



**AN ORDER OF  
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

January 23, 2022 | Third Sunday After the Epiphany

**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\***            *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*            UMH-340

## 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            Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup>Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. . . .

<sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup>Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. . . . <sup>8</sup>So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. <sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Special Music

*How Great Is our God*

Children's Message

Choral Anthem [10:30]

*For Eternity / Holy, Holy, Holy*

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31 (NRSV)

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less

a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

**HYMN\***

*Lord of the Dance*

UMH-261

## Scripture Reading

Luke 4:14-21 (NRSV)

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

## 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

(A time of silent prayers of confession.)

Words of Assurance

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.**



## **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:** Ellouise Marshall <sup>[1/09]</sup>,  
Hope Higgins <sup>[1/16]</sup>, and Don Rickley <sup>[1/16]</sup>

**COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS:** James Galstad (Greg Dutt's brother in law) <sup>[1/23]</sup>, Sonja Zeithamel (Pam Jackson's sister) <sup>[1/16]</sup>, those grieving the loss of Laurie Leder <sup>[1/09]</sup>

**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 Burr Oak United Methodist Church and their pastor Leslie Ellis.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **QUESTOR'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**

This adult Sunday School class is open for anyone interested in studies on Sunday morning. The class meets in room 200 following the first worship service. They will begin a brand new study on Romans starting Jan 23. It is a 6 week study with a DVD introduction each week. Feel free to join at 9:20 a.m.

## **COOKIES NEEDED FOR COFFEE TIME**

We are looking for donations of cookies to be shared during coffee time each week. If you could share, please leave cookies in the kitchen. You don't need to be available to serve them.

## **BIBLE STUDY**

We're having fun and learning a lot with the Bible studies from the BibleProject ([bibleproject.com](http://bibleproject.com)) You can join us in-person in room 200 or online by going to [bit.ly/3hyMOhO](http://bit.ly/3hyMOhO) any Wednesday at 5:15. You don't need to read anything ahead of time to participate. We'll begin with a five-six minute video introduction and then continue the discussion from there.

If you're thinking about joining us, please consider this testimony from Greg Root:

"I would like to encourage anyone interested in attending our Bible Study to do so to gain a deeper understanding of the Bible and share in this experience with our group. I've been attending this Bible Study via Zoom and have found it to be both engaging and enlightening."

## **LOOKING FOR A TIME CAPSULE**

This year we are celebrating our 152nd Anniversary as a church and we're pretty sure there is a time capsule on the premises. Anyone have any idea of where it is? We've gotten a few suggestions, but the tip line is still open.

## **MUSICALLY SPEAKING** by Clark Williamson

Ernest Hemingway entitled one of his novels, "For Whom the Bell Tolls." Here at First UMC, we toll bells in worship and praise of God. Currently, our adult Bell Choir is in need of some more ringers.

I'd like to invite any adult or high school student to consider this unique musical experience. There's nothing quite like ringing handbells with an ensemble. The ability to read music is not required. Please contact me after worship services or call me at 785-280-3355.

Your commitment could even be for this first handbell piece. Beginners will not be alone. Two of our current members started playing bells for the very first time just before the covid pandemic hit churches. Practices take place on Wednesdays at 7:00-7:45 p.m.

**WANT TO TALK TO THE PASTOR?** — John's mobile number is 620-252-9622 and his email is [john@revcollins.com](mailto:john@revcollins.com), or you can write a note on the back of the attendance insert.

**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.

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## **SUNDAY, JANUARY 23**

- 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, JANUARY 24**

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling

## **TUESDAY, JANUARY 25**

- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex

## **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26**

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Power & Light
- 5:15 p.m. Bible Discussion Group
- 6:00 p.m. Communion (in-person and Zoom)
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group
- 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal

## **THURSDAY, JANUARY 27**

- 5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins
- 9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group
- 5:30 p.m. Basketball Dinner
- 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

## **SUNDAY, JANUARY 30**

- 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, JANUARY 31**

