



**AN ORDER OF  
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

October 10, 2021 | Twentieth 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](http://www.abilenefirstumc.org)

# GATHERING

Gathering of the Congregation

Welcome and Announcements

**HYMN\***

*Mighty to Save*

On Screen

## 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 22 (NRSV)

*Liturgist:* <sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me,  
from the words of my groaning?

<sup>2</sup> O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
and by night, but find no rest.

*Pastor:* <sup>3</sup> Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> In you our ancestors trusted;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.

<sup>5</sup> To you they cried, and were saved;  
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

*Liturgist:* <sup>6</sup> But I am a worm, and not human;  
scorned by others, and despised by the people.

<sup>7</sup> All who see me mock at me;  
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

<sup>8</sup> "Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—  
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

*Pastor:* <sup>9</sup> Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

<sup>10</sup> On you I was cast from my birth,  
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

<sup>11</sup> Do not be far from me,  
for trouble is near  
and there is no one to help.

*Liturgist:* <sup>12</sup> Many bulls encircle me,  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

<sup>13</sup> they open wide their mouths at me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.

*Pastor:* <sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water,  
and all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart is like wax;

it is melted within my breast;  
<sup>15</sup> my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
you lay me in the dust of death.

*Liturgist:* <sup>16</sup> For dogs are all around me;  
a company of evildoers encircles me.

My hands and feet have shriveled;

<sup>17</sup> I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me;

<sup>18</sup> they divide my clothes among themselves,

and for my clothing they cast lots.

*Pastor:* <sup>19</sup> But you, O LORD, do not be far away!

O my help, come quickly to my aid!

<sup>20</sup> Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog!

<sup>21</sup> Save me from the mouth of the lion!

*Liturgist:* From the horns of the wild oxen  
you have rescued me.

<sup>22</sup> I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

<sup>23</sup> You who fear the LORD, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup> For he did not despise or abhor  
the affliction of the afflicted;  
he did not hide his face from me,  
but heard when I cried to him.

*Pastor:* <sup>25</sup> From you comes  
my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

<sup>26</sup> The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.  
May your hearts live forever!

*Liturgist:* <sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.

<sup>28</sup> For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.

*Pastor:* <sup>29</sup> To him, indeed,  
shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;

before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
and I shall live for him.

<sup>30</sup> Posterity will serve him;

future generations will be told about the Lord,

<sup>31</sup> and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.

**HYMN\***

*Sings My Soul (Rejoice!)*

On Screen

Children's Message

Special Music

*Oceans*

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 4:12-16 (NRSV)

<sup>12</sup> Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. <sup>13</sup> And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

<sup>14</sup> Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**HYMN\***

*10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)*

On Screen

Scripture Reading

Mark 10:17-31 (NRSV)

<sup>17</sup> As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what

must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>18</sup> Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.' " <sup>20</sup> He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." <sup>21</sup> Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." <sup>22</sup> When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

<sup>23</sup> Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" <sup>24</sup> And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup> They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" <sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

<sup>28</sup> Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." <sup>29</sup> Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, <sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

**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

(A time of silent prayers of confession.)

Words of Assurance

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\***

*Reckless Love*

On Screen

Dismissal with Blessing\*

Postlude\*

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\*\* Meaning: *Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.*

## **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 River Millner [10/10]

**COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS:** Those mourning the death of Margaret McKisick (Anna Gugler's aunt) [10/10], James Galstad (brother in-law of Sandi & Greg Dutt) [10/10], those grieving the loss of Nathen Bailey (Kevin Bailey's father) [10/3], Phyllis Garrett [9/19], Joetta Nagely [9/19]

**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, Jackson Ranles, 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 Jamestown-Huscher United Methodist Church and their pastor, Randy Whitley.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **THE YOUTH PRAISE BAND HAS RETURNED**

This Sunday we welcome the Youth Praise Band back to help lead worship. Members are Braden Adams, Magda Meneley, Maren Meneley, Carson Woodworth, Jensen Woodworth and Joy Clemence.

