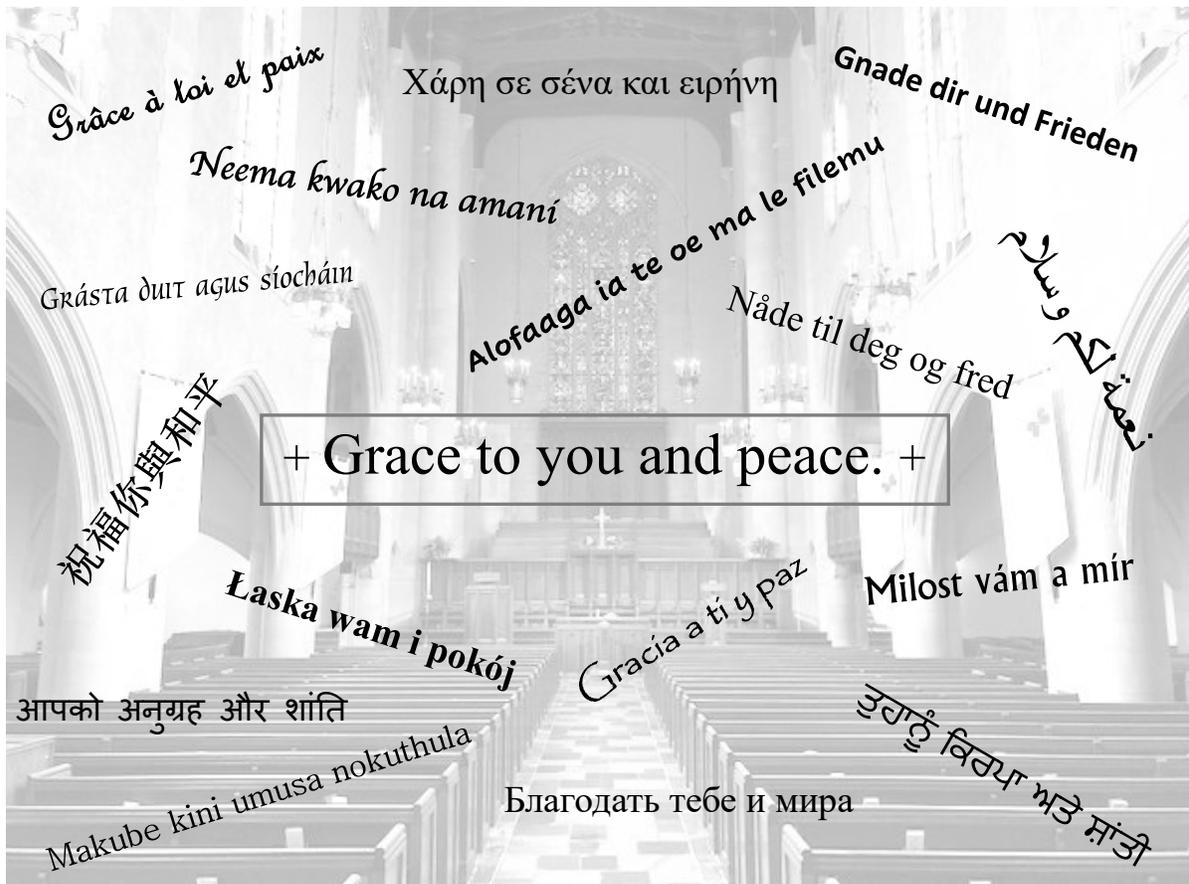


 KALAMAZOO  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

"A Sanctuary in the City... Living Faith"



We believe in the Holy Spirit ... And we believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
~ Nicene Creed

The church confess its faith when it bears present witness to God's grace in Jesus Christ. In every age, the church has expressed its witness in words and deeds as the need of the time required.  
~ The Confession of 1967

MAY 23, 2021

PENTECOST 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!  
And now 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

“Komm Gott Schöpfer, Heiliger Geist frim Orgelbüchlein”

BWV 631 (J.S. Bach)

*This is the only Pentecost Chorale in the Orgelbüchlein, and the “pedal figure”  
positioned on the third eighth note of each beat is a clear reference to the Holy Spirit,  
the third person of the Trinity.*

### \* OPENING RESPONSES

When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.  
Without warning there came a sound like a strong wind, gale force;  
no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building.

**Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks,  
and they started speaking in many different languages, as the Spirit prompted them.**

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit given to us!

**This is the day that God has made! We will rejoice and be glad in it!**

### \* DOXOLOGY

*Please refrain from singing. As your heart may be moved, please hum while meditating on the words.*

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

### A LITANY FOR PENTECOST

(from Acts 1:1-4)

Holy Spirit, Creator, in the beginning you moved over the water.

From you all creation draws breath, and without you, turns to dust.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Counselor, you empowered prophets and apostles to act in faith.

You gave them a voice to bear your Word to all the world.

**Come, Holy Spirit!**

Holy Spirit, Sanctifier, you call us to be children of God.

With your gifts of love, you strengthen and send us to renew life in all creation.  
**Yet often, Living God, we hold back the force of your Spirit among us.  
We don't always hear your words of grace, or speak your good news of love.  
Transform us with a burning desire to live faithfully in the service of Christ.**

Just as God raised Jesus, the Holy Spirit sets us free to love God and neighbor,  
and binds us together in the one body of Christ: the church.

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice  
that nothing can separate us from God's love in Jesus Christ!**

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**            “Behold, I Make All Things New”

*(Please refrain from singing. As your heart may be moved, please hum while meditating on the words.)*

Behold, behold, I make all things new  
beginning with you and starting from today.  
Behold, behold, I make all things new,  
my promise is true, for I am Christ, the way.

**THE PEACE**

The same Spirit who inspired prophets and apostles gives us courage, in  
a broken and fearful world, to work with others for God's justice, freedom,  
and peace.

The peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

*Please stand and share signs of Christ's peace with others, remaining in your place of worship.*

**GLORIA**

*(Please refrain from singing. As your heart may be moved, please hum while meditating on the words.)*

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! (Glory to God in the highest!)

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia! (Glory, glory, alleluia, alleluia!)

## THE WORD

### MOMENT FOR YOUNG WORSHIPERS

*Children should remain with their families in the pews.*

### ANTHEM

“Holy Spirit, Hope, and Healer”

John Carter/Beall

Holy Spirit, Hope and Healer,  
fill me with your Gift of Love.  
Holy Spirit, Guide, Revealer,  
come and bless me from above.  
Tune my heart to your intention.  
Light my mind with Heaven's flame.  
Holy Spirit, Dove of Heaven,  
claim my heart in Jesus' name.

Holy Spirit, Truth and Treasure,  
help me follow where you lead.  
Holy Spirit, mark and measure  
every word and thought and deed.  
Call my hands to selfless service.  
Raise me up on wings of grace.  
Holy Spirit, Well of Wisdom,  
hold me fast in your embrace.

Holy Spirit, Wind that woos me,  
blow the seeds of doubt away.  
Flame of Faith, inspire, infuse me  
with assurance, come what may.  
Breathe your Breath of Life and Living  
deep into my very soul.  
Holy Spirit, all forgiving,  
melt me, mold me, make me whole.

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Holy God of power and grace, fill us with the wisdom of your Word  
and the understanding of your Spirit. So may we be your church: a people  
with dreams and visions at work in the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**



## 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.

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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 God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you, dear God, with joyful hearts lifted high ...

we join with your faithful throughout earth, in heaven,

and of every time and place, who praise your holy name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory!**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

