

**A note to those listening on the radio:** The announcements in this bulletin are for September 27, 2020, but the order of worship is for October 4, 2020. **For those watching the live stream:** both the order of worship and the announcements are for September 27, 2020.

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# AN ORDER OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

September 27, 2020 | Seventeen Sunday After Pentecost

First United Methodist Church

601 North Cedar, Abilene, Kansas 67410 | 785-263-2623 | [www.AbileneFirstUMC.org](http://www.AbileneFirstUMC.org)

A Church of Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors.

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## GATHERING

Gathering of the Congregation

Greeting and Announcements

Prelude

### CALL TO WORSHIP

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

The risen Christ is with us.

**Praise the Lord.**

Opening Prayer

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture Reading — Exodus 17:1-7 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup> I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it,

so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

#### **HYMN — *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*, H-140**

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand has provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
2. Summer and winter and spring-time and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand has provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand has provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

— Words: Thomas O Chisholm, 1923

#### Children's Message

#### Special Music — *Holy Spirit*

#### Scripture Reading — Matthew 21:28-32 (NRSV)

<sup>28</sup> "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup> He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup> The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup> Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup> For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

#### **Psalms 34:1-10 (NRSV)**

- <sup>1</sup> I will bless the LORD at all times;  
**his praise shall continually be in my mouth.**
- <sup>2</sup> My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
**let the humble hear and be glad.**
- <sup>3</sup> O magnify the LORD with me,  
**and let us exalt his name together.**
- <sup>4</sup> I sought the LORD, and he answered me,  
**and delivered me from all my fears.**
- <sup>5</sup> Look to him, and be radiant;  
**so your faces shall never be ashamed.**
- <sup>6</sup> This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,  
**and was saved from every trouble.**

- <sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,  
**and delivers them.**
- <sup>8</sup>O taste and see that the LORD is good;  
**happy are those who take refuge in him.**
- <sup>9</sup>O fear the LORD, you his holy ones,  
**for those who fear him have no want.**
- <sup>10</sup>The young lions suffer want and hunger,  
**but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

Scripture Reading — Philippians 2:1-13 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
 did not regard equality with God  
 as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
 taking the form of a slave,  
 being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
 and became obedient to the point of death—  
 even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
 and gave him the name  
 that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
 every knee should bend,  
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
 to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Sermon

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I commit myself to God, the Father Almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.

I set my heart upon Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I place my trust in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy church universal,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**RESPONSE** — *Glory Be To The Father, 71*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and  
ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

— Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.

**PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways. Amen.**

*All Pray in Silence.*

Almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen us in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**Amen.**

A Stewardship Moment/Invitation to the Offering

**RESPONSE** — *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow, 95*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above ye  
heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

— Thomas Ken, 1674

# THANKSGIVING

Prayer of Thanksgiving

## 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.** [Meaning: Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.] **For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## GOING FORTH

**HYMN** — *Lord of the Dance*, H-261

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee, but they would not dance and they would not follow me; I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; they came to me and the dance went on.

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

3. I danced on the sabbath when I cured the lame, the holy people said it was a shame; they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high; and they left me there on a cross to die.

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

4. I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black; its hard to dance with the devil on your back; they buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

5. They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life that'll never, never die; I'll live in you if you live in me; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

— Words: Sydney Carter 1963. © 1963, 1989 Galliard, Ltd. — CCLI# 81188

Blessing and Postlude

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# PRAYER CONCERNS

Please note: prayer concerns will be listed in the bulletin for four (4) weeks unless the church office is notified otherwise.

**MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:** Paul Hettenbach [9/20], J. M. Frey [9/6],

**COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS:** Those grieving the loss of Reggie Robinson (Danny Robinson's brother) [9/27], Rod Lehman (son of Dorothy and Paul) [9/6], Kim Goodman [7/15/2018]; doctors, nurses and other health care workers; students, teachers, administrators, and other employees of local schools; restaurant and retail employees, postal workers and other delivery personnel; and all others working in essential industries.

**THOSE WORSHIPING FROM HOME:** Gary Donley, Evelyn York, Velma Becker, Joe Clemence, Steve Crump, Walt Hartman, Ray Power, Marla Rutz, Bob Murnahan, Donna Smith, Martha Zutavern, Donna Richards, Dorothy Veach, Darlene Sexton, Melvin Leckron, Dorothy Snider, Verna Cook, Linda Chase, Barb Hawk, Verl Eckman and many of us!

**THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:** Greg Austin, Tim Barns, Kayla Berven, Billy Brockman, Matthew Brinker, Ross Covington, Jessica and James Green, Christopher Griffith, Gavin Hanna, Cameron Hoskins, David Hoskins, Ryan Kriesch, Colby Miller, Samuel Miller, and James L. Wise, Jr.

