

A note to those listening on the radio: The announcements in this bulletin are for October 11, 2020 but the order of worship is for October 18, 2020. **For those watching the live stream:** both the order of worship and the announcements are for October 11, 2020.

AN ORDER OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

October 11, 2020 | Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

First United Methodist Church

601 North Cedar, Abilene, Kansas 67410 | 785-263-2623 | www.AbileneFirstUMC.org

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

GATHERING

Gathering of the Congregation

Greeting and Announcements

Prelude

CALL TO WORSHIP

You have been called to the banquet.

This is the feast.

You have been summoned to the wedding.

This is the feast of life and light.

From the streets and the byways, God has invited us.

We have come to the feast that has no end. Alleluia! Amen!

— Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*. Copyright 2014

Opening Prayer

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture Reading — Philippians 4:4-9 (NRSV)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything

worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath 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!

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

— WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 (Lam. 3:22-23) © 1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Co. — CCLI# 811889

Children's Message

Special Music — *Go Make A Difference*

Scripture Reading — Matthew 22:1-14 (NRSV)

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."

PSALTER — Psalm 37: 1-11, 39-40 (NRSV)

¹ Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not be envious of wrongdoers,
² for they will soon fade like the grass,
and wither like the green herb.

- ³Trust in the LORD, and do good;
so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- ⁴Take delight in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- ⁵Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.
- ⁶He will make your vindication shine like the light,
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.
- ⁷Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;
**do not fret over those who prosper in their way,
over those who carry out evil devices.**
- ⁸Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.
Do not fret—it leads only to evil.
- ⁹For the wicked shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.
- ¹⁰Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;
though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.
- ¹¹But the meek shall inherit the land,
and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.
- ³⁹The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
he is their refuge in the time of trouble.
- ⁴⁰The LORD helps them and rescues them;
he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.

Scripture Reading — Exodus 20:1-17

¹Then God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**Holy and awesome God, we stand in your presence
filled with regret for our many sins and failings.**

**Though there is greatness in us, and a deep longing for goodness,
we have often denied our better selves**

and refused to hear your voice calling us to rise to the full height of our humanity.

For there is weakness in us, as well as strength.

At times we choose to walk in darkness, our vision obscured.

We do not care to look within,

and we are unwilling to look beyond at those who need our help.

O God, we are too weak to walk unaided.

Be with us as a strong and wise friend, and teach us to walk by the light of your truth.

All offer prayers of confession in silence.

The Lord God is merciful and gracious,
endlessly patient, loving, and true, showing mercy to thousands,
forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin, and granting pardon.

Amen.

— Jewish Prayer for Forgiveness, U.S.A., 20th Cent. Reprinted from *The United Methodist Publishing House*.

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 — *What A Friend We Have In Jesus*, H-526

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.
2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer. Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer! In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

— WORDS: Joseph M. Scriven, ca. 1855

Blessing and Postlude

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], Roberta Corl [10/11], John and Andrea Purvis [10/11],

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS: Connie Brown (sister of Everett Everson) [10/4], those grieving the loss of Reggie Robinson (Danny Robinson's brother) [9/27], Kim Goodman [7/15/2018]; doctors, nurses and other health care workers; students, teachers, administrators, school nurses, 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 Countryside United Methodist Church and their pastor Lillian Flegle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN/FAITH CIRCLE — The Faith Circle of UMW will not meet in October.

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

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 by simply checking your email inbox. You can sign up at tinyletter.com/jcollins11.

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Via Zoom

7:00 p.m. Worship Design Via Zoom

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting Via Zoom

3:30 p.m. Power & Light

6:00 p.m. Communion Via Zoom

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

5:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Prayer Vigil from Homes

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

12:00 p.m. Church Office Closes

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

5:15 p.m. Memorials Committee Via Zoom

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting Via Zoom

3:30 p.m. Power & Light

6:00 p.m. Communion Via Zoom

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

5:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Prayer Vigil from Homes

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

12:00 p.m. Church Office Closes

SERMON 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

Clark Williamson, Liturgist

Braden Adams, Video and Live Streaming

Joy Clemence, Sound

Jack Hunter, Special Music

Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries

Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries

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Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor

Phone: 785-263-2623 — Email: parishvisitor@abilenefirstumc.org