



KALAMAZOO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A SANCTUARY IN THE CITY: LIVING FAITH



God, who stretched the spangled heavens infinite in time and place, / flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent field of space, / we, your children in your likeness, share inventive powers with you. / Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.
As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew, / children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you. / May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun. / Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one. (Catherine Cameron)

JUNE 4, 2023 ▸ TRINITY SUNDAY

THE GATHERING

*Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here—with whatever joys, questions, or tears you bring today—as we worship God, who welcomes us all!
You are invited to listen for God's Spirit speaking to you through the music of the Prelude, as we prepare our hearts for worship.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.
Let us worship God.

PRELUDE

* DOXOLOGY (tune #607)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

* OPENING RESPONSES

from Psalm 111

Praise God! Let us give thanks to God with our whole heart as we are gathered in faith!
God is gracious and merciful, known by wonderful works of beauty, glory, and majesty!
Ever true to our holy bond in all of life, God feeds and empowers us in the fullness of love.
Reverent yearning for God is the beginning of wisdom, understanding, and inspiration.
Praise God!

* HYMN #309

“Come, Great God of All the Ages”

Mary Jackson Cathey

A LITANY FOR PENTECOST

Holy God, you intend life to flourish in diversity, mutuality, and ongoing creativity. Yet we distort your loving image and purpose in us, seeking power, status and abundance for self, often at others' expense. Insecurity and insensitivity de-centers us from your promise of grace and purpose of peace. We mask emptiness with busy-ness. We cause conflict and are complicit with inequity in society. We corrupt wonder in creation by careless use and calculated abuse. In your mercy, make us grateful in diversity. Make us tender in mutuality. Make us generous in creativity of life for all, as you desire.

Prayer continues in silence

KYRIE #551

“Lord, Have Mercy”

**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy upon us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PEACE

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

Friends, trust in God, to whom we belong in all of life and death. In sovereign love, God created the world good. Jesus proclaimed God's reign, breaking the power of sin and evil. God raised Jesus and acts with justice and mercy to redeem us and all creation.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, strive to serve Christ in daily tasks, living holy and joyful lives. In a broken world the Spirit gives us courage to pray, witness, and work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. May the peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

(Please stand and take a moment to share Christ's peace with others.)

* GLORIA

"Glory to God"

Gloria

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

THE WORD

MOMENT WITH YOUNG WORSHIPERS

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Children: You are loved!

Congregation: **You are loved!**

(Infants and children up to age 4 are invited to our nursery, Room 208.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God of power and grace, fill us with wisdom in your Word, understanding by your Spirit, and creative inspiration for our living.

So may we be your church: a people with dreams and visions at work in the world; through you, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

FIRST READING

Psalm 8

Old Testament, p. 492

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Bright Canaan

Arr. A. Parker/R. Shaw

O who will come and go with me?
I am bound for the land of Canaan.
I'm bound fair Canaan's land to see,
I am bound for the land of Canaan.
I'll join with them who've gone before,
I am bound for the land of Canaan.
Where sin and sorrow are no more,
I am bound for the land of Canaan.
Oh, Canaan; bright Canaan!
I'm bound for the land of Canaan,
Oh, Canaan, it is my happy home,
I am bound for the land of Canaan.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:11-14, 2:4-10

New Testament p. 191

For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us,

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

A Good Fit

“Where do human beings fit in the pattern?” (Psalm 8:4)

* HYMN #526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Fred Kaan

THE THANKSGIVING

TIDINGS OF THE CHURCH

We give thanks to God and live faith, offering ourselves through worship, work, service,
and love in all its forms.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

A Taste of Beethoven's Fifth

Arr. C. Witt/Red Door Ringers

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE #701 “Lord Prepare Me” John Thompson/ Randy Scruggs

**Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

(prayer shared with other churches in Kalamazoo)

