

November 14, 2021 • 10:00 am



Milwood United Methodist

Kalamazoo, Michigan

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OUR MISSION

*Connecting Through Christ:
Learning, Serving, Witnessing, Worshiping*

Rev. Caleb Williams, Pastor

Darlene Sang, Director of Choirs

Carl Doubleday, Organist

Yunsi Zhang, Pianist

Tracey Hatch, Liturgist

Gordy Brodhagen, Alex Gordon, Dave Gordon, & Eric Rice, Sound & Technology



Nursing moms:
the lounge at the far north end of
the building is open for your use
and privacy.

Anthem

**Wondrous Love
Chancel Choir**

arr. Parker/Shaw

What wondrous love is this, O my soul . . .
that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.
When I was sinking down, O my soul . . .
beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul . . .
To God and to the Lamb I will sing . . .
who is the great "I am," while millions join the theme, I will sing . . .
And when from death I'm free I'll sing on . . .
I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity I'll sing on . . .
What wondrous love is this, O my soul . . . and through eternity I'll sing on.

Scripture

James 5:13-16

Common English Bible

If any of you are suffering, they should pray.
If any of you are happy, they should sing.
If any of you are sick, they should call for the elders of the church, and the elders should pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.
Prayer that comes from faith will heal the sick, for the Lord will restore them to health.
And if they have sinned, they will be forgiven.
For this reason, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous person is powerful in what it can achieve.

Sermon

I Sing Because I'm Happy

Pastor Caleb Williams

Service of Anointing

Hymn During Anointing

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

UMH 474

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

***Hymn**

Near to the Heart of God

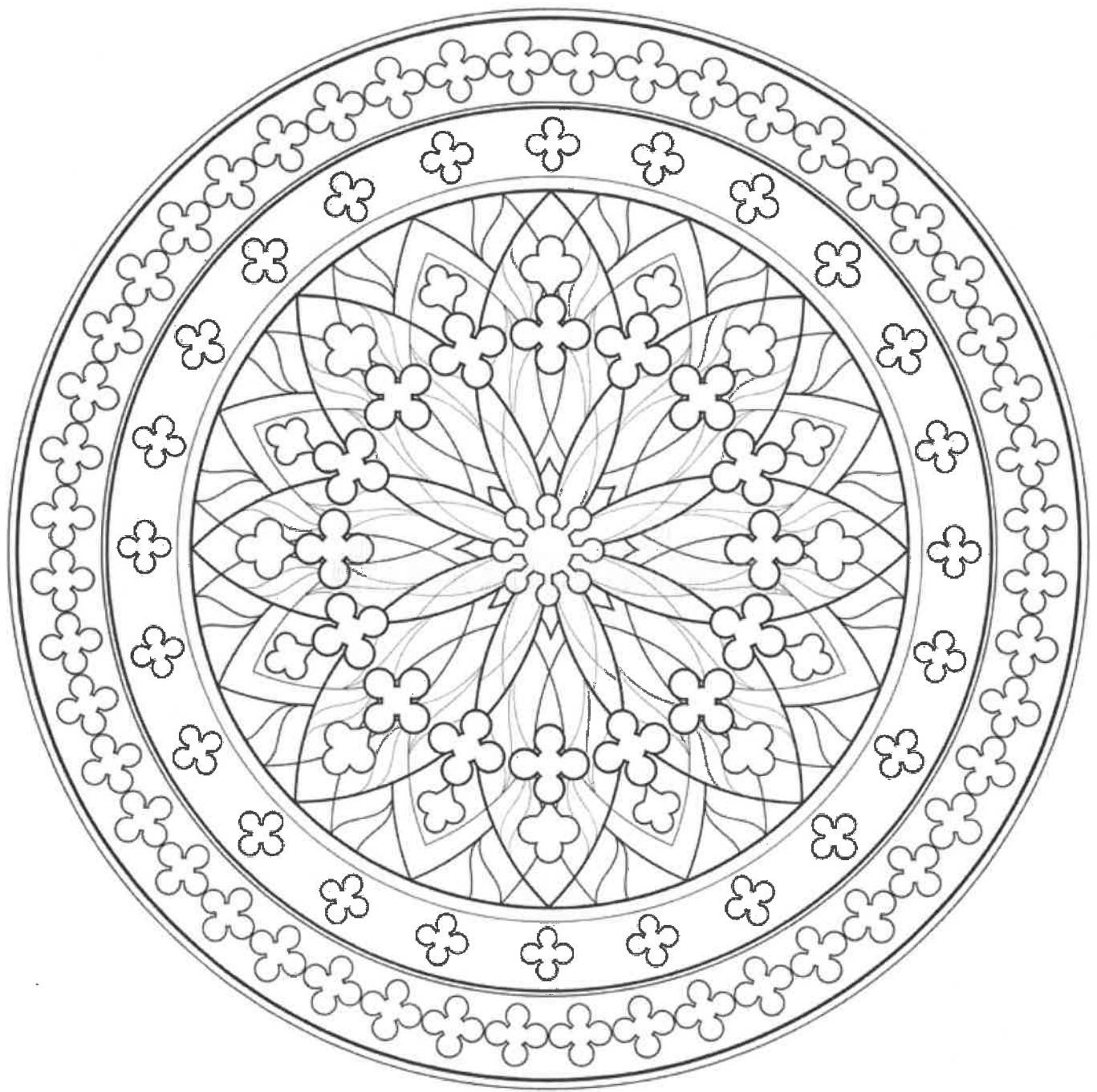
UMH 472

***Blessing**

***Postlude**

His Love Comes Through

Beatrice A. Miller



Sermon Notes:

