

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

*Pastor Linda Farmer-Lewis: farmlewis@aol.com
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May 12, 2019 - 11:00 am



First United Methodist Church

The City Center Church: Downtown for Good!

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



May 12, 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

Fourth Sunday in Easter/Mother's Day

11:00 am

"For you were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls." - I Peter

Prelude "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" Setting by Robin Milford
"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" Setting by Robert J. Hughes

Welcome and Announcements

*Greeting One Another with the Love of Christ

Introit "Gentle Shepherd" W&S 3096

*Call to Worship Responsive Psalm 23 *with refrain* 1 UMH 754

*Hymn "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" UMH 138

Gathering Prayer

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

May 12, 2019 - 11:00 am

The Lesson Revelation 7: 9-17 *Liturgist, Grace Hardy*

After this, I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Anthem “The Lord is My Shepherd” Allen Pote

Sacrament of Christian Baptism UMH 33-37

Reaffirmation Memphis Grace Adele Dixon
Michael Lehan Dixon, Jr.

Good News for Young Hearts *Anne Stagner*

*Gospel Acclamation “Nothing Can Trouble” TFWs 2054

*The Gospel John 10:22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you

do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

The Gospel of our Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ

*Gospel Acclamation “Nothing Can Trouble” TFWs 2054

Sermon “The Shepherd’s Own” *Rev. Linda Farmer-Lewis*

The Offering
Offertory “Sheep May Safely Graze” J.S. Bach
*Doxology UMH 95

*Prayer of Dedication
**Gracious God, we hear your voice and we are yours, receive what we have
and who we are that others may hear you speak and rejoice! Amen.**

The Church at Prayer

Prayer Hymn “Shepherd Me, O God” TFWs 2058

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

*Sending Hymn “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” UMH 381

*Benediction

Postlude “Variation of a Ground Bass” Thommaso Antonio Vitali

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**indicates standing as you are able*