**Creative God, awaken your church in our city as we collaborate for the common good.
Open our eyes and hands to people marginalized or voiceless. Help us live so that
our workplaces and neighborhoods know the beauty and power of your good news.
Give us such passion for your love that we tell others and spread the glory of your
peace. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The table is now made ready ... The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

With hearts lifted high and full of joy, we praise you, eternal God, ...
we join our hearts and voices with the faithful throughout earth, in heaven,
and of every time and place, who sing to the glory of your name:

SANCTUS (# 569)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en, and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est

Now, lest we believe our praise alone fulfills your purpose ...
keep us faithful in daily life, by the power of your Holy Spirit, in joyful service
of the One who taught all who would follow him to live and to pray together:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION

To receive the elements: beginning with the front rows, please come forward by the center aisle and return to your seat by a side aisle. Approach the servers with your hands cupped to receive the bread (all is gluten-free). Then each person may choose a) to share intinction by dipping the bread into the common cup, or b) to take a small juice cup from the tray. Upon receiving the Sacrament, you may wish to respond by saying, "Amen". If you prefer to remain seated and receive the elements, please raise your hand, and communion will be served to you in your pew.

COMMUNION MUSIC

How Beautiful

Twila Paris

PRAYER OF RESPONSE *(in unison)*

Eternal God, you've formed us with your life. Christ our Savior, you've embraced us with your love. Holy Spirit, you've fed us with your grace. Now send us into your beloved world to share your life, your love, your grace with all. All praise, honor, and glory be to you, O Trinity of Divine Mystery. Amen.

THE SENDING

* HYMN #24

"God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"

Catherine Cameron

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

MEMORIAL

JOCELYN HODGMAN

November 6, 1931 – May 30, 2023.

A simple service will be held at Langeland Westside, 3926 S 9th St.,

Friday, June 9 at 11:00 a.m.

Visitation will precede the memorial service at 10:00 a.m., reception to follow.

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our son, Aaron Andrew Zandt.

PENTECOST OFFERING

You can give to this year's Pentecost offering through online giving!

Link: <https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Giving/firs321262>

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

WORSHIP LEADERS
Meredith Alspach
The Rev. Amber Nettleton
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
The Rev. Chrissy Westbury

MUSIC
Carl Witt, Music Director
Autumn, Organist
Pat Stromsta, vocal solo

ACOLYTE
Ali Arwady
READER
Drew Arwady

SOUND TEAM

GREETERS
Bruce, Mark, and Ruth Lubbers

COMMUNION SERVERS

Heather Cloetingh, Ginny Dell, Cynthia Feucht,
Kathy Jennings, Paul Minert, Laurie Tupper.

DEACONS' PRAYERS

One of the great gifts of a community of faith is that we take time and intention to pray for one another. This week, we pray especially for **JAN CARPENTER** and the parish group listed below, that they may feel God's presence and power in their lives. Next week, we will pray for another Deacon and parish group.

Cari Anderson	Anna Gleaton	Miranda Howard	Ann Ridge
Samantha Anderson	Patrick Gleaton	David Jarl	Jackie Stults
Betty Bennett	Nicolas Gleaton	Beth Jarl	Brian Stults
Stuart Deming	Mira Graziano	Bill Kelsner	Benjamin Taylor
Dan Dowswell	Sylvie Graziano	Neal Miedema	Megan Taylor
Juanita Erdos	Neal Graziano	Amy Miedema	Charri Withrow
Evelyn Garner	Sarah Graziano	Wendy Miedema	Gary Zandt
Janet Gladstone	Estella Graziano	Sawyer Miedema	Pamela Zandt
Christopher Gleaton	Sue Grossman	Anna Miedema	
Cindy Gleaton	Jane Hamilton	Clare Miedema	
		Sanny Nutter	



**“IF YOU’RE COMMITTED TO COMFORT,
YOU CAN’T BE COMMITTED TO JUSTICE”**

Rachel Ricketts

CHILDREN & YOUTH

THERE IS NO SUNDAY SCHOOL this week; children are invited to remain in worship with their families. The nursery is open for children up to age 4.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

