



Midland First United Methodist Church

Order of Worship for Sunday, February 2, 2025
4th Sunday after Epiphany

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING TIME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Kayla Williams

Leader: Anything done without love is just a noisy gong or clanging cymbal, even if we give away all we have.

Congregation: Love is patient, kind; it is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth.

Leader: Love never ends; and because of this, it is most important. One day we will see and know as we are known.

Congregation: What a gift it is to have been created by the God who is love, to reflect His love. Thanks be to God!

*OPENING HYMN

"The Gift of Love"

UMH #408

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Following the Children's Blessing, all children are invited to join us for Sunday School in P4. *If your child is joining us for the first time, please accompany them to the classroom.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

by Sandra Eithun
Carillon Choir

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Please sign the friendship notepads.

OFFERTORY MUSICAL GIFT TO GOD

"Meditation on Picardy"

arr. G. Winston Cassler
Gabrielle Cook-McIlvenna, organ

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING OF THE WORD 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (NLT)

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Love's Role in Knitting us All Together"

Rev. Jeremy Africa

PASTORAL PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

UMH #12

As a United Methodist Church, we share an open communion table. All who love Christ, repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with others are invited to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion. One need not be a member of Midland First UMC or any other church to share in Communion today.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"How Beautiful"

See Screen

*CLOSING HYMN

"God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian"

UMH #648

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Sonata Fugata"

by Francesco Durante

*Please stand if able

Welcome! May your time in worship this morning be meaningful. It is our hope and prayer that you find the presence of God and a spirit of friendship and caring. Please join us for refreshments following worship in the Parlor. If you are visiting for the first time, we would like to share a gift with you.

The Nursery is open during worship for children from birth through the age of 3. Busy bags for preschoolers are available in P4. Sunday worship services at First UMC are live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube and available afterward for watch-on-demand. They are also broadcast throughout the week on Midland Cable Television (MCTV, channel 188) and on 97.7 and 107.7 fm on Sundays at 11 am.

First Glance

Sun Feb 2, 2025

10 am Worship Service
11 am Sunday Friendship Lunch
11:15 am Adult Forum
11:15 am Youth Group
11:30 am Missions Team Meeting

Tue Feb 4, 2025

10 am Worship/Tech Meeting
11 am Staff Meeting
12 pm S3 Group
1:30 pm UWF Meeting
2 pm Bible Study w/ Pastor Bethany
6 pm Peer 360
7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Wed Feb 5, 2025

9:30 am Bible Study w/ Pastor Jeremy
1 pm Carillon Bells Rehearsal
4:45 pm Explore! Music Class
7 pm Church & Community Meeting
7 pm Step Ministry Meeting
7:30 pm Joyful Bells Rehearsal

Thur Feb 6, 2025

1:30 pm - Better Together
6 pm - Peer 360
7 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Fri Feb 7, 2025

11 am Men's Small Group
7 pm AA Meeting

Sun Feb 9, 2025

10 am Worship Service
11 am Sunday Friendship Lunch
11:15 am Adult Forum
11:15 am Youth Group

Save the Date

Sun March 2, 2025

Healing Service

The Blessing Box is in need of sustainable items:

- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Canned goods (fruits & veggies, tuna, etc)
- Granola bars
- Paper Towel
- Toilet paper

Thank you!



For more announcements and information, please see our weekly eBlast. If you do not receive it, call the office or email: reception@fumcmid.org



Midland First United Methodist Church

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 Midland MI 48640
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We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Judy LaMott, who passed away on 1/27/2025

Lay Leadership Teams

We apologize to the following teams and individuals for being left out of our recent Lay Leadership Teams bulletin insert on January 19. Committee Chairs and Team Leaders, if you noted any necessary updates to your group, please inform the church office. Thank you to all who contribute their time, talents, and gifts to living out our mission—to “help people know, love, and share Jesus Christ!”

Memorial Team: Jan Acker, Mary Choate (Leader), Heidi Roberson Kinnun, Tad Roberson, Roy Green, Bonnie Johnston, and Bethany Eicher

Garden Maintenance Team: Judy Bishop, Kagey Duso, Peggy Hamilton, Sandy Juengel, Shirley McKenney, Bruce & Carol Peck, Carole Steffens (Leader), and Cindy Winslow

Nominations Team: Cindy Blahnik

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- Lead Pastor - Rev. Jeremy Africa ext. 145(jafrika@fumcmid.org)
 - Associate Pastor - Rev. Bethany Maciejewski ext. 111(bmaciejewski@fumcmid.org)
 - Administrative Services Director/HR - Erika Hall ext. 110 (office@fumcmid.org)
 - Children & Youth Director - Hilary Ferguson ext. 112(hferguson@fumcmid.org)
 - Administrative Assistant - Melanie Lonsway(reception@fumcmid.org)
 - Music Director - Gabrielle Cook-McIlvenna ext. 137.....(gmcilvenna@fumcmid.org)
 - Choral Program Director - Tyler Morse ext. 141(tmorse@fumcmid.org)
 - Bell Program Director - Nathan Snyder(nsnyder@fumcmid.org)
 - Bookkeeper - Padmaja Potnis ext. 116 (bookkeeper@fumcmid.org)
 - Tech Manager - Brian Gulliver ext. 142..... (technologymanager@fumcmid.org)
 - Video Tech - Dennis Caney ext. 139..... (video@fumcmid.org)
 - Building Manager - Tom Strauss ext. 127 (tstrauss@fumcmid.org)
 - Custodian - Jamie Booth ext. 121 (jbooth@fumcmid.org)
 - Prayer Requests (prayer@fumcmid.org)



“Love’s Role in Knitting us All Together”

Rev. Jeremy Africa
 February 2, 2025