

# First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!  
June 29, 2025 - 10:00am - Third Sunday after Pentecost

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

**Prelude:** “He Keeps Me Singing”

by Luther B. Bridges; arr. Canaan J. Harris

**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>

Peg Wilken



Please fill out yellow prayer card to share joys/concerns.

\* Please stand if you are able.

**\*Opening Hymn UMH #152:** “I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) I sing the almighty power of God,<br>That made the mountains rise,<br>That spread the flowing seas abroad,<br>And built the lofty skies.<br>I sing the wisdom that ordained<br>The sun to rule the day;<br>The moon shines full at God's<br>Command, and all the stars obey. | Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,<br>Wherever I turn my eye,<br>If I survey the ground I tread,<br>Or gaze upon the sky.  |
| 2) I sing the goodness of the Lord,<br>Who filled the earth with food, who<br>Formed the creatures thru the Word,<br>And then pronounced them good.   | 3) There's not a plant or flower below,<br>But makes thy glories known,<br>And clouds arise, and tempests blow,<br>By order from thy throne;<br>While all that borrows life from thee<br>Is ever in thy care;<br>And everywhere that we can be,<br>Thou, God, art present there. |

## PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION

**\*The Call to Worship:** [adapted from Rev. Susan A. Blain; <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>]

Jude Mertz

One: The Spirit is coming to bless us all with a new song:

**All: Let our joy be complete!**

One: Gifts for the good of all, poured out on all to teach us a new song:

**All: Love one another!**

One: Strangers and neighbors, foreigners and family will join in the new song:

**All: No longer servants but friends!**

One: Come, let our worship make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**All: Let us come into God's presence with singing and grateful praise!**

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

**Prayer Chorus UMH #57: “O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing” (vs. 1 & 5)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) O for a thousand tongues to sing<br>My great Redeemer's praise,<br>The glories of my God and King,<br>The triumphs of his grace! | 5) He speaks, and listening to his voice,<br>New life the dead receive;<br>The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,<br>The humble poor believe. |
|---|---|

**Silent Meditation**

**The Prayers of the People lifting Celebrations and Concerns**

*Peg Wilken*

**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: “How Can I Keep From Singing?”**

*by Robert Lowry; 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!**

**\*Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

*Jude Mertz*

**Lord, as we follow you by grace, we know that the journey requires sacrifice and commitment. We bring these gifts today, not out of obligation, but as a sign of our dedication to your mission. Help us to offer not just our resources but our lives, fully devoted to your work, now and forever, we pray. Amen.**

**Scripture Lesson: Ephesians 2:1-10**

*Pew Bible N.T. pg. 181 – Jude Mertz*

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him

in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

**Special Music:** “*Song for the Nations*”

by Chris Christensen

*Jane MacQueen, Terry Moon, and Peg Wilken*

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

Stacy Sharrow

**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.*

**Scripture Lesson:** John 1:14-18

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 86 – Jude Mertz

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>John testified to him and cried out, ‘This was he of whom I said, “He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me”.’ <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

**Response to the Word**

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**\*Hymn UMH #365:** “*Grace Greater Than All Our Sin*”

1) Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,  
Grace that exceeds our sin  
and our guilt!  
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,  
There where the blood  
of the Lamb was spilt.

Refrain: Grace, grace, God's grace,  
Grace that will pardon  
and cleanse within;  
Grace, grace, God's grace,  
Grace that is greater  
than all our sin!

2) Sin & despair, like the sea waves cold,  
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;

Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,  
Points to the refuge, the mighty cross.  
[Refrain]

3) Dark is the stain that we cannot hide.  
What can avail to wash it away?  
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide,  
Brighter than snow you may be today.  
[Refrain]

4) Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,  
Freely bestowed on all who believe!  
You that are longing to see his face,  
Will you this moment his grace receive?  
[Refrain]

## **Hymn Sing: The Music of Grace**

**Prevenient Grace** – Jane MacQueen

**Hymn FWS #2128:** *“Come and Find the Quiet Center”*

- 1) Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,  
Find the room for hope to enter; find the frame where we are freed:  
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see  
All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.
- 2) Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace;  
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,  
Making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,  
Raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.
- 3) In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,  
Let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:  
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,  
In the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

**Justifying Grace** – Peg Wilken

**Hymn UMH #361:** *“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”*

- 1) Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;  
Let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.
- 2) Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.
- 3) Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling;  
Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.
- 4) While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

