



A
WORTHWHILE
LIFE

August 4, 2024

Communion Sunday

United Methodist Church of the Dunes

717 Sheldon Road, Grand Haven, Michigan

Lou Grefthenberger, Pastor

616-842-7980 | www.umcdunes.org

We Gather

Gathering Music & Chimes

Welcome & Announcements

Threshold Moment

*Call to Worship

Leader: With patience and love, we come as one family.

People: We are one body of Christ, united in God.

Leader: Come! Speak of truth; truth told in love.

People: We gather to listen, and to share our stories.

Leader: We are God's children, parts of Christ's purpose.

**People: We rejoice in our gifts, and we thank God for this grace.
Come! Let's worship together!**

We Praise God

*Hymn #545

"The Church's One Foundation"

vs. 1, 2, 4, & 5

Children's Time

Special Music

"People Need the Lord"

Nelson/McHugh
Judah Weeks, Al Kochanowski

Call to Confession

Psalm 51:1-12

Prayer of Confession

God of unity and love, place within each of us a spirit of hope and community. Have mercy upon us when we speak without love or act without humility. Cleanse us with the living water of your grace. Create in us willing hearts to live in patience and gentleness. Raise us up to be your children, growing toward maturity in faith and love. Strengthen this church, that we may be a model of ministry and unity for all the world to see. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

"Because He Lives"

Gaither
Judah Weeks, Al Kochanowski

*Doxology #94

*Prayer of Dedication

Merciful God, in this time of offering, we come before you, acknowledging your steadfast grace and boundless love. As we present our gifts, may we also offer our contrite hearts, recognizing the depth of our humanity and the need for your healing touch. Grant us the courage to confront our failings and the wisdom to seek reconciliation and renewal in your divine presence. Amen.

We Share the Word

A Reading from the New Testament

Ephesians 4:1-8

A Reading from the Old Testament

2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13

Sermon

"A Worthwhile Life"

Pastor Lou

We Respond to the Word

The Great Thanksgiving

Sacrament of Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Final Hymn #417

"O For a Heart to Praise My God"

vs. 1, 3, 4, & 5

We are Sent Forth

*Benediction

*Chimes

*Parting Music

**Please stand as you are able*

The Church's One Foundation

Hymn #545 vs. 1, 2, 4, & 5

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Doxology

Hymn #94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Ephesians 4:1-8

I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.”

2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD, and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds, but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.” Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, “As the LORD lives, the man

who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this thing and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

Now, therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house, and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in broad daylight. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and in broad daylight." David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." Nathan said to David, "Now the LORD has put away your sin; you shall not die."

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through the prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.



O For a Heart to Praise My God
Hymn #417 vs. 1, 3, 4, & 5

O for a heart to praise my God,
a heart from sin set free,
a heart that always feels thy blood
so freely shed for me.

A humble, lowly, contrite heart,
believing, true, and clean,
which neither life nor death can part
from Christ who dwells within.

A heart in every thought renewed
and full of love divine,
perfect and right and pure and good,
a copy, Lord, of thine.

Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart;
come quickly from above;
write thy new name upon my heart,
thy new, best name of Love.

**Welcome back,
Pastor Lou!**

This Week's Calendar

SUNDAY **August 4, 2024**

- 9:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 9:45 AM Celebrate Wonder Sunday School – Room 8 (lower level)
- 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship - Wiltse Center
- 10:45 AM Faith Linked – Ryder Lounge

MONDAY **August 5, 2024**

- 9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Group – Panera Bread, Grand Haven
- 9:30 AM Organ Lesson - Sanctuary
- 2:00 PM Gun Violence Prevention – Room 2
- 5:30 PM Chair Yoga – Social Hall
- 7:00 PM CROP Walk team – Ryder Lounge

TUESDAY **August 6, 2024**

- 9:00 - 11:00 AM Open Pickleball – Wiltse Center
- 10:00 AM Sip, Savor study – Room 2
- 6:00 PM UWF Board – Room 10
- 7:00 PM Missions – Room 13/14

WEDNESDAY **August 7, 2024**

- 9:00 - 11:00 AM Open Pickleball – Wiltse Center

THURSDAY **August 8, 2024**

- 9:00 – 11:00 AM Open Pickleball – Wiltse Center
- 11:30 AM Chair Yoga – Social Hall
- 2:30 – 6:00 PM Piano Lessons - Sanctuary

FRIDAY **August 9, 2024**

Office Closed

SATURDAY **August 10, 2024**

No Scheduled Activities

Church of the Dunes
Information, Events, and Activities

Events and activities are open to all.

WELCOME BACK, PASTOR LOU

Pastor Lou is back with us in worship today. We hope his spiritual renewal leave was restful and refreshing. Many thanks to all who pitched in to help with a variety of tasks while he was away.

TODAY IS NAME TAG SUNDAY

Please wear a name tag for worship and during coffee time afterwards. Single-use nametags are available at the welcome center. To request a new or replacement reusable nametag, please make a note on the sign-in sheet in this bulletin.

HUNGER OFFERING

Today in worship, we gather a Hunger Offering for Supper House, a Muskegon-based mission that provides evening meals and fellowship for many in need. If you would like to give and will do so by check, please make payable to Church of the Dunes and note "hunger offering" on the memo line.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1:00 PM

"Life After Loss" meetings are open to all who are dealing with a death-related loss. Hosted and led by Trinity Health - At Home, this group meets in the Ryder Lounge on the main floor of the church on the second Monday of each month.

