



**AN ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

August 29, 2021 | Fourteenth 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*

He Lives

UMH-310

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

Song of Solomon 2:8-13 (NRSV)

⁸The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.

⁹My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.

Look, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.

¹⁰ My beloved speaks and says to me:

“Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;

¹¹ for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.

¹² The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.

¹³ The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.

HYMN*

You Alone Can Rescue

On Screen

Who oh Lord could save themselves,
their own soul could heal.
Our shame was deeper than the sea.
Your grace is deeper still.

Who oh Lord could save themselves,
their own soul could heal.
Our shame was deeper than the sea.
Your grace is deeper still.

You alone can rescue, You alone can save.
You alone can lift us from the grave.
You came down to find us, led us out of death.
To You alone belongs the highest praise.

You oh Lord have made a way,
the great divide you heal.

For when our hearts were far away,
Your love went further still.
Yes, your love goes further still.

You alone can rescue, You alone can save.
You alone can lift us from the grave.
You came down to find us, led us out of death
to You alone belongs the highest praise.

We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes,
You're the giver of life.
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes,
You're the giver of life.
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes,
You're the giver of life.
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes,
You're the giver of life.

You alone can rescue, You alone can save
You alone can lift us from the grave.

You came down to find us led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise.
To You alone belongs the highest praise.

Children's Message

Scripture Reading

Mark 7:1-8, 14-23 (NRSV)

¹ Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴ and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash

it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?”

⁶ He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;

⁷ in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

⁸ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

...

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

¹⁷ When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸ He said to them, “Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, ¹⁹ since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.)

²⁰ And he said, “It is what comes out of a person that defiles. ²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

HYMN*

Sing With All the Saints in Glory

UMH-702

Scripture Reading

James 1:19-27 (NRSV)

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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*

Gloria Patri

UMH-71

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy and gracious God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
and missed your purpose for our lives.
Some of our sin is known to us—
the thoughts and words and deeds
of which we are ashamed.
Some of our sin is known only to you.
In the name of Jesus Christ,
we ask for deliverance, forgiveness, and restoration.**

(Silent Prayers of Confession.)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves.
But if we confess our sin,
God is faithful and just to forgive our sin
and cleans us from all unrighteousness.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

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Invitation to the Offering

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

(If you are a guest, please feel no obligation to give.)

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*

Take My Life And Let It Be

UMH-399

Dismissal with Blessing and Postlude*

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: Donna Smith [8/29], Betty Cox [8/15].

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS: Judy Herbel (friend of Pam Jackson). [8/29] Those grieving the loss of Lorie Flippo [8/22], William Audley (friend of Leslie Hoffman) [8/29]

THOSE THE WORLD OVER: The people of Afghanistan and Haiti.

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 Concordia First United Methodist Church, Trinity United Methodist Church, and their pastor, Melanie Adams.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LITTLE FREE PANTRY COLLECTION: Next Sunday, September 5, 2021, we'll be taking up a collection for the Little Free Pantry. You can contribute cash or food items. If you choose to bring food, we especially need Energy/Snack/Granola bars, peanut butter and jelly, pancake mix (the kind that only needs water is best), macaroni, canned meat/fish, individual cereal packets, pasta, spaghetti sauce, fruit snacks, snack bars, canned fruit, and self-contained microwaveable meals, personal hygiene products, and water.

VOICES: THE SOURCE OF JOY

A keen insight on the nature of joy from Henri J. M. Nouwen:

“Joy does not come from positive predictions about the state of the world. It does not depend on the ups and downs of the circumstances of our lives. Joy is based on the spiritual knowledge that, while the world in which we live is shrouded in darkness, God has overcome the world. Jesus says it loudly and clearly: ‘In the world you will have troubles, but rejoice, I have overcome the world.’ ”

We can rejoice even during the tough times because we know that in the end, As Nouwen says, “God’s light is more real than all the darkness, that God’s truth is more powerful than all human lies, that God’s love is stronger than death.” I pray that you may find joy.

(John Collins, 8/22/21)

YOUTH PRAISE BAND — The youth praise band will provide special music and lead some hymns on Sunday, September 5, 2021. Members are Braden Adams, Magda Meneley, Maren Meneley, Carson Woodworth, and Jensen Woodworth.

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.

BLOOD DRIVE — A PSA from Molly Burton: Abilene High School is hosting a blood drive on Sunday, August 29th from 12-6PM. We would love to have you come donate. Your donation will not only help save lives, it will also help two Abilene seniors earn college scholarships. You can use this link to sign up or reply to this email with the time(s) that would work for you. Thanks! Link: <https://rcblood.org/2XKuw8H>

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.

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 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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- 5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins
- 9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group
- 9:30 a.m. EOTT Quilt Guild - Peatling
- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts - Peatling

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- 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, SEPTEMBER 7

- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee - 200

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- 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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- 5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins
- 9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group
- 9:30 a.m. EOTT Quilt Guild - Peatling
- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts - Peatling

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- 6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- 9:30 a.m. Cancer Support Group - 200
- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 12:00 p.m. Retired Teachers' Luncheon - Wright Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Church Council - 200

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- 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

NOTES AND 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 Amanda Cormack, Piano
Kevin Bailey and Jensen Woodworth, Liturgists
Wendy Robinson and Carson Woodworth, Sound
Chantay Porter and Brooke Woodworth, Slides

CONTACT INFORMATION

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