



**AN ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

November 21, 2021 | Christ the King Sunday

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*

Mighty to Save

On Screen

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 24:7-10 (NRSV)

⁷ Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

⁸ Who is the King of glory?

**The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle.**

⁹ Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

¹⁰ Who is this King of glory?

**The LORD of hosts [angel armies],
he is the King of glory.**

Opening Prayer

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture Reading

Joel 2:21-27 (NRSV)

²¹ Do not fear, O soil;
be glad and rejoice,
for the LORD has done great things!

²² Do not fear, you animals of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;
the tree bears its fruit,
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

²³ O children of Zion, be glad
and rejoice in the LORD your God;
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.

²⁴ The threshing floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

²⁵ I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.

²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I, the LORD,
am your God and there is no other.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

HYMN* *All Creatures of Our God and King* On Screen

Children's Message

Special Music *Come Alive (Dry Bones)*

Scripture Reading 1 Timothy 2:1-7 (NRSV)

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers,
intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²
for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may

lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³
This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,
⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the
knowledge of the truth.

⁵ For

there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God
and humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human,

⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was
appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I
am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

HYMN*

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

On Screen

Scripture Reading

John 18:33-38 (NRSV)

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again,
summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the
Jews?” ³⁴ Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or
did others tell you about me?” ³⁵ Pilate replied, “I am not a
Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have
handed you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶ Jesus
answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my
kingdom were from this world, my followers would be
fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews.
But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” ³⁷ Pilate asked
him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am
a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the
world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the
truth listens to my voice.” ³⁸ Pilate asked him, “What is
truth?”

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

HYMN OF CONFESSION *Kyrie* FWS-2275

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*

Great Are You Lord

On Screen

Dismissal with Blessing*

Postlude*

**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 J.M Frey [11/21] and those grieving the loss of Elinor Haas [11/21].

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS: Rhoda Frasier [11/21], Lucky Seyler (Brother of Rita Everson) [10/14]

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 Randles, 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 Talmage-Bethany United Methodist Church and their pastor Julie Truhlar.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KYRIE ELEISON AND CHRISTE ELEISON — Our hymn of confession this morning is “Kyrie.” There are only three words: *Kyrie*, *Christe*, and *eleison*. *Kyrie* is the ancient Greek (the language of the New Testament) word for Lord; *Christe* is the ancient Greek word for Christ; and *eleison* means have mercy. It is a hymn in which we repeatedly ask Jesus for mercy, referring to him as both Christ and Lord. It works not only as a prayer of confession, but also as a hymn that can be sung in times of distress. I have sung it as a prayer of confession, I sang it to my dad when he was dying in the hospital, and I sometimes sing it to myself when I’m anxious or distraught. I’ve selected it for this Sunday morning because it’s easy to remember and because I believe it is a helpful spiritual tool to have available.

GOODY BAGS DELIVERED — Yesterday (November 16, 2021), volunteers delivered 280 small sacks filled with good things (like popcorn and mints) to the Abilene Memorial Health System. Attached to each sack was a note that read: “We appreciate your hard work and dedication to our community’s health and wellbeing. God bless and keep you. — The People of First United Methodist Church”

We did this because although the news has moved on, the effects of COVID-19 are still being felt in hospitals around the world, including our local hospital here in Abilene. We wanted to send all the employees a tangible reminder that they were not forgotten. That done, I would also encourage you to keep them in your prayers.

COMING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS — In anticipation of the Advent and Christmas seasons the Church Council approved the theme “Coming Home for Christmas.” A large banner with that theme, our website, and our regular Sunday Morning and Christmas Eve worship times has been ordered for the church grounds. The banner will be red to match the “Love Kindness” yard signs.

We’ve also placed another order of 100 “Love Kindness” yard signs for those who want a first one and those who want to replace the one they have.

SPRC APPOINTIVE RECOMMENDATION — There appears to be some speculation as to what the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) put down on their Appointive Recommendation for 2022. (The SPRC and the pastor make recommendations, the Bishop makes the final decision.) To clear up any confusion, I’m just going to share it with you. There were four options for the SPRC to choose from. They chose: “Our Mission can be met with our current pastor, but we would also be open to a new pastor who has gifts/skills in the area(s) of _____.” In the blank the SPRC wrote “fresh perspective to re-invigorate and help the church to grow.”

I want to be clear that I support and am in complete agreement with this assessment. Even though I think I can still be effective here, I think a new pastor with a fresh perspective would be very helpful as First UMC bounces back from the COVID-19 pandemic. — John Collins

WANT TO TALK TO THE PASTOR? — John’s contact information is 620-252-9622 (mobile phone) and john@revcollins.com, or you can write a note on the back of the attendance insert.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING — Singers are needed to go caroling around the historic buildings at Abilene Old Town. Please sign the green sheet in the church narthex or contact Clark Williamson (785) 280-3355. Our part in the festivities will take place Sunday, December 5th, 6-8 p.m. meeting at the Heritage Building.

YOUTH NEWS FROM WENDY — A big Thank You to everyone who donated to the Drive thru Trick or Treat financially and with bags of candy! The youth had fun passing out candy to all the kids who “loved” getting the candy.

We will be sending “Care Packages” again to our college kids this month. If you have a child in college please send their current college address to Wendy by November 17th. You can email the addresses to wendy@abilenefirstumc.org. If you would like to help with donations, a basket will be in the Narthex the next two Sundays. A basket will also be available for a note to send in each student's package.

Thank you in advance for supporting our children and youth!

The children and youth will be videotaping this year's Christmas Pageant on November 21st after church. The Pageant will be part of the worship service in December. If your child would like to be in the pageant please let Wendy know.

NEW BIBLE STUDY GROUP — I'm excited to be starting a new Bible discussion group on Wednesday, November 3, 2021. The plan is to meet every Wednesday from 5:15 to 5:55. Each week we'll begin with a 5-10 minute video from bibleproject.com. We'll be starting with a five-part series on Exodus 34:6-7 that looks at God's compassion, grace, slowness to anger, loyal love, and faithfulness.

You can participate in person in room 200 (the blue room) or online through Zoom. If you want to participate online, please let me know in advance so I can send you a link to the video before the meeting. — John Collins

CLUSTER CHURCH CONFERENCE — Our annual Church Conference is scheduled for Sunday, November 21, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at Salina Trinity UMC. We'll be meeting with Salina First UMC, Salina Trinity UMC, Salina Church of the Cross UMC, and Salina University UMC.

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.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP? — Are you interested in joining the Abilene 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.

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 the blog at revcollins.com by simply checking your email inbox. You can also reply with an email of your own and let us know what you think. You can sign up at tinyletter.com/jcollins11.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 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
- 4:00 p.m. Annual Church Conference @ Salina Trinity UMC

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
- No Evening Activities

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25

THANKSGIVING DAY - Offices Closed

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Offices Closed

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- 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, NOVEMBER 29

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

- 9:30 a.m. Prairie Art Quilters
- 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Power & Light
- 5:15 p.m. Bible Study Group
- 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, DECEMBER 2

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

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

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

Angie Hoerner, Piano

Jason Vinduska and Velda Becker, Liturgists

Joy Clemence, Sound

Joy Clemence and Blair Adams, Slides

CONTACT INFORMATION

John Collins, Pastor

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Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

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Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries

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Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor

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