**THOSE IN AUTHORITY:** The President, the Governor, the Mayor, the County Health Officer, County Commissioners, other elected officials and the judiciary (1 Timothy 2:1-4).

**DISTRICT PRAYER CALENDAR:** Today we pray for the Concordia First United Methodist Church and their pastor Melanie Adams.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**POWER AND LIGHT POSTPONED** — Due to the closing of in person school we will not be having Power and Light in person until school has resumed in person.

**YOUTH GROUP POSTPONED** — Due to the closing of in person school we will not be having Youth Group in person until school has resumed in person.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN/FAITH CIRCLE** — The Faith Circle of UMW will hold their meeting on Wednesday, October 21st, at 1:30 p.m. It will be held in room 200. Masks are required to be worn.

**WORSHIP ON AUDIO CD** — Are you having trouble streaming online or listening on the radio? We're delivering audio CDs with the same service that is broadcast on the radio. Contact John Collins or call the church office if you would like to be part of this pilot program.

## **RESTARTING THE PRAYER VIGIL**

We're restarting the Prayer Vigil in virtual form from our homes. It's a full day of prayer from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. We have the following openings. Please email John or call the church office if you are interested in participating. Here are the slots that remain open:

8 a.m. to 9 a.m.  
11 a.m. to Noon  
1 p.m. to 2 p.m.  
4 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING COMMUNION** — We have a Zoom meeting scheduled for the Wednesday Evening Communion Service at 6:00 p.m. Here are the details:

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://bit.ly/38bf9qZ>  
Meeting ID: 937 0998 7388  
Password: 67410

Dial in by phone  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) or  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
Meeting ID: 937 0998 7388  
Password: 67410

**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY** — We have a regular, ongoing Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke on Wednesday Evenings at 6:15. You don't have to make every meeting and you can start anytime—including this Wednesday. Here are the details for how to log on or dial in through Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://bit.ly/2BTwgBn>  
Meeting ID: 931 9116 5788  
Passcode: 67410

Manually Dial In With a Touch-Tone Phone  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
Meeting ID: 931 9116 5788  
Passcode: 67410

**EMAIL UPDATES** — John uses a service called TinyLetter to send out blog posts by email every day or so. This way, you can keep up with his blog at [revcollins.com](http://revcollins.com) by simply checking your email inbox. You can sign up at [tinyletter.com/jcollins11](http://tinyletter.com/jcollins11).

**WANT TO TALK TO THE PASTOR?** — John's contact information is on the last page of this bulletin.

## **SALVATION ACCORDING TO JOHN WESLEY**

I want to share this quote from John Wesley's sermon titled "The Scripture Way of Salvation" in which he asks and answers the question "What is salvation?"

"What is salvation? The Salvation which is here spoken of is not what is frequently understood by that word, the going to heaven, eternal happiness. It is not [merely] the soul's going to paradise .... It is not a blessing which lies on the other side of death or (as we usually speak) in the other world. The very words of the text itself put this beyond question. 'Ye are saved.' It is not something at a distance: it is a present thing, a blessing which, through the free mercy of God, ye are now in possession of. Nay, the words may be rendered, and that with equal propriety, 'Ye have been saved.' So that the salvation which is here spoken of might be extended to the entire work of God, from the first dawning of grace in the soul till it is consummated in glory." — John Wesley

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# **CHURCH CALENDAR**

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

10:30 a.m. Worship — Sanctuary / Via Facebook Live / KABI 1560 AM

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise — Narthex

7:00 p.m. EOTT Board Meeting

7:00 p.m. Nominations Committee Via Zoom

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting via Zoom

6:00 p.m. Communion Service Via Zoom

6:15 p.m. Luke Bible Study Via Zoom

## **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 THRU SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3**

All day Special Called Annual Conference

## **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1**

5:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Vigil from homes

9:30 a.m. Hospice Quilt Workshop — Peatling

10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise — Narthex

6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts — Peatling

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2**

Church Office Closed at noon

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4**

10:30 a.m. Worship — Sanctuary / Via Facebook Live / KABI 1560 AM

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6**

10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise — Narthex

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7**

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting via Zoom

3:30 p.m. Power and Light

6:00 p.m. Communion Service Via Zoom

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

6:15 p.m. Luke Bible Study Via Zoom

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8**

5:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Vigil from homes

10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise — Narthex

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# NOTES AND DOODLES

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please note that **bold type** indicates congregational participation. “H” stands for *The United Methodist Hymnal* (blue book); “F” stands for *The Faith We Sing* (black book); and “W” stands for *Worship and Song* (green book).

## OUR MISSION AND VISION

Mission: to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Vision: a church of open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

## CLOSING CREDITS

Angie Hoerner, Piano

Harlee Knorade, Special Music

Heather Unruh, Liturgist

Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries

Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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