**Sanctifying/Perfecting Grace** – Jude Mertz

**Hymn FWS #2162:** *“Grace Alone”*

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

### **\*Closing Hymn FWS #2162: “Grace Alone”**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) Every promise we can make,<br>Every prayer and step of faith,<br>Every difference we will make<br>is only by his grace<br>Every mountain we will climb,<br>Every ray of hope we shine,<br>Every blessing left behind<br>is only by his grace.<br>Grace alone, which God supplies<br>Strength unknown he will provide<br>Christ is us, our cornerstone;<br>We will go forth in grace alone. | 2) Every soul we long to reach,<br>Every heart we hope to teach,<br>Everywhere we share his peace<br>is only by his grace.<br>Every loving word we say,<br>Every tear we wipe away<br>Every sorrow turned to praise<br>is only by his grace.<br>Grace alone, which God supplies<br>Strength unknown he will provide<br>Christ is us, our cornerstone;<br>We will go forth in grace alone. (2X) |
|---|--|

### **\*Benediction:**

*Peg Wilken*

**One:** Beloved, May the songs of the angels sustain you; may the praises of the saints inspire you; may the silent music of the Holy Trinity resonate in your heart and bless you with harmony and peace as you share the song within.

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

### **\*Postlude: “When In Our Music, God Is Glorified”**

*by Charles V. Stanford; arr. Matt Limbaugh*

### ***First United Methodist Church***

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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

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!!** Worship Leader: Peg Wilken / Liturgist: Jude Mertz / Greeters: Jim & Linda Doane, Bonnie Dole / Ushers: Bob Bula, Dr. Lou Constan, Joe and Nancy Kozumplik / Welcome Desk: Karen Constan / Coffee Hour Host: NEEDED / Sound System: Izzy Terhune / Nursery: Karissa Schultz. A special thank you to Stacy Sharrow for doing the Children's Message, and to Jane MacQueen for serving as a reader during the Hymn Sing.

**PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Bernie Buggia, Myrna Cammin, Sue Cooper, Bill Cowdry (now home), Bonnie Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Marion Hoffman, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Mark Leffler, Joyce Maltman, Bonnie Markley, Kay Mertz, Trinity & Audri Miller, Merlyn Mondol, Bob & Sharon Mueller, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Noreen Southgate, Jerry Taylor (now at Great Lakes Rehab), & Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, for peace in Ukraine/Russia and Israel/Gaza.

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY** given by Tom & Nancy Miller in honor of their daughter Heather's marriage to Jordan Potter yesterday in Virginia. Congratulations Jordan & Heather Potter!

**TAIZÉ WORSHIP** of meditation, song, readings, and prayer this Wednesday, July 2 at 7:00pm.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** will be held Sunday 8/10, Monday 8/11, and Tuesday 8/12 from 5:30-7:45pm. Join us for Safari Fun, where kids go wild for God! See attached registration form to sign up!

**VBS PLANNING MEETING** to make sure we're on track and distribute more detailed lesson plans – Sunday, July 13 following worship.

**YOUNG ADULT COOK OUT & BONFIRE** – Sunday, July 13 at 6:00pm at Pastor Amy's home, located at 4674 Village Drive, Saginaw, MI 48638 (It's in the subdivision right across the street from the church). Bring a lawn chair or camp chair if you have one. (We'll have extra if you don't have one!)

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continue Tuesday, July 8 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu for July: Summer Salads Sign up to help or donate food at the Welcome Desk.

**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!

**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:** Our Administrative Assistant, Dina Draper, is on vacation Monday, June 30 through Sunday, July 13. Volunteers are covering office hours from 9:00am–12:00pm on Mondays-Thursdays, EXCEPT the office will be CLOSED on Thursday, July 3. Happy Independence Day!

**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**

## REGISTRATION FORM FOR VBS 2025

**Sunday, August 10, 5:30-7:45pm**

**Monday, August 11, 5:30-7:45pm**

**Tuesday, August 12, 5:30-7:45pm**

**FREE for all kids who are potty trained**

**Through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Evening includes dinner, storytime, songs, crafts,  
games and MESSY TIME!!!!!!**

**NOTE: DON'T WEAR YOUR BEST CLOTHES!**

**YOUTH HELPERS NEEDED**



Name of Child/Youth #1 attending/helping with VBS: \_\_\_\_\_

*Circle whether child or youth and whether attending or helping*

Grade: \_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Any allergies medical conditions or special needs we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child/Youth #2 attending/helping with VBS: \_\_\_\_\_

*Circle whether child or youth and whether attending or helping*

Grade: \_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Any allergies medical conditions or special needs we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child/Youth #3 attending/helping with VBS: \_\_\_\_\_

*Circle whether child or youth and whether attending or helping*

Grade: \_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Any allergies medical conditions or special needs we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child/Youth #4 attending/helping with VBS: \_\_\_\_\_

*Circle whether child or youth and whether attending or helping*

Grade: \_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Any allergies medical conditions or special needs we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Texts? Y N Email: \_\_\_\_\_