We are teaming up with our friends at Kalamazoo First United Methodist Church to offer VBS Camp, August 14 to 17, from 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. Registration is open to all rising kindergartners through Grade 5. **There is no cost to you!** <https://tinyurl.com/4ct6u5sj>

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

MI-Kalamazoo-Wear-Orange Event: Monday, June 5, 5:00 p.m. Join us at Bronson Park to commemorate June 2023 National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Start to gather and sign in at 4:30 p.m.; the program starts at 5:00 p.m. Hear from local leaders in the gun violence prevention advocacy movement and survivors of gun violence. Talk with representatives from Kalamazoo organizations working with children and adults to keep them safe from violence, and help them heal from the trauma of gun violence. Find out how you can join in actions in Kalamazoo for gun safety changes. At 7:00 p.m. the Kalamazoo City Commission will read a Wear Orange proclamation, and at dusk will light City Hall in orange.

<https://tinyurl.com/bdjv2h26>

TRANSPORTATION TEAM

Would you like to be an important part of our caring ministry at FPC? Join the list of volunteers who are available, as needed, to provide transportation for medical appointments and/or special church events. Transportation requests are sent on an as-needed basis, and you can decide if the request fits your schedule. To join us as a volunteer, email your contact information to:

Pastor Amber: amberrn@fpckzoo.org

CUTTING-EDGE ORGAN MUSIC

Hey, everyone! I am happy to announce Vital Organ Project Presents: Bloom at our church, Sunday, June 11. It's a free concert featuring cutting-edge organ music by queer composers. I will be presenting a solo recital, and the concert includes two world premiers of new organ works.

Music will begin at 3:00 p.m., and admission is totally free. I am excited to share it with you all!

Autumn@fpckzoo.org

SUMMER OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Join us on Sunday, June 25, at 6:30 p.m. at the Pine Island Campus, 8882 W Q Avenue. Bring your lawn chair or a picnic blanket and come join in a more informal time of worship and reflection surrounded by God's creation and the work of the hands of FPC members who grow and care for the garden, cultivate the honeybees, and tend the labyrinth. Outdoor worship will take place (weather permitting) on the fourth Sunday of each month throughout the summer. Contact Pastor Chrissy for more info: chrissyw@fpckzoo.org.

SUMMER DEVOTIONAL

Summer Devotional: The Gift of a Sacred Summer

Think about your summer and how you'd like it to look. Often, we feel as though summer goes by too quickly, and it's time for the rhythms of fall before we feel ready or rested. The Gift of a Sacred Summer is an opportunity to slow down, rest, and take a long walk with Jesus. The Gift of Summer contains 8+ weeks of practices for individuals, families, friend groups, small groups, whoever! It invites you into prayer, spiritual practices, and following the ways of Jesus in our daily lives.

Ways to engage:

1. Pick up a take-home devotional in the Gathering Place Kiosk and work through it on your own at home, on the beach, in the cottage – wherever you are this summer!
2. E-mail Pastor Chrissy and ask for a digital copy of the devotional.
3. Join in Sacred Summer practices in community as we gather after church on June 25, July 23, and August 20. All ages are welcome!

chrissyw@fpckzoo.org

SEE YOU TODAY!



BRONSON PARK

CTV WE NEED HELP!

We are in need of more help making meals for CTV in our beautiful commercial kitchen! If you can help, or for more information, please contact Meredith:

mereditha@fpckzoo.org.



BIBLE STUDIES

NEW!

THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Celebrating Sabbath

In this summer study, you are invited to practice Sabbath in real and practical ways. Join your Sisters in Christ as we give thanks for the beauty of life and take advantage of this opportunity to try something new. Sabbath is not a burden. Sabbath is a celebration that “has the potential to reform and redirect all our ways of living”. God has been waiting for a long time to give us this gift . We will meet for 9 weeks over the summer, beginning June 15, Pat Stromsta will be facilitating this study.

pat.stromsta@gmail.com

NOODLING FAITH @ NOON

Our next reflection together centers on the Otis Moss III book, *Dancing in the Darkness: Spiritual Lessons for Thriving in Turbulent Times*. We will pair chapters of the book with other selected resources that reflect various faith traditions and experiences, photocopies of which will be available in the church office. Find the book at your favorite retailer. Join us in the church library on Tuesdays at noon.

sethw@fpckzoo.org



SAVE THE DATE: EARTH CARE TEAM

The PBS film “Earth Emergency” Monday, June 26 at 7:00 p.m. at our church in the Gathering Place. Narrated by Richard Gere with appearances by Greta Thunberg and the Dalai Lama, the film examines and explains four feedback loops involving forests, permafrost, the atmosphere, and the poles. These alone, and together, accelerate warming toward points of no return, perhaps to a state not experienced in human evolution.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

- 9:00 a.m. **Adult Choir**, Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. **Congregational Life**, Archives
- 9:30 a.m. **Child Care**, Rooms 208/211
- 9:30 a.m. **Gathering Grounds**, Gathering Place
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship**, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. **Church Picnic**, Bronson Park

MONDAY, JUNE 5

- 12:00 p.m. **AA**, Rooms 314/315
- 6:00 p.m. **Communications Meeting**, ZOOM
- 7:00 p.m. **Scouts**, Dining Room

TUESDAY, JUNE 6

- 7:00 a.m. **Men's Fellowship**, Archives
- 11:00 a.m. **Staff Meeting**, Archives
- 12:00 p.m. **Noodling Faith @ Noon**, Library
- 1:00 p.m. **Stitchers**, Sewing Room

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

- 12:00 p.m. **Prayer Service**, Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. **CTV (Celebrate The Vision)**, Dining Room

THURSDAY, JUNE 8

- 9:00 a.m. **Library Work Time**, Library
- 12:00 p.m. **AA**, Rooms 314/315
- 4:00 p.m. **Food Addicts**, Rooms 314/315
- 5:30 p.m. **Property & Maintenance Meeting**, Library

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

- 9:00 a.m. **Adult Choir Rehearsal**, Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. **Prayer Partners**, Room 301
- 9:30 a.m. **Child Care**, Rooms 208/211
- 9:30 a.m. **Gathering Grounds**, Gathering Place
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship**, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. **Vital Organ Project Concert: Bloom**, Sanctuary & Gathering Place

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY - THURSDAY

9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

CLOSED FRIDAY - SUNDAY,
AND MONDAY



BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT AT OUR CHURCH PICNIC TODAY IN BRONSON PARK. We have a new slushy machine, offering cool and refreshing treats to enjoy! Stop by and cool off!

KALAMAZOO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Autumn , Organist	autumn@fpckzoo.org
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Louise Taylor , Financial Coordinator, x206	louiset@fpckzoo.org
The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer , Pastor, x202	sethw@fpckzoo.org
The Reverend Chrissy Westbury , Associate Pastor, x203	chrissyw@fpckzoo.org
Carl Witt , Director of Music, x204	carlw@fpckzoo.org

South Lobby Receptionists, x221:

Bruce Birkel, Bob Brush, Stephen Pfeifer, Sandy Sinotte, Deb Weurding

Custodians: Logan McCafferty, Randy Randt

Library: library@fpckzoo.org

UPCOMING WORSHIP — 10:00 A.M.

June 11

Second Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer

Psalm 71:1-18

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 25

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Amber Nettleton

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Matthew 10:24-39

June 18

Third Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Chrissy Westbury

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)

Psalm 100

July 2

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer

Holy Communion

Genesis 24:42-49

Matthew 10:40-42

*Grounded in living faith, receiving diversity as a gift, we seek to reflect Christ's light in God's world.
Continually discerning God's vision of grace and peace, we share inspirational worship,
spiritual nurture, compassionate service to others, and the pursuit of justice...
all to the glory of God.*