

Prayer Response

UMH 474 V. 1 *RED HYMNAL*

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Pastoral Prayer

+ SENDING FORTH HYMN

UMH 327 *RED HYMNAL*

Crown Him with Many Crowns

+ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

We Shall Behold Him

arr. Carol Tornquist

CHURCH CALENDAR

Today 9:00-Coffee Café

11:00-Snack and Chat following worship (parlor)

11:00-Pride Float meeting (Coffee Café)

1:00-3:00- Charlie Barker Memorial Service

(Margaret Drake Elliott Park 1651 Beach Street, Muskegon, 49441)

May 18 10:00-Temple Golf

May 19 10:00-Temple Garden

4:00-Leadership Team meeting

May 20 8:30-Hand2Hand Packing

12:30-LGBTQ+Faith Allies (Bethany Church)

1:00-Supper House Reps meeting (Traxler Room)

1:00-Conversation group: The Four Gospel Journey (parlor)

3:30-Mission for Area People board meeting

May 21 6:00-7:30- MMM Study “Knowing Who We Are” (Central UMC)

May 27-31 Michigan UMC Annual Conference

May 28 8:30-Men’s breakfast at Whitlow’s



GIVING- There are multiple ways to give- in person, mail, online-
www.templeumcmuskegon.com or scan the code with your

phone’s camera and click the link VANCO ©



TEMPLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, May 17, 2026 ASCENSION SUNDAY

Each person is a beloved child of God. Temple United Methodist Church welcomes, affirms and invites everyone into the full life and ministry of our congregation regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, family or socioeconomic status, physical or mental ability, or faith history. Join us as we gather as one community, grow our faith, give our diverse gifts, and go into the world to advance the Reign of God.

“+” is an invitation to stand in body or in spirit, as each is able.

PRELUDE

He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought arr. Mary E. Kerrick

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The clouds gather and the world feels shadowed, but look up.

All: We lift our eyes to the heavens, seeking the light of Christ.

One: Even as Jesus was taken from their sight, he did not leave his people in darkness.

All: Through every break in the clouds, God’s glory shines through.

One: Christ ascended not to leave us, but to fill all things with His presence.

All: We stand in the hope of Christ’s return, our hearts open to His spirit.

One: Do not gaze only at the sky; the light has come down to meet us here.

All: Let us worship the Lord of the clouds and the King of our hearts!

+ OPENING HYMN

UMH 173 *RED HYMNAL*

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

+ UNISON PRAYER

God, Most High, as Christ ascended into the heavens, may our hearts ascend to you. Open our eyes to the power of your Spirit, and open our lives to the fullness of your power, that we may be clothed with power on high. Help us wait patiently for the baptism of your Spirit, that we may be found worthy of your great gifts. Amen.

+ PASSING THE PEACE

UMH 526 v.1 *RED HYMNAL*

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

Please return to your pew when the music begins.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God Most High, you call us to proclaim a gospel we find difficult to practice. We watch our clocks to make sure we spend more time with ourselves than with you. We are hesitant to witness your power from on high, as we are uncertain of your presence in our lives. Forgive us, God of Light. Fill us with the healing presence of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your good news, as we participate in the life and suffering of our world, as did your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Moment of silence

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Choosing to set aside judgment, God gives us justice; choosing to let go of punishment, God fills us with peace; choosing to release anger, God's steadfast love rests upon us.

All: Forgiven, redeemed, restored – we tell everyone through the lives we lead, what God has done for us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 1: 15-23

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE READING

Acts 1: 1-11

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thank be to God.

MESSAGE

A Break in the Clouds

Pastor Jeff

+ HYMN OF RESPONSE

TFWS 2138 VS.2 ,3 *BLACK HYMNAL*

Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes

TIME OF PRAYER, REFLECTION, AND GIVING

Prayers for the Community

Wendy, Rob Cook, Sally Wibalda, Carla Traxler, Bruce McLeod's cousin Darlene, Susan Harrison, Jim Hagans, John Jolman, Jan Krypel, Pastor Jeff, family and friends of Lee Longmire Jr., Cathy Squires, David Tyler, Juanita Zuder, Debbie, Jean Bingham, Heidi, Lexie, Gwen Bean, David & Kitty Stafford, Sandy.

