SENDING FORTH HYMN W&S 3158 *Green Hymnal*

Go to the World

+ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Christians, We Have Met to Worship* arr. Cindy Berry

CHURCH CALENDAR

Today	Stewardship Series: "Embracing the Future"
	9:00-Coffee Café
	11:00-Snack and Chat
	4:30- John Wesley 103rd Anniversary Celebration (sanctuary)
Nov 17	4:00-Temple Leadership Team (church office)
Nov 18	9:00-Hand2Hand packing (Traxler room)
	12:30-LGBTQ+Faith Allies (Bethany church)
	1:00-Small Group Study: The Path of a Disciple (Temple parlor)
	1:00-Supper House representatives meeting (Traxler room)
	3:30-Mission for Area People board meeting
Nov 19	8:30-Men's Breakfast at Russ's Restaurant on Henry Street.
	11:15-Temple Ladies Luncheon (Temple parlor)
Nov 21	2:00-5:00-Supper House Thanksgiving Dinner
Nov 22	Stewardship Commitment Sunday
	11:15-Hanging of the Greens
Nov 24	10:00-12:00-Church yard clean up (coffee and donuts provided)
Nov 25	3:00-5:00-Temple hosts Supper House
Nov 26	Happy Thanksgiving

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, November 15, 2026 Pentecost 25

Stewardship: "Embracing Our Future"

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 *Morning Has Broken* arr. Lloyd Larson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Amid news of violence and fear, we gather, mindful of the suffering across our nation and in our own community.

All: Lord, the brokenness around us leaves us feeling helpless. Forgive our weariness, and help us not to turn away.

One: When answers elude us, we turn to Jesus, who calls us to love God fully and our neighbors as ourselves.

All: Love is more than a feeling; it calls us to act. We commit ourselves to the well-being of others.

One: Let us share the Lord's glorious deeds with the next generation, so our families and children may know safety, hope, and love.

All: Let us turn from a world shaped by fear. In worship, we offer our hearts to God and our hands to healing our neighborhood. Amen.

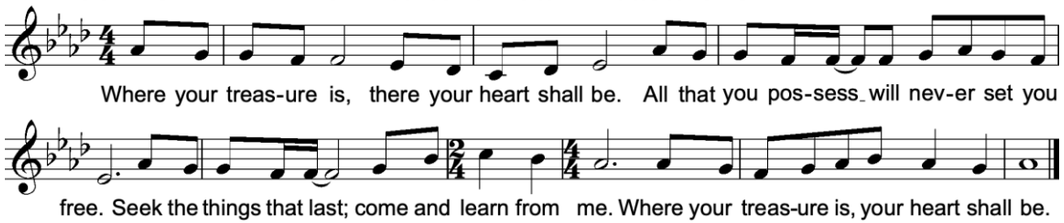
+ OPENING HYMN TFWS 2015 *Black Hymnal*

Bless His Holy Name

+UNISON PRAYER

God of new beginnings, we gather today acknowledging the brokenness and heartbreak of our world yet clinging to your promise. Forgive us when we dwell on past failures, former headlines, and the patterns of fear that keep us paralyzed. Shake us free from our despair, for you command us not to look back, but to open our eyes. Behold, you are doing a new thing; even now it springs forth. Give us the faith to perceive it, the courage to join it, and the love to act upon it. Empower us to move into our neighborhood with hope, partnering with you in building for tomorrow's world. In Jesus' name, Amen.

+ PASSING THE PEACE ***Where Your Treasure Is***



Please return to your pew when the music begins.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, violence and division in our world and community overwhelm us. We confess that brokenness leaves us helpless, and we often turn away. We have not loved you wholeheartedly or our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, Lord. Renew our hope and give us courage to care for others through our actions. Amen.

Moment of silence

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the good news: God does not look away from our brokenness. In Christ, you are forgiven, loved, and set free to live in hope.

All: Thanks be to God!

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 78: 1-9

GOSPEL READING Matthew 22: 34-40

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

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE *Building for Tomorrow's World* Pastor Jeff

STEWARDSHIP SERIES: "EMBRACING OUR FUTURE"

+ HYMN OF RESPONSE UMH 549 VS 1,3-6 *RED HYMNAL*

Where Charity and Love Prevail

TIME OF PRAYER, REFLECTION, AND GIVING

Prayers for the Community

Prayers for the World

City of Muskegon Heights, gun violence, violent tactics of ICE agents, ICE agents and their families. Immigrants and refugees, persecuted communities, peaceful protest, those experiencing food and water scarcity, crop failures and famine. Natural Disasters and Climate Crises. Active conflicts and war: Gaza, Israel, Russia, Iran, Palestine, Ukraine, ceasefires and diplomatic solutions.

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

Silent Prayer and Meditation Psalm 65: 5 NIV

"For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from the Lord."

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*

Prayer Response ***Take, O Take Me as I Am*** W&S 3119 *GREEN HYMNAL*

Pastoral Prayer

Thank you to today's worship leaders!

Liturgist- Melissa Miller
Song Leader- Gunnar Carlson
AV Booth- Steve Neubauer/Carol Taylor/Bruce McLeod/Mary Ullmer
Altar Design- Worship Team
One License #729534-A CCLI License #11366978 (CCLI Livestream)

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."

SMALL-GROUP COMMUNITY
The Path of a Disciple: Recognizing the Sacred Moments:
Discipleship is all about learning to walk with Christ. We stumble. We fall. We pick ourselves up and go again. We are surrounded by a community of friends who pick us up, hold our hands, and keep walking with us along the way. You are invited to join this small-group community where we will learn together to center our lives on loving God and loving others. Please bring your own Bible.
"The Path of a Disciple" Focuses on practices of discipleship that shape people in the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. Our group, October 14 to November 18, will focus on the **PRACTICE** of Prayer, Scripture Meditation and Small-Group Development.

Men's Breakfast:
The next men's breakfast is **this** Thursday, November 19, at 8:30 a.m. at Russ' on Henry St. Please join us for conversation and fellowship.

Happy Fall Y'all!
The next Temple Women's Lunch is **this** Thursday, November 19th at 11:15 a.m. (please note the earlier time)

Lunch will be brought in from Subway and we'll do a Holiday craft project. The cost of lunch and the craft is $10. If you have a glue gun, please bring it with you. There's a sign-up sheet on the kitchen door or call/text Jackie at
See you there!

Embracing Our Future: A New Chapter in Ministry
As we look ahead to what God has prepared for our church family, we are excited to announce our three-week stewardship emphasis, "Embracing Our Future," which begins today, Sunday, November 8, and runs through Sunday, November 22.
This emphasis on stewardship invites us to move forward with courage, leaving behind past limitations, and actively stepping into the next chapter of ministry that God has laid before us. **Theme Verse:** *"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"* Isaiah 43:18–19a
You should have received an invitation letter and giving intention card in the mail last week. Please return your card on Commitment Sunday, November 22. During these three weeks, we'll explore how open-handed generosity helps us fully participate in God's inspiring vision for our community. Prayerfully prepare your heart as we take this step of faith together!

Hand2Hand
Our dedicated Hand2Hand team will gather to pack bags at **9 a.m. Wednesday, November 18.** All are welcome. Please join us!

Through November, we will continue to collect **individual cups of unsweetened mandarin oranges** and **cans of chicken noodle soup (pop tops only, please).**

One more request: Our friends at the Muskegon Heights Early Education Center could use some extra socks to keep on hand. Can you find it in your hearts to pick up some socks that fit **2, 3 and 4 year olds**? It would help so much. As always, thank you. You're the best!





Come join in the fun on Sunday, November 22nd. (immediately following service)

Following our Sunday service, we will have a light lunch of chili/soup in the parlor. We will then decorate the Christmas tree and sanctuary in preparation of Advent.

Please plan to stay after the service on the 22nd. Many hands make light work. Last year we had many helpers and we finished within an hour.

If you are able to make a pot of chili or soup, please email Jackie McLeod at or sign up for an item on the board in the hallway.

Mission for Area People-Thanksgiving needs and Teen Town Christmas

Turkey Dinner Giveaway is on Tuesday, November 24. Items needed include Jell-o, aluminum turkey pans, cranberry sauce, boxed desserts and potatoes, stuffing, canned/powdered gravy, canned vegetables and fruit and sweet potatoes, marshmallows. Items should be dropped off at MAP **by November 20.**

Teen Town Christmas: popular teen gifts include: Men's and women's fragrances or fragrance gift sets, men's and women's hoodies, men's and women's jewelry, pajama sets, slippers, art sets, skincare/bath sets, gift cards. Donations should be delivered to MAP by Friday, December 11.

The church email address is changing! To email Melissa in the office, the address is office@templeumc.org

Church Yard Clean up

TEMPLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor- Rev. Jeff Bowman Office Manager- Melissa Miller
Treasurer- Don DeYoung Worship Leader- Jason Hill

OFFICE HOURS Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

2500 Jefferson St, Muskegon Heights, Michigan 49444
231-733-1065 office@templeumc.org **(note email address change)**
www.templeumcmuskegon.com
Facebook.com/mysticmeth youtube.com/@templeumc9587

Please join us on Tuesday, November 24, from 10-noon in cleaning up all the fall leaves on our church property. Coffee and donuts will be served to provide extra energy for everyone.