Now, lest we believe our praise alone fulfills your purpose ... may we be changed

into your fullness, loving and caring in the world, serving 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, 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. Keep your mask on as you move through the sanctuary. We encourage you to use the hand sanitizer as you come forward. Approach the ministers with your hands cupped to receive the bread. Then pick up your cup and return to your seat. Once you are seated, you may remove your mask to partake of the elements and then replace your mask. If you prefer not to come forward, but wish to receive the elements, please so indicate by raising your hand, and communion will be served to you in your seat.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We thank you, God, for bread of new creation with which we have been fed.  
We thank you for being guests of the risen Christ, by your Spirit ever blest.  
Now send us, as leaven from heaven, abounding with your healing grace,  
to love and serve and never cease until the world fills with Christ's peace.  
Amen.**

## THE SENDING

### \* HYMN

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

*Please refrain from singing. As your heart may be moved, please hum while meditating on the words.*

#### *Refrain*

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness, calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,  
wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons you called to each thing:  
"Awake from your slumbers, and rise on your wings."

#### *Refrain*

You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,  
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,  
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

#### *Refrain*

### \* BENEDICTION (*Our congregational response is “Alleluia! Amen!”*)

## POSTLUDE

“Holy Manna”

William Held

## PARTICIPANTS

### **Worship Leaders**

Meredith Alspach  
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer  
The Rev. Chrissy Westbury

### **Sound**

Sound Team members

### **Music**

Cindy Hunter, Director of Music, piano  
Michael Montgomery, Organist  
Caitlin Brooks, soprano

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BUILDING HOURS UPDATE

The FPC building is open by appointment from 9 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Email and voicemail are the best ways to reach staff members who may still be working from home.

### “HOW TO RIGHT RACISM: COURAGEOUS CHRISTIANITY AND THE JOURNEY TOWARD RACIAL JUSTICE”

by Jemar Tisby

Racism is pervasive today, but many people want to see that changed. How do we effectively confront racial injustice? Jeremy Tisby provides specific, actionable steps that enable us to be part of the solution, rejecting passivity and becoming active participants in the struggle for human dignity.

This 10-session video series and discussion will be offered at two different times;

1. Thursday Morning Women’s Bible Study. This study will begin on Thursday, May 20. We gather in Room 314 at 9:30. Our study discussion begins at 9:45.
2. Sunday mornings at 11:15 in Room 314 on the second and fourth Sunday of the month.

Tables and chairs are set up to observe social distancing. Drinks are not served, so please bring your own coffee or water.

### FAITH FORMATION FAMILY EVENT

Please join us later today, from 2-4:00 p.m., for a Faith Formation Family event in the parking lot of the church! We are looking for 5 people to help make cookies for this event. If you can help, or to sign up, contact Meredith Alspach at [meredith.alspach@kalamazoofirstpres.org](mailto:meredith.alspach@kalamazoofirstpres.org).

### CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

We want to celebrate with all of our 2021 graduates —high school, college, graduate school, and trade school! Did you or your child or grandchild who has connections to FPC graduate this year? Send an email to Pastor Chrissy with their name, where they are graduating from, and what their plans are for whatever is next. **We will celebrate and recognize our graduates in Worship on June 6!**

### KALAMAZOO BUILDING BLOCKS

Community work is being planned for June. Please view the new Spring, 2021 newsletter which includes recognition of First Presbyterian Church as a sponsor at their website [www.bbkazoo.org](http://www.bbkazoo.org).

### LOAVES AND FISHES

Please bring your offerings of food to the Loaves and Fishes barrels located at our Lovell St. door. Loaves and Fishes continues to supply food to the hunger-challenged in Kalamazoo County. KLF is in need of volunteers to pack food boxes and pantry orders. Please email our Volunteer Coordinator at [ray@kazoolf.org](mailto:ray@kazoolf.org).

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT, FROM *JUST SANCTUARY*

“Blessed are those who act justly; who always do what is right.” Psalm 106:3

**Wednesday noon prayer services** will continue for the foreseeable future. At this point, there is no need to sign up ahead of time. Please sign in when you arrive through the West Transept or Gathering Place door.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### AT-HOME STUDY FOR ADULTS: Bible Interpretation 101 and Great Themes of the Bible

Life is about interpreting. It is a part of what we do every minute of every day. We filter experiences through our lenses and come to an understanding of the circumstances of our lives. When we study the Bible, we do the same thing. We interpret what we read, depending on what we've learned and heard.

