneasy peace that is the gift of faith, into this holiest of weeks. Amen.

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

***Postlude:**

“Ride On in Majesty”

by John Dykes; arr. David Paxton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Stacy Sharrow / Greeters: Judy Gerken and Jackie Moore / Ushers: Keith Courier, Bonnie Arnst, Marc Cesere, Matt Martinez, Kathy Winkowski / Coffee Hour: NEEDED / Welcome Desk: Betty Jo Cloud / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Sound System: Angie Smith / Counters: Marc Cesere

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, David Barker, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Bernie Buggia, Myrna Cammin, Sue Cooper, Bonnie Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Marion Hoffman, Sue Johnson, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Mark Leffler, Joyce Maltman, Bonnie Markley, Kay Mertz, Merlyn Mondol, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Noreen Southgate, Kathy Winkowski, and Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and for war to end in Ukraine and in Israel/Gaza.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR in honor of Emily Constan's 18th Birthday from Dr. Lou & Karen Constan.

KIDS CLUB will meet TODAY, April 13 from 11:30am-1:00pm

YOUNG ADULT DINNER will meet TONIGHT, April 13 at 6:00pm

CONFIRMATION CLASS for middle school students will meet Tuesday, April 15 at 6:30pm.

NEW MEMBER CLASS Saturday, April 26 from 9:30-11:30am. RSVP with the church office.

UNDERWEAR DRIVE – Rebecca Circle Women's fellowship is collecting NEW packages of underwear for children for the Clothing/Food Pantry at New Heart Church. Please donate by Tuesday, April 15.

SIGN UP at the Welcome Desk to help with

- the Holy Thursday Soup Supper on April 17 at 5:45pm.
- packing sack lunches for Good Friday on April 18 at 9:30am.
- providing muffins for the Easter Breakfast on April 20 at 9:00am.

ALL CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY: Sunday, April 27, following worship – 11:30am Pizza Lunch, Noon-3:00pm Indoor and Outdoor clean-up work. Sign up on the list of chores at the Welcome Desk

FREE COMMUNITY MEAL PLANNING MEETING – Sunday, May 4 following worship.

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, continue Tuesday, May 13 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu for May: Cinco De Mayo Tacos. Clean-up help needed. Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community/>.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER – Thursday, May 1 – Noon: Prayers at Saginaw City Hall (Pastor Amy participating) AND Thursday, May 1 – 7:00pm Prayer Service at Bridgeport Community Church, 3821 State Street, Bridgeport, MI. 48722 w/ community pastors (including Rob Ashmall and Pastor Amy).

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANNING MEETING – Sunday, May 18 following worship.

BIBLE EXCHANGE – We now have a bookshelf in the lobby area with copies of Scripture available for free. If you need a bible, or see a translation you've not studied before, please feel free to take a bible. If you have extra copies of Scripture around your home that aren't being read/used, donate them!

THE BACKPACK PROGRAM for children struggling with food insecurity continues. Sponsor a child for \$150/year. Call the office (989-799-0131) or sign up to pack food and 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**

Bluesky: **FirstUMCSaginaw.bsky.social**

Instagram: **saginawfume**

LENT 2025 at SAGINAW FIRST UMC

Maundy Thursday
Tenebrae Worship and Communion
Thursday, April 17, 2025 – 7:00pm
Soup Supper – 5:45pm
(choir members rehearse at 6:15pm)



Good Friday Worship – Friday, April 18
12:00-12:30pm and 12:30-1:00pm
Come for one service or stay for both!
Sack lunches provided.

Easter Celebration Worship
Sunday, April 20 – 10:00am
Easter Breakfast – 9:00am



First United Methodist Church

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e-mail: firstumsag@aol.com website: <http://firstumcsaginaw.org>

Senior PastorRev. 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..... Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians..... Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune

Lyrics Reproduced in Bulletin by permission: CCLI#1003593.

Please Join Us For A

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

Gathering at the table to advance our beloved community

What is the Beloved Community?

Dr. King's Beloved Community is a vision of a society where justice, equality, and love prevail. It's a community built on understanding, compassion, and **collective action**.

Together, we can move closer to making this vision a reality.

This is your opportunity to:

Learn about the challenges affecting our community.

Collaborate with others to **develop solutions** and **take action**.

Be a part of building Dr. King's beloved community.



Thursday

April 24th, 2025

6:00 p.m.

**New Christ Community
Church**

3302 Grant St, Saginaw,
MI 48601



FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED!!!



**For more information or to RSVP, contact us at
info@theezekielproject.org**

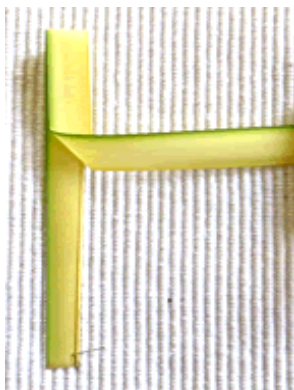
MAKE PALM CROSSES

Everyone always wants to know how to make palm crosses. Here is a simple way—a little tricky, perhaps, but once you've mastered it, it will be easy to do. Enjoy!

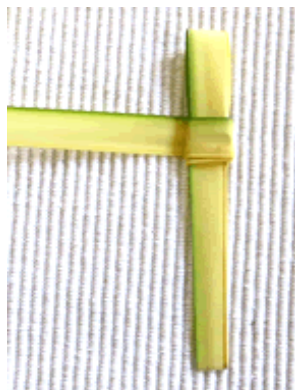
Most palm fronds are actually double; split the frond into two long separate strips. Remove any stringy bits.



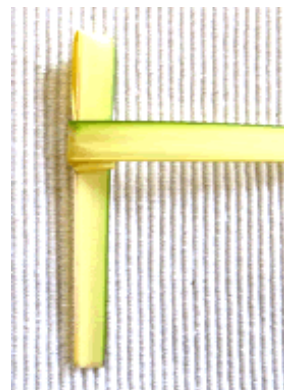
1. Hold palm pointing up; about 5-6 inches from the bottom, fold top over keeping the long part toward you.



2. About 1½-inches from the top, fold long end on the diagonal to the right, making a right angle.



3. Wrap the long end around the upright 2½ times; this is important!



4. Flip it over.



5. Make an arm about 1½–2-inches, folding the long end toward you.



6. Make second arm, folding on the left.



7. Make a diagonal fold so the long end points up.



8. Slip the point of the long end behind the center loops.



9. Loop the long end a 2nd time behind the center loops; pull taut to secure the cross. The top piece may be adjusted by pulling on the base.



Finished cross!