

First United Methodist Church

*Welcome! We are a Congregation devoted to loving the whole city and loving the city whole!
March 16, 2025 - 10:00am - Second Sunday in Lent*

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Bells on High Prelude: “3rd Gnossienne”
“Aria”

*by Erik Satie; arr. Catherine McMichael
by Donald Allured*

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.

***Opening Hymn UMH #116:** “The God of Abraham Praise”

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|--|--|
| 1) The God of Abraham praise,
Who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of Everlasting Days,
And God of love;
Jehovah, great I AM!
By earth and heaven confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred name
Forever blest. | 3) The heavenly land I see,
With peace and plenty blest;
A land of sacred liberty,
And endless rest.
There milk and honey flow,
And oil and wine abound,
And trees of life forever grow
With mercy crowned. |
| 2) The great I AM has sworn;
I on this oath depend.
I shall, on eagle wings upborne,
To heaven ascend.
I shall behold God's face;
I shall God's power adore,
And sing the wonders of God's grace
Forevermore. | 4) The God who reigns on high
The great archangels sing,
And "Holy, holy, holy!" cry,
"Almighty King!
Who was, and is, the same,
And evermore shall be:
Jehovah, Lord, the great I AM,
We worship thee!" |

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

The Unison Prayer of Confession:

*(by Paul B. Robinson in Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship, Updated,
eds. RC Duck and MC Tirabassi (Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press, 2012), 222.*

We live in the shadow of peace, O God, but too often, we face the shadow and not the light. We pray today for peace because we know we are not whole without it. Forgive us our warring madness, our abuse of power, and our disregard for the rights of others. Lift from us the burden of the need always to be in control. Teach us mutual love for all people. Help us to give peace a chance. Amen.

** Please stand if you are able*

The Words of Assurance

Beloved in Christ, having repented our sin and been cleansed by the power of God, may we find pardon and peace, serving God with a quiet heart and devoted Spirit, through Jesus our Savior, by whose blood we have been saved through grace. Amen.

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

Prayer Chorus FWS #2166: “*Christ Beside Me*” (vs. *I only*)

Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, King of my heart.

Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me, Never to part.

Silent Meditation

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 choose to support your church family in this exciting and challenging time of mission/ministry. Enjoy the musical selection as a time to give thanks to God for all with which you have been blessed.*

Use the QR codes or pledge/give online here:

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



The Offertory (Bells on High): “*Fantasy on Ebenezer*”

by Sandra Tucker

***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:** Loving God, as we walk through this holy season, we come to you with hearts open to your grace. May our giving reflect the love that sustains us. Use these offerings to bring comfort to the weary and hope to the brokenhearted, just as you draw near to us in our struggles. Strengthen us to be a source of light and love in this world, reflecting your compassion in all we do, for we ask in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Bells on High Anthem: “*Adagio*”

by Tomaso Albinoni, arr. McChesney

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:

Luke 13:31-35

Pew Bible N.T. pg. 72

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord’.”

Response to the Word

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

All: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

“YOU GOTTA KNOW WHEN TO HOLD ‘EM...”

Pastor Amy Terhune

WE GO AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn UMH #451: “Be Thou My Vision”**

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|--|---|
| 1) Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that thou art.
Thou my best though by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping
thy presence my light. | Thou and thou only, first in my heart
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art. |
| 2) Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord | 3) Great God of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all! |

***Benediction:**

One: Beloved, may you respond with devotion and trust to the one who longs to gather you beneath their wings, and so show others to the love of God’s sheltering grace. And may the Lord of Life work within in you; may the healing Christ raise you up, and may the Holy Spirit guide you in the ways of peace.

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

*** Postlude: “Irish Fantasy”**

by Hans-André Stamm

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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**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your service!! Liturgist: Judy O'Dell / Greeters: Stacy Sharrow, Jane MacQueen / Ushers: Tom Kraynak, Bill Draper, Carla Piazza-Wistehuff, Andy Sharrow / Coffee Hour: Carla Piazza-Wistehuff / Welcome Desk: Betty Jo Cloud / Nursery: Karissa Schultz / Sound System: Izzy Terhune / Counters: Brian Hatch, Carla Piazza-Wistehuff

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: Marilyn Ashmall, Ed Babinski, David Barker, Barry Brown, Tom Brubaker, Bernie Buggia, Myrna Cammin, Judy Dawe, Bonnie Dole, Esther Cavendish Fisher, Wayne Henney, Dr. Kirk Herrick, Marion Hoffman, Sue Johnson, ZoAnn Kraynak, Barb Kropp, Nancy Kozumplik, 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.

THE LENTEN BOOK STUDY continues this week on in person on Tuesday 3/11 at 6pm (come early and eat at 5:30 at the Free Community Meal) and online on Wednesday 3/12 at 7:30pm. Please let Pastor Amy know if you still need a book.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL – Watch your inbox Monday mornings for a devotional from your church family.

REBECCA CIRCLE Women's Group will meet Tuesday, March 18 at 11:00am.

GAME DAY for seniors (and anyone else who wants to join us☺) is this Wednesday, March 19 from 3:00-5:00pm. Join us for fellowship, fun, snacks, and games. All are welcome!

CONFIRMATION CLASS for middle school students continues this Wednesday 3/19 at 6:30pm.

SPRING BREAK FAMILY FUN NIGHT – Thursday, March 27 from 6:00-7:30pm at Airborne Jump Park. SFUMC kids + 1 friend each jump free, but food/snacks are not provided by the church.

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!

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, continue Tuesday, March 11 from 5:30-6:30pm. On the menu for March: Ed's Southwest Chicken. Clean-up help needed. Volunteer to work here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044DAFAC2BA0FD0-community/>.

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>

First United Methodist Church

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Senior Pastor Rev. 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 Supervisor..... Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians..... Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune

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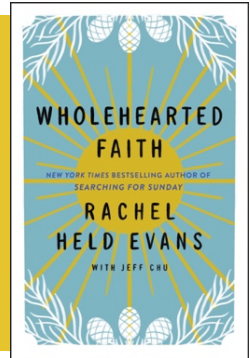
LENT 2025 at SAGINAW FIRST UMC

Lenten Book Study – “Wholehearted Faith” by Rachel Held Evans with Jeff Chu is a collection of essays woven together from a new book on whole-heartedness that Rachel was working on at the time of her tragic death, and some of her other unpublished writings, which asks candid questions about the stories we’ve been told—and the stories we tell—about our faith, our selves, and our world.

In Person on Tuesdays at 6:00pm: 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15

Online Wednesdays at 7:30pm: 3/4*, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16

*held on a Tuesday to avoid Ash Wednesday – Books are \$15 from the main office.



Palm Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 13 – 10:00am

Kid’s Club – 11:30am

Youth Adult Group – 6:00pm

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