Over the next several weeks, we will be looking at a general overview of Biblical interpretation, a historical review of how the Bible has been interpreted by leaders of the church through the centuries, and why we may all interpret the Bible differently. Then, we will delve into "Great Themes of the Bible", in which we will look at four major themes and trace them through well-known Biblical stories. These studies will be available to download and print through the email announcements and in hard-copy form at the Lovell Street entrance and in the narthex.

### FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES:

*An Illustrated Earth: Celebrating God's Creation* focuses on Bible stories that celebrate water, plants, food, and animals. It is designed to draw families into conversation with Biblical stories that relate to these elements of God's creation. Each lesson highlights a particular Biblical story and provides opportunities to focus on hearing and reflecting on the story with open-ended questions, creating meaningful art, sharing in an interactive activity based on the story, and providing an opportunity to share God's love.

Each week's lesson will be available in the emailed announcements and in printed form in the Children's Praise Packs folders at in-person Worship. Each unit will include an in-person family event with crafts, activities, and a chance to engage in the lessons together!

### CELEBRATE THE VISION: PICNIC IN THE PARK

We are grilling and serving meals from our South Street entrance at 5:15 on Wednesday evenings. If you would like to help by providing dessert (we need about 24) during the month of June, please contact Pat Stromsta at [pat.stromsta@kalamazoofirstpres.org](mailto:pat.stromsta@kalamazoofirstpres.org). We thank **Carole Cupps** for providing desserts this week.

### HONORING GEORGE FLOYD

The anniversary of George Floyd's death will be observed at the following events:

1. Faith & Racial Justice Group: Outdoor Prayer Service for an End to Structural Racism: Tuesday, May 25, at 4:30 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church (the corner of Burdick & Roberson).

2. The NAACP and ISAAC will observe nine minutes of silence at Bronson Park **today** at 6.00 p.m. The event begins at 5.00 p.m.

### BINGO!

Rickman House is still on Covid lockdown and not all residents have been vaccinated. To offset the isolation, they will start hosting bingo and music *outdoors* (they have a small park where Sarkozy's used to be). Bingo is the biggest thing that the residents miss; they are thinking of a mid-June starting date. Please contact Mike Boersma if you are interested in volunteering your musical talent or time to assist the residents with one of their favorite events! [mike.boersma@gmail.com](mailto:mike.boersma@gmail.com)

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO**  
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**facebook.com/asanctuaryinthecity**  
**Fax: (269) 344-4645**

The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer, Pastor, x202  
The Reverend Chrissy Westbury, Associate Pastor, x203  
Dr. Patricia Stromsta, Director of Outreach, x204  
Meredith Alspach, Director of Youth and Families  
Ann Ross, Health Ministry Coordinator, x211  
Cindy Hunter, Director of Music  
Michael Montgomery, Organist  
Ann Johnson, Office Administrator, x205  
Anna Barnhart, Communications Coordinator, x209  
Louise Taylor, Financial Coordinator, x206  
Shawn Smith, Building Superintendent, x213  
Custodian  
South Lobby Receptionist, x221

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Randy Randt  
Bruce Birkel  
Nik DeHaan  
Deb Weurding

The Reverend Dr. Liz Candido, Parish Associate

elizabeth.candido@kzoo.edu

The Reverend Kathleen Robertson King, Parish Associate and United Campus Ministry Pastor

ucmkrking@yahoo.com

**UPCOMING WORSHIP— 10:00 a.m.**

**May 30**

**Trinity Sunday**

**The Rev. Amber Nettleton**

Isaiah 6:1-8; Romans 8:12-17

**June 13**

**Third Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer**

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; Mark 4:26-34

**June 6**

**Second Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Rev. Chrissy Westbury**

1 Samuel 8:4-11, Psalm 138

**June 20**

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer**

2 Corinthians 5:14-20; Mark 4:35-41

*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.*