DUNESMEN MEAL AND MEETING – MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 6:00 PM

All men are invited for a meal and short meeting in the Ryder Lounge at the church (main floor). If you will be attending, please contact Don Woodward or Dan Starkey. This will help them know how much food to prepare. For assistance, contact the church office.

GARDEN PARTY – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

All women are invited to a garden party in the Social Hall (lower level) on Wednesday, August 14. A salad luncheon, beverages, and dessert are provided. Guest speaker Jane Riddle will talk about herbs of the Bible. To attend, RSVP to the church office by August 11. Lower-level parking with same-level access to the Social Hall is available at the rear of the church building. This event is hosted by Church of the Dunes United Women in Faith.

CHAIR-SUPPORTED YOGA CLASSES – MONDAYS, 5:30 PM, THURSDAYS, 11:30 AM

These classes are open to all adults and meet in the Social Hall on the lower level of the church. An experienced yoga instructor leads gentle exercises done while seated in or supported by a chair. Dress comfortably and bring water to drink, if you wish. A \$1 donation per session helps with expenses.

COMMUNION HELPERS WANTED

Church of the Dunes celebrates communion on the first Sunday of each month. Additional servers and runners are needed. Runners keep the bread and juice supplied to the servers (there is no actual running involved). Training is provided. Volunteers may sign up to help monthly or occasionally. For more information, contact Shirley Chappell. For assistance, contact the church office.

CRAFT CIRCLE SCHEDULE INFO

Craft Circle will not meet in August. The next meeting is Thursday, September 12 at 10:00 a.m. in the Ryder Lounge (main floor, near the sanctuary). Chris Hornby from Green Dragonfly Studio will give a presentation on rug hooking.

Please Save the Dates

ENGAGE Fall Start-up Event – September 8, after worship
Pig Roast and Potluck – September 22, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

All are Welcome

The United Methodist Church of the Dunes aspires to love as Jesus loved.
We open our hearts, minds, and doors to all.
This congregation invites persons of all races, sexual orientations and gender identities, ages, abilities, and socio-economic status to participate fully in all aspects of the Christian life.

Sundays at Church of the Dunes

Worship - 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary

For a link to the recorded livestream, visit www.umcdunes.org/worship.

Nursery - available during 9:30 a.m. worship

It is located a short distance down the hall from the worship space.

Sunday School for Children - Hosanna classroom (Room 8), lower level

The pastor will dismiss students to Sunday school from worship after the Children's Time.

Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m. - Wiltse Center fellowship area

Please stop by for fresh coffee and delicious refreshments.

Faith Linked - 10:45 a.m. - Ryder Lounge

Discussion of topics and current events from a faith-focused perspective. Open to all adults.

Notes from the Church Office

Church Office Hours

Monday -Thursday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. or by appointment.

Church of the Dunes would like to stay connected with you and to be supportive of you and your loved ones. If your contact information has changed, please let the church office know. If you or a family member is hospitalized, going to be having surgery, or is homebound and would like a visit, please let us know. Let us know, as well, if you have experienced a death in your family.

Praises and Prayers

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Michelle DeVito in memory of her dad, Ben DeVito, for his birthday.

UPPER ROOMS for July/August have finally arrived. We apologize for any inconvenience.

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

August 5	Bill Kelly
August 10	Dawn Scott
August 11	Thomas Hanson, Karen Kochanowski

Giving and Attendance

<u>Date/Week Of</u>	<u>Offerings Received</u>	<u>Weekly Average Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Weekly Budgeted</u>	<u>Percent of Budget</u>
July 28	\$8,636	\$9,216	\$8,830	104.4

To give by mail, please send offering to United Methodist Church of the Dunes, 717 Sheldon Road, Grand Haven, MI 49417. To give online, visit <https://umcdunes.org/give/>.

July 28, 2024

Total attendance	223.5
In person	150
Online	73.5 (49 x 1.5)

Since one view may include more than one person viewing together, the Michigan Conference of the UMC recommends multiplying the number of views by 1.5 to estimate total online attendance.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Liturgist: Jan Lipfert
Communion: Jan Lipfert, Gwen & John Bartels, Jane Brown, Alice Furst
Music: Al Kochanowski, Judah Weeks, Marna Jeffery
Technology: David Norton, Trevor Larkins
Greeters: Jane Norton
Welcome Center: Carol Sue Scherpenisse
Ushers: Sam Easterly, Jacki & Tom Laughlin, Karyn & Gary Gillan
Coffee Hour: Sherry Baker

Next Week – August 11

Liturgist: Jan Stuart
Music: Piano Quartet
Technology: David Norton, Gail Ringelberg
Greeters: Dolores Quackenbush
Welcome Center: Crystal Cedarquist & Patrick Bresnahan
Ushers: Sam Easterly, Jane Brown, Doug Mitchell, Gary & Karyn Gillan
Coffee Hour: Sherry Baker

Church of the Dunes is a family of faith which seeks to:

- grow in God's grace and love.
- challenge and equip all members to be faithful disciples.
- share the Good News.
- demonstrate and reflect the love of God.



Church office hours are Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
For pastoral emergencies, please call Pastor Diane directly on her cellphone at 231-457-3744