

# First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!  
May 24, 2026 - 10:00am - Pentecost / Memorial Day Weekend

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

**Prelude:** "Reflections on the Spirit"

arr. Joel Raney

(Ev'ry Time I Fell the Spirit / Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart / Breathe On Me, Breath of God)

**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 yellow prayer card to share joys/concerns.

\* Please stand if you are able.

**\*Opening Hymn FWS #2120:** "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

*Chorus: Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
Blow through the wilderness  
Calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness,  
Wind, wind on the sea.*

1) You moved on the waters,  
You called to the deep,  
Then you coaxed up the mountains  
From the valleys of sleep;  
And over the eons  
You called to each thing:  
"Awake from your slumbers  
And rise on your wings." *Chorus*

2) You swept through the desert,  
You stung with the sand,  
And you goaded your people  
With a law and a land;  
And when they were blinded

With idols and lies,  
Then you spoke through your prophets  
To open their eyes. *Chorus*

3) You sang in a stable,  
You cried from a hill,  
Then you whispered in silence  
When the whole world was still;  
And down in the city  
You called once again,  
When you blew through your people  
On the rush of the wind. *Chorus*

4) You call from tomorrow,  
You break ancient schemes.  
From the bondage of sorrow  
The captives dream dreams;  
Our women see visions,  
Our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions  
Your people arise. *Chorus*

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

### \*The Call to Worship

One: Holy Spirit, Gentle Dove, descend upon your people!

All: **Remind us of God's love for us, and of our baptismal vows, and give us courage to be your people in the world.**

One: Holy Spirit, Mighty Wind, blow through your people!

All: **Sweep away the sin and despair within us and refresh us. Fill our lungs with the breath of life and purpose.**

One: Holy Spirit, Dancing Fire, alight on your people!

All: **Inspire us with new visions and bold dreams for advancing the reign of Christ in our community and beyond.**

One: Holy Spirit, our Advocate, who intervenes for us with sighs too deep for words,

All: **Live within us! Challenge us and use us! Come, Holy Spirit, and fill us with the gifts and will to love boldly, serve joyfully and lead courageously to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Amen.**

**Time of Prayer** – During the prayer chorus, ushers will collect your yellow prayer cards to deliver to the pastor.

### \*Prayer Chorus: "Holy Spirit, Come to Us"

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It begins with a piano (p) dynamic. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us, kin - dle in us the fire of your love. — Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us, Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us." The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are placed below the vocal staves, with some words underlined. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

### 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

♪ You can support your church family by giving in person or online.  
Enjoy the musical selection giving thanks to God for all our blessings.

Use the QR code to the right or give online here:

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



**The Offertory:** *"I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing"*

*Classic Spiritual; arr. C. Scott Hagler*

**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 Spirit, breathe into us and fill us with your peace. Let your presence be known in every life touched by this church's ministries. Receive these offerings as the outpouring of grateful hearts and use them to fan the flame of your love throughout the world. In the name of the Giver of the Spirit, we pray. Amen.

**Choral Anthem:** *"Wind of the Spirit"*

*w/m by Kathleen Jimenez © 2002*

**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.*

**Scripture Lesson:** Acts 2:1-18

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 111

<sup>1</sup> When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. <sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." <sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: <sup>17</sup> 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. <sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

**Response to the Word**

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

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

**\*Opening Hymn UMH #539: "O Spirit of the Living God"**

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|---|--|
| <p>1) O Spirit of the living God,<br/>Thou light and fire divine,<br/>Descend upon thy church once more,<br/>And make it truly thine.<br/>Fill it with love and joy and power,<br/>With righteousness and peace;<br/>Till Christ shall dwell in human hearts,<br/>And sin and sorrow cease.</p> <p>2) Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow<br/>Until our minds are free<br/>From mists of error, clouds of doubt,<br/>Which blind our eyes to thee.<br/>Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips<br/>With flaming love and zeal,<br/>To preach to all thy great good news,<br/>God's glorious commonweal.</p> | <p>3) Teach us to utter living words<br/>Of truth which all may hear,<br/>The language all may understand<br/>When love speaks loud and clear;<br/>Till every age and race and clime<br/>Shall blend their creeds in one,<br/>And earth shall form one family<br/>By whom thy will is done.</p> <p>4) So shall we know the power of Christ<br/>Who came this world to save;<br/>So shall we rise with him to life<br/>Which soars beyond the grave;<br/>And earth shall win true holiness,<br/>Which makes thy children whole;<br/>Till, perfected by thee, we reach<br/>Creation's glorious goal!</p> |
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**\*Choral Benediction: "The Lord Bless You and Keep You"**

