



**AN ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

August 15, 2021 | Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Church of open hearts, open minds, and open doors
that seeks to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

601 North Cedar, Abilene, Kansas 67410

785-263-2623 — www.abilenefirstumc.org

GATHERING

Gathering of the Congregation

Welcome and Announcements

HYMN*

Come, Thou Almighty King

UMH-61

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

Psalm 111 (NRSV)

¹ Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.

³ Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

- ⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.
- ⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.
- ⁸ They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- ⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name.
- ¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.

HYMN*

Be Thou My Vision

UMH-451

Scripture for the Children's Message Ephesians 5:15-20 (NRSV)

¹⁵ Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰ giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Children's Message

Special Music

Sing a New Song

Scripture Reading

John 6:51-59 (NRSV)

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹ He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

HYMN*

What A Beautiful Name

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:25–5:2 (NRSV)

²⁵ So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶ Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸ Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹ Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹ Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³² and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²
and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for
us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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* *Come, Thou Almighty King, vs. 4*

UMH-61

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, before you our hearts are open,
and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**We bring to you now
our shame and sorrow for our sins.**

We have forgotten

that our life is from you and unto you.

We have neither sought nor done your will.

**We have not been truthful in our hearts,
in our speech, in our lives.**

We have not loved as we ought to love.

Help us and heal us,

raising us from our sins into a better life,

that we may end our days in peace,

trusting in your kindness unto the end;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever. Amen.

(A time of silent prayers of confession.)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, Christ who died for us, who rose for us,

who reigns at God's right hand and prays for us. Thanks be
to God who gives us the victory

through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

(If you are a guest, please feel no obligation to give, this is
simply one of the ways we worship God.)

RESPONSE* *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH-95

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.**
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

GOING FORTH

HYMN*

O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

UMH-430

Dismissal with Blessing*

Postlude*

*"Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger
and wrangling and slander, together with all malice,
and be kind to one another, tenderhearted,
forgiving one another,
as God in Christ has forgiven you."
— Ephesians 4:31-32*

TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house.
- Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to engage.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastors, musicians, and leaders.
- Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn by mimicking you.
- If you have to leave the sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."
- If you need or want some time to yourself, there is a nursery available during each service. It is located in Room 205 at the south end of the church. Our ushers and greeters will be happy to direct you.

TO THE LARGER CONGREGATION

- Remember that the presence of children is a gift of hope for the future.
- Remember that the way we welcome children in worship directly affects the way they think about the church, Christianity, and even God.
- Let children know that they are at home in God's house.
- A smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small, active children.

FEEL FREE TO REMAIN SEATED

If, for any reason (health, comfort, personal preference, etc.), you need/prefer to remain seated throughout the service, please do so. Don't give into peer pressure. You be you!

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: Those grieving the loss of Jani Schwartz (Rita Everson's Sister) [7/25], those grieving the loss of Jackie Brown (Janice Hoffman's Sister) [8/1], those grieving the loss of Sandy Sleichter [8/1], Betty Cox [8/15].

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS: Those grieving the loss of Teresa Terpening (friend of Pam Jackson) [7/18], Kim Goodman [7/15/2018].

THOSE WORSHIPING FROM HOME: Gary Donley, Evelyn York, Velma Becker, Joe Clemence, Steve Crump, Margie Miller, Ray Power, Marla Rutz, Donna Smith, Martha Zutavern, Donna Richards, Dorothy Veach, Darlene Sexton, Melvin Leckron, Dorothy Snider, Linda Chase, Verl Eckman.

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, County Commissioners, the County Attorney, and other elected officials and the judiciary (1 Timothy 2:1-4).

DISTRICT PRAYER CALENDAR: Today we pray for the Chapman First United Methodist Church and their pastor, Connie Wooldridge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INSTALLATION OF KAREN RICE RATZLAFF — Karen Rice Ratzlaff will be formally installed as the new District Superintendent of the Hutchinson and Salina Districts on August 15, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at First UMC in Salina. Bishop Saenz will be there and all United Methodists in the two Districts (including all of you) are invited to attend. (J. Collins, 8/8/21)

VOICES: BENEDICT OF NURSIA — In my preparatory work, I found a prayer attributed to Benedict of Nursia (c. 480–547). I didn't have room for a place for it in today's service, but I wanted to share it with you nonetheless:

O gracious and holy God,
give us diligence to seek you,
wisdom to perceive you,
and patience to wait for you.

Grant us, O God,
a mind to meditate on you,
eyes to behold you,
ears to listen for your Word,
a heart to love you,
and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the Spirit
of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

— Benedict of Nursia

(John Collins, 8/8/21)

POSSIBLE MISSION PROJECT — Andrea Purvis brought a possible project to the Mission and Outreach Team: Care Portal. This is a means by which we can help kids in foster care in Dickinson County. You can learn more at www.careportal.org.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS — Wendy Robinson and Karlene Taylor again having an exciting year planned for our youth. They will again be hosting a Drive-Thru Trick or Treat, providing a video Christmas program, leading a worship service, taking a trip to the lake, working a community service project or two, preparing care packages for college students and community helpers, making subs for a fundraiser, organizing an Easter Breakfast for the congregation, a marathon lock in and countless other activities.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN — The first meeting of UMW will be on Wednesday, September 1, at noon. This will be a covered dish meal.

WANT TO TALK TO THE PASTOR? — John's contact information is on the back page of this bulletin, or you can write a note on the back of the attendance insert.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP? — Are you interested in joining the First United Methodist Church as a member and making a formal commitment to God, the church, and yourself? If so, please communicate with the pastor in person or by using the contact information found on the back of the bulletin.

NURSERY — A nursery is provided for children during each service. It is located in Room 205 near the south entrance to the church. If you need assistance locating the nursery, our ushers and greeters will be happy to direct you, but please note our "to those with young children" section.

WE'RE ON THE RADIO AND STREAMING ONLINE — If you can't make it to church, but would like to listen to one of our services live, simply tune into KABI 1560 AM at 10:30 a.m. You can also stream the worship service on our Vimeo channel.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

Blessing of Backpacks for School Children

8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / Online Streaming

9:20 a.m. Small Groups & Sunday School Classes

10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / KABI 1560 AM

2:00 p.m. Youth Group Swim Party

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

Church Office Closed

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

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

5:00 p.m. Memorials Committee - 200

7:00 p.m. Staff Parish Meeting - 200

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

6:00 p.m. Communion via Zoom

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins

9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / Online Streaming

9:20 a.m. Small Groups & Sunday School Classes

10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / KABI 1560 AM

2:00 p.m. Power and Light Swim Party @ Taylors

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24

- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 7:00 p.m. EOTT Quilt Guild - Wright Hall

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

- 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Power & Light
- 6:00 p.m. Communion via Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group
- 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

- 5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins
- 9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group
- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

- 9:00 a.m. Preschool Screening

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

- 8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / Online Streaming
- 9:20 a.m. Small Groups & Sunday School Classes
- 10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / KABI 1560 AM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- 12:00 p.m. UMW Potluck Luncheon - Wright Hall
- 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Power & Light
- 6:00 p.m. Communion via Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group
- 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir

NOTES

DOODLES

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please note that **bold type** indicates congregational participation. An asterisk (*) indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able. "UMH" stands for *The United Methodist Hymnal* (blue book); "FWS" stands for *The Faith We Sing* (black book); and "WS" 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

Kristy Engle and Angie Hoerner, Piano
Jason Vinduska and Velda Becker, Liturgists
Ward Turnbull and Tyler Green, Sound
Ward Turnbull and Jackson Green, Slides
Jack Hunter, Special Music

CONTACT INFORMATION

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