## **A NOTE FROM MARILYN JORDAN**

I am troubled and disheartened by the choice of some members of our church to leave. This is especially painful to me if these decisions are driven by objection to our church's inclusive welcome of LGBTQ+ folk. Please know that I accept your choice. But I wonder if whatever has contributed to it could be addressed through some avenues to express our concerns and differences and explore a way forward together. What would Jesus say and do? What will we?

## **A COLLECTION FOR THE LITTLE FREE PANTRY**

In our focus on World Communion Sunday last Sunday (October 3, 2021), we forgot to take up a collection for the Little Free Pantry. We're doing that today. You can leave donations of food and other items in the west hallway, use the special offering envelope, or bring in an offering mid-week.

## **VOICES: SHANE CLAIBORNE**

"Sometimes we speak to change the world; other times we speak to keep the world from changing us."

— Shane Claiborne, *The Irresistible Revolution*

Sometimes, it can seem pointless to name what's wrong with the world—especially when we don't think we have the power to change it. But that is when we speak the truth in order to keep the world from changing us. (10/10)

## **COFFEE AND COOKIES ARE BACK**

We recently restarted serving coffee and cookies after the 8:15 and 10:30 services last Sunday. This week, there will be a sign-up sheet available in the narthex (lobby) for those of you who would like to volunteer. (10/3)

## **FLEEING FROM HELL OR RUNNING TO GOD?** by John Collins

Today, I had a good, practical question about my sermon on Hell this past Sunday (September 26, 2021). The question boiled down to this: if Hell only means destruction, if the consequence of Hell is not eternal torment, but rather simply that one ceases to exist, what reason is there to turn to God? What follows are short versions of my two best answers.

First, most people want to continue to exist. Sometimes, on hectic days, I think ceasing to exist wouldn't be so bad—it would really free up my schedule—but most of the time, I fall into the human default position of wanting to continue being. When the early Methodists talked about “fleeing the wrath to come,” they were probably referring to eternal torment. However, for me, annihilation would still fall under the category of “the wrath to come.”

Second, while both fleeing Hell and moving toward God point you in the same general direction, your motivation can make a big difference. For example, would you want to marry someone who only wanted to get out of a bad situation, or would you prefer to marry someone who loved you and wanted to be with you? I think God will take us either way, but I can't help but think that God would rather we come because God's love pulls us in than that we come because the fear of Hell is pushing us away. Either way, we will be welcomed home, but our motivation makes a difference in the nature of our journey. (10/3)

## **ONE ZOOM TO RULE THEM ALL**

In an attempt to make attending Zoom meetings easier, We're trying something new. Instead of a different Zoom Meeting every time we get together, We've set up a standard zoom meeting for almost everything we do. The information is below.

### **Standard Zoom Meeting**

<https://bit.ly/38bf9qZ>

Meeting ID: 937 0998 7388 — Passcode: 67410

Manually Dial In With a Touch-Tone Phone

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 937 0998 7388 — Passcode: 67410

## **PERMANENT 8:15 LIVESTREAM LINK**

Below is what will hopefully be a permanent link for watching our 8:15 worship service live: [vimeo.com/event/1266906](https://vimeo.com/event/1266906).

## **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 at [abilenefirstumc.org](http://abilenefirstumc.org).

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10**

- 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, OCTOBER 11**

- 6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees - 200
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling
- 7:00 p.m. Sand Spring Rustlers 4-H Club

## **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12**

- 9:30 a.m. Cancer Support Group - 200
- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex

## **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13**

- 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
- 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir
- 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir

## **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14**

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

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17**

- 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, OCTOBER 18**

- 5:00 p.m. Memorials Committee - 200/Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Church Council - 200/Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling

## **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19**

- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 6:00 p.m. EOTT Quilt Board - 200

## **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20**

- 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
- 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir
- 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir

## **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21**

- 5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins
- 9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group
- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 5:30 p.m. Football Team Dinner - Wright Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts - Peatling

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17**

- 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, OCTOBER 18**

- 5:15 p.m. Memorials Committee Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

# 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

Amanda Cormack, Piano

Ward Turnbull and Kyle Adams, Liturgists

Joy Clemence, Sound

Troy Boyd and Blair Adams, Slides

Youth Praise Band (See Announcements)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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