Prayers for the World

Family and friends of Jeremiah Cuevas and Savanah Rubio, Grand Rapids Southwest school district, Economic impact of rising gas prices, Deadly flooding in Kenya, Southeastern forest fires and drought, flood recovery efforts, Cuba, gun violence in Muskegon & Muskegon Heights, Peace and the end to war, Violent tactics of ICE agents, ICE agents and their families, peaceful protest, immigrants and refugees. All those experiencing food insecurity, Victims and families of gun violence, Gaza, Israel, Iran, Palestine, Ukraine.

You are invited to speak the first names of those in your heart.

Silent Prayer and Meditation

Hebrews 4: 16

“Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence. So that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

After a time of silence, music will begin, at this time you are invited to bring your prayers to the altar and to light a candle as an outward expression of your prayer intention. If you are unable to stand or kneel, we invite you to ask another sitting near you to light a candle for you.

Giving- *During this time of prayer you are also welcome to bring your gifts to the boxes at the ends of the prayer rails*

Charlie Barker Memorial Service: Today 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Please join us for a celebration of Charlie’s life at the pavilion inside Margaret Drake Elliott Park, located just North of Pere Marquette Park in Muskegon. Come join this time of sharing stories and memories and hopefully a few laughs. Light refreshments will be served. The pavilion is furnished with picnic tables, but if you prefer to bring your own lawn chair, please feel free.

Summer Snack and Chats begin June 7th

We’re looking for Summer Snack and Chat hosts starting June 7th. You can do something simple or whatever you would like. Coffee, paper plates, utensils, etc. are provided. Hosts should plan on both setting up and cleaning up. Let’s keep the Chat going. Please sign up today for one or even two Sundays. The signup sheet is located on the kitchen door. Thanks! Questions? Please contact Jackie McLeod.

Celebration Next Sunday! Next Sunday, May 24, we’ll be celebrating Don & Judy Graham’s 50th wedding anniversary during Snack and Chat. We hope you’ll join us!

Coffee Café! Join us for coffee, conversation, and community before worship—everyone is welcome! Table seating is located both in the café area and in the sanctuary. Feel free to bring your drink into the service. Whether you’re a longtime member or a newcomer, it’s a relaxing place to meet others, enjoy a beverage, and connect. *“A cup of coffee shared with friends is happiness tasted.”*

Four Gospel Journey (group conversation) Alexander Shaia

How do we face change? How do we move through suffering? How do we receive joy? How do we mature in service? Spend some time with Alexander J Shaia as he uses the great map of the four gospels to guide us on the Christ journey - one of love, growth and transformation. The series includes 6 conversation films with Alexander. All sessions meet at 1:00 in the Parlor. Session Titles And Films Order:
5/20/26 Session Five // Maturing Through Service: Walking Luke’s Road Of Riches
5/27/26 Session Six // The Essential Practices Of The Journey

Thank you to today’s worship leaders!

Liturgist- Marsha Black Song Leader- Gunnar Carlson
Projection & Visuals- Steve Neubauer/Carol Taylor Altar Design- Worship Team
One License #729534-A CCLI License #11366978 (CCLI Livestream License)

Hand2Hand: The Hand2Hand team will begin packing at **8:30 a.m.** this Wednesday, May 20 – an early start because we have **four** weeks of food to get ready for our kids. This will be the last time we pack this school year. We will continue to deliver the food until school ends June 11.

Thank you for your continued generosity and donations this year. We are going to take a little break and enjoy the summer. See you again before summer ends!



Mission for Area People Pantry Needs:

Personal care items most needed: Shampoo & conditioner, body wash, soap, toothpaste & brushes, deodorant, Feminine hygiene products. toilet paper, lotion, razors and shaving cream, laundry detergent, paper towels, diapers (size 5+). Our friends at MAP really need plastic grocery bags and egg cartoons for the food and clothing pantries. We put a box outside the parlor to make it easy to donate. Thank you!

TEMPLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Treasurer- Don DeYoung Worship Leader- Jason Hill
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