**The Live Nativity is returning to MUMC!
Friday, December 17, & Saturday, December 18 the Nativity and Scheumann Farm petting zoo will be open to the public from 7-9 pm each evening. Would you love to volunteer for the celebration? We are looking for help supervising parking, greeting and gathering people in line, helping monitor the guests as they gather around the animals, providing hot drinks and snacks for volunteers as they take a warming break in the church lobby, and help setting up the grounds and cleaning up afterwards. A sign-up sheet will be on the table outside the sanctuary during the weeks leading up to the Nativity.**

You may also call Georgia Dalton at 269-365-7472.

Thank you so much for joining in our Advent celebration.



Living Nativity & Adopt-a-Family



Help make a child's Christmas this year.

We have 19 children from low income families this year. Each child will receive a book, a piece of clothing and a toy. All suggested gifts are under \$20.00.

- 1) Take a tag from the Christmas tree.**
- 2) Buy the gift on the back of the tag.**
- 3) Return the gift wrapped by December 12th with the tag on it.**

Thank you. May this warm your heart this Holiday season.



Trunk-or-Treat Report from Hellen Palleschi:

Thank you to all the candy donors. We used every last piece!! We counted at least 400 kids that came through our Parking Lot. Families were lined up waiting for us to open at 5 p.m. We were able to offer hotdogs to the first 200 adults and kids before we ran out of candy at 6:30 p.m. with another 200 kids who would have come through.

We have never had such a crowd!!!

A well deserved "Thank you" to all who made this event happen:

Brenda Brodhagen for promoting Trunk-or-Treat, getting volunteers to drop off candy at the church and signing up people to bring their cars.

Hot dog committee: Lonnie Palleschi, Jack Wilson, Loren Hatch, Bill & Ruth Breyfogle, Spencer Merriweather

Trunks: Candace Williams, Ellen Batten, Georgia Dalton, Sue Commissaris, Mary & Del Tiller, Jim & Suzanne Miller, Brenda Brodhagen, Tracey Hatch, Carol Barnes, Joe Fahey with youth group - Brianna Gordon & Olivia Polderman & neighbors of the Bogemas who heard that we needed trunks & brought 2 vehicles & a motorcycle which were appreciated candy stops.

We had a total of 13 vehicles handing out candy.



As evidenced by all the children & their families that visited our parking lot on Halloween we are a 'neighborhood church'!

Update: Our Family Finances

I talk a lot about how Milwood is a church family. Part of being a family is making a budget and keeping track of finances. Since our Stewardship series ended last month, it's time for an update on how things are going.

Stewardship Pledges:

Good news! Our pledges are up from last year! After a crazy year like 2021 and a pastoral change, that's a big deal! However, we haven't increased enough to cover the leap of faith our congregation took to support a full-time pastor. Of our \$250,000 proposed budget, we're roughly \$50,000 short. Some of this will come from giving that isn't pledged, but that's not something we want to rely on. If you haven't pledged, or if you're considering any special giving, the Operating Fund is a great way to support your church family and our ministry in this neighborhood.

Capital Improvement Fund:

The mortgage has been paid off! Praise God! If you've been giving to the Building Fund, please know that it has been renamed the Capital Improvement Fund. This fund will support the maintenance and upgrading of our building, grounds, and capital investments (like the church van). This will also support the new playground we're planning to build this coming spring. These needs are less pressing than our operating expenses, so if you've been giving to the Capital Improvement Fund, please consider redirecting some or all of that gift to the Operating Fund instead.

Visser Gift:

To honor the spirit of Mel Visser and the wishes of Gloria and their family, we've committed to use the remaining gift in some specific ways. With the guidance of the Ops team, this gift will help us launch new ministries and expand our support of health ministries, ministry for elders, hospitality, food ministry, and more. Too many churches have let ministry grow cold while sitting on significant endowments. To make sure this gift turns into changed lives, we've committed to putting this money into action within the next three years!

Dream Big:

Gary Willoughby will be bringing us an update on the Dream Big session in next week's bulletin. In the meantime, though, be sure to notice, capture, and share any dreams or visions you've been having about where this church family might be headed next. Send them into the office, and we'll be collecting them for the Operations Team to pray over and possibly put into action.

And finally, I want to give my deepest thanks to Jan Bogart and Dave Gordon for their tireless work keeping us up-to-date and transparent in our finance ministries. If you have any questions about our finances, please ask me or either of these amazing people. Our families finances are always going to be transparent and vision-led.

Thanks, Pastor Caleb

MilwoodUnitedMethodistChurch.org | facebook.com/MilwoodUMC

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