*by Peter C. Lutkin*

**\* Postlude: "Spirit of the Living God"**

*by Daniel Iverson; arr. Robert W. Thygeron*

<i><b>First United Methodist Church</b></i>	
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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
Children's Choir Director .....	Bethany Tomasino
Nursery Supervisors .....	Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians .....	Brian Hatch, 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: Cal Mott / Greeters: Judy Briggs, Belinda Hatch / Ushers: Bob Bula, Chuck Priem, Pam Mott, John Nestell, Bill Cowdry / Welcome Center: Karen Constan / Coffee Hour: Carla Piazza Wistehuff / Sound Board: Angie Smith / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Counters: Sue Myers & Jan Talkington

**PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Marilyn Ashmall, Bernie Buggia, Jane Burgess, Myrna Cammin, Sue Cooper, Lisa DeVos, Bonnie Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne & Phyllis Henney (Wayne is now at Wellspring Assisted Living), Marion Hoffman, Bill Johnson, Erlene Kimber, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Mark Leffler, Jane MacQueen, Bonnie Markley, Kay Mertz, Trinity & Audri Miller, Bob Mueller, Madge Richmond, Eugenia Shek, Noreen Southgate, Rita Taylor, Dave Tolley, and Dorothy Woods. Also, please pray for UMCOR, and for peace in Ukraine/Russia, Israel/Gaza, and Iran.

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:** Erlene Kimber

**OUR SYMPATHY** to the loved ones of Barry Brown, who passed on to eternity November 10, 2025. A Celebration of Life will be held here for Barry on Saturday, June 6, 2026 at 11:00am.

**OUR SYMPATHY** to the loved ones of Merlyn Mondol, who passed on to eternity May 14, 2026 at the age of 97. A Celebration of Life will be held here on Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at 1:30pm.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Rev. Rob Ashmall, ordained yesterday at Bridgeport Community Church.

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** today given in gratitude of the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church Universal.

**GRADUATION CELEBRATION JUNE 7 IN WORSHIP** – If you have someone in your family graduating this year from high school, college, grad. school, military, trade schools, GEDs or other programs, we want to celebrate them in worship on Sunday June 7. Please share the following information with the main office: Name, School, Degree, Accomplishments, Future Plans, and a Photo.

**2026 SPRING SOCIAL ISSUE BOOK STUDY** - "The Cross and the Lynching Tree" by James H. Cone.

Class meets in person on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00pm: 5/5, 5/12, 5/19, 5/26, 6/2

Class meets online on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30pm: 5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 5/27, 6/3

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, continuing Tues. June 9. On the Menu in June: Nachos! Sign up to donate food and help clean-up at the Welcome Desk.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** – continues to meet monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 2:00pm in the parlor to share, bless, and pray over prayer shawls, blankets, and other ministry gifts, much of which is done at home. We have good teachers willing to teach anyone interested in the craft of knitting or crochet. New members are always welcome to join our group of devoted sewers.

**PFLAG ANNUAL CHOCOLATE PARTY FUNDRAISER** – Wednesday, June 17, 6-8pm at the Anderson Enrichment Center, 120 Ezra Rust Drive, Saginaw. Tickets are \$25pp. Purchase tickets from Pastor Amy or use the QR Code to the right.

**PASTOR AMY AWAY** Thurs, May 28 – Sun, May 31 for Michigan Annual Conference.



**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: **saginawfumc**



# Our church. Our story.

## David & Leslie Hersh Celebrating 55 years of membership



David and Leslie Hersh became familiar with First U.M.C. when Dave received a personal invitation from a coworker to come to the church, and a home visit by Michael Fleischman to encourage us and answer questions about the church. In the era where most wives were not working outside the home, there were many small group activities. "Growth Group," led by Associate Pastor, Rev. Carole Johns, for young mothers, and Ruby Circle, focusing on young women, both provided child

care. Other activities they've appreciated through the years include several engaging UMW activities with regular speakers; and all-church events like the Turkey Dinner and Christmas Bazaar. There was also Come Doubles, a group with a monthly social evening for the "baby boomer generation." Tri M was a monthly social meeting, as well.

Their daughter's baptism, confirmation and marriage are treasured memories of their time at First U.M.C. Other meaningful experiences include participation in the extensive music program under the guidance of Jan Stringer and Rod Bieber (and jointly with Jack Jonker). And the support of one another within the church community has been especially meaningful through the years.

For Dave and Leslie, First United Methodist Church continues to reflect an ongoing sense of a church family composed of friendly, caring, helpful people where all are welcome. And over the years, they have always found the pastor's sermons to be well-prepared, informative, and inspiring.