

First United Methodist Church

Loving the Whole City, Loving the City Whole!

November 24, 2024 - 10:00am - Christ the King Sunday

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Prelude:

“O Worship the King”

by Johann Haydn; arr. Wayne Eastham

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free;
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity. | 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. |
| 2) He comes with succor speedy
To those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Are precious in his sight. | 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. |

PRAYER AND PROCLAMATION

***The Call to Worship:**

One: From Jesus, the governor Pilate demands an answer: are you the King of the Jews?

All: Today we worship Jesus Christ as Lord of our lives and Savior of our souls.

One: Pilate taunts him with questions: what have you done, that your own people turn you over to me?

All: He has healed the sick, fed the hungry, freed the oppressed, and given life to the dead.

One: Pilate reveals his hidden doubts as he asks Jesus: what is truth?

All: Truth is this: his cradle was a feedbox, his mission was love, his death was a coronation, his cross was a throne, his resurrection is victory and his reign is peace. Thanks be to God! Let us worship the Lord of lords!

** 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 #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.*

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: *Variations on “Jesus Shall Reign”*

by Isaac Watts; arr. John Hatton

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: **Loving Creator, whose reign is everlasting, we offer these gifts with grateful hearts. May they serve to proclaim your truth and extend your kingdom of justice, peace, and love. Transform our offerings and our lives to bear witness to the hope and promise of Christ, our king, in whose holy name, we pray. Amen.**

Choral Anthem: *“A Thanksgiving Flourish”*

by Jon Paige and David Angerman

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.*

An Order of Farewell to Church Members

One: The church is a family.

United by the common recognition of Jesus Christ our Savior,
we are all siblings in Christ.

And, for a time, First United Methodist Church of Saginaw is our home.

Like every human family, our church family is formed and reformed over time:

as members are born, as they die,

as members are adopted into our family,

and as they leave our congregation for a new home in a different place.

For a time, Sue and Amado Arceo have lived with us.

We have shared with each other good times and bad,

we have shared each other's joys and sorrows,

we have lightened each other's heavy loads.

Together we have laughed and cried,

together we have worshiped and praised God,

together we have lived.

ALL: We feel sorrow in your leaving, yet we rejoice with you in anticipation of this new phase of your life. We are grateful for your time and service among us. Although we will remain connected in Christ across the miles, we know that our relationship will be different moving forward. We will miss your love and support in person, but remain devoted to friendship and spiritual growth in ways that can be shared virtually, and we pray God will guide you to a new church family in which you can share your gifts and receive ministry. We bless you as you move on to your new home.

One: Eternal God, as you hold the times and seasons,

endings and beginnings, in your hands,

so bless Sue and Amado as they enter this new life venture.

We give thanks for tasks accomplished, for service rendered,

for the joys and pains woven into the fabric of his years among us.

We know that Christian friendship is not bound by time or geography,

and so they will remain in our hearts with love and gratitude.

Give to Sue and Amado the guidance of your Holy Spirit,

and preserve them in health and safety, both of body and soul,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Please plan to stay after worship today and have cake as we wish
Sue and Amado well before their move to Rockford, Michigan.*

Special Music:

*"All Good Gifts"
Kathy Jimenez, soloist*

by Stephen Schwartz and Matthias Claudius

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #715: “Rejoice, the Lord Is King”**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
Mortals, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice! | 3) His kingdom cannot fail;
He rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of earth and hell
Are to our Jesus given.
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice! |
| 2) Jesus the Savior reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When he had purged our stains,
He took his seat above.
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice! | 4) Rejoice in glorious hope!
Jesus the Judge shall come,
And take his servants up
To their eternal home.
We soon shall hear th'archangel's voice;
The trump of God shall sound, rejoice! |

***Benediction:**

[by Dr. Lisa Hancock, <https://www.umdiscipleship.org>]

One: Beloved, may God bless you with the wisdom to discern the truth as you follow Christ, who testifies to the truth by embodying Love in all times and in all places. Go and do likewise.

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

***Postlude:** *Voluntary on “Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending”*

by Thomas Olivers; arr. Robert Lind

First United Methodist Church

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..... pastoralbt@outlook.com / (989) 274-6363 (cell phone)
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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: Carla Piazza-Wistehuff / Greeters: Sue Arceo and Belinda Hatch / Ushers: Bob Bula, Cal & Pam Mott, Church Priem / Welcome Desk: Karen Constan / Coffee Hour Hosts: The Nurture Committee / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Sound System: Brian Hatch

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: Merlyn Mondol (now at Healthsource), RuthAnn Hilton (now at Wellspring Assisted Living)

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.

THE DECORATIONS ON THE ALTAR today provided by Mike & Madeline Curtiss in celebration of their daughter Mariah's marriage to Adam Seitz in October.

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>

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

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 TODAY following worship.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSAL – TODAY at 11:30am

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.

READERS NEEDED for lighting the Advent Wreath. Families, Couples, and Individuals needed. See Pastor Amy if you're willing to help out with leading that time one week.

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: **saginawfumc**



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

TODAY November 24, 2024 – 3:00pm



Worship Schedule

- *First Advent 12/01/2024 – Worship/Communion 10:00am*
- *Advent Taizé Service – Wednesday 12/04/2024 at 7:00pm*
- *Second Advent 12/08/2023 – Worship 10:00am – Kid’s Christmas Pageant*
 - *Third Advent 12/15/2024 – Worship 10:00am*
 - *Fourth Advent 12/22/2024 – All Music Sunday 10:00am*
 - *CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE – 7:30pm*
- *Christmas I Sunday 12/29 – Worship 10:00am – Tatyana Spaulding, Guest Preacher*
- *Epiphany Sunday 1/5/2025 – Worship/Communion 10:00am*

Mission

THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE OFFERING will be divided this year between a) the Partnership Center and b) the purchase gift cards and needed Christmas Meals for the families of our 48 Backpack Children. **Give online at <https://www.firstumcsaginaw.org/give/> or use the QR code to the right.**



Education

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS PARTY for kids up to 5th grade – Sunday 12/08/2024 – 11:30am-1:00pm.
Includes lunch, Bible story, baking project, crafts, and games.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE for Youth Mission Trip – Sunday 12/22/2024 after All Music Sunday
Worship. **COOKIE DONATIONS WELCOME!!!!**

FOUR-WEEK ADVENT ADULT BOOK STUDY on *Keep Watch With Me* by Claire Brown and Michael T. McRay. Books available from the Office for \$15.
6:00-7:00pm in person on Tuesdays: 11/26, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17
7:30-8:30pm online on Wednesdays: 11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18