

**indicates standing as you are able*

Welcome

At First United Methodist Church of Battle Creek, we strive to follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ and his ministry, and to honor the Methodist tradition of social justice. We therefore welcome all of God's children regardless of race, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, marital status, political or theological perspective, ability, or other differences that can create barriers between people. We celebrate diversity as it brings us to a closer relationship with God.

Core Values and Bedrock Beliefs

Core Values of First United Methodist Church

1. Be joyfully welcoming and inviting to all
2. Be relevant to community needs in service to others through action and prayer
3. Be growing spiritually through learning, teaching and worshipping to become more like Jesus

Bedrock Beliefs

1. God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer is always with us.
2. God loves us and calls us to love one another in Christ.
3. God is worthy of our worship and praise.
4. God's grace is free.
5. God meets us in prayer.
6. God gifts us for the work of ministry.
7. God can bring good out of difficult circumstances.
8. Jesus Christ promises us eternal life

April 7, 2019 - 11:00 am



First United Methodist Church

The City Center Church

111 East Michigan Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49014
www.firstumbc.org



April 7, 2019

The vision of First United Methodist Church is to be a Vibrant, Diverse, Christ-Centered People.

Order of Worship to the Glory of God

Fifth Sunday in Lent/Clock Tower Dedication in Memory of Terry Smith
11:00 am

"Redeem the Time!" - John Wesley

Prelude "Adagio from Sonata 1" Felix Mendelssohn
"Rockingham" Setting by C. Hubert H. Parry

Welcome and Announcements

*Greeting One Another with the Love of Christ

Introit "I Love the Lord"

*Call to Worship Responsive Psalm 126 *with refrain 2* UMH 847

*Hymn "When I survey the Wondrous Cross" UMH 298

Gathering Prayer

Gracious God, you hold our small span of years in your great eternity, our time in your timeless love. Help us mark our years with kindness and acts of love, in devotion to your way of peace and justice, following Jesus, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, whose reign is from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.

April 7, 2019 - 11:00 am

The Lesson Philippians 3:4b-14 *Liturgist, Melissa Castelan*
 If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of God for the People of God
Thanks be to God

Anthem "Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed" Dan Forrest

Good News for Young Hearts *Anne Stagner*

*Gospel Acclamation "Kyrie" TFWs 2275

*The Gospel John 12: 1-8
 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The Gospel of our Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ

April 7, 2019 - 11:00 am

*Gospel Acclamation "Kyrie" TFWs 2275

Sermon "Telling Time" *Rev. Linda Farmer-Lewis*

The Offering "Folk Song" Cecil Armstrong Gibbs
 Offertory

*Doxology UMH 95

* Prayer of Dedication
Gracious God, who knows the time and calls us to tell it, use our gifts to tell your grace to the world, and mark all time as yours. Amen.

The Church at Prayer

Prayer Hymn "Fairest Lord Jesus" UMH 189

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*) TFWs 2278

Dedication and Consecration of the Clock Tower in Memory of Terry Smith

Leader: On behalf of the First United Methodist Church of Battle Creek, we the Trustees of this church do hereby dedicate to the memory of Terry Smith, the Clock Tower of this church in honor of his tireless commitment to this church and to this community in service to his Lord.

People: We dedicate with love and gratitude the Clock Tower of this church in honor of Terry Smith, and renew our commitment to the life of joy and faith his life exemplified. With this dedication, we pledge ourselves, to redeem the time.

Sacrament of Holy Communion TFWs 2257 a-d

Hymn for Receiving "Come, Share the Lord" TFWs 2269

*Sending Hymn "For All the Saints" UMH 711

*Benediction

Postlude "Now Thank We All Our God" Setting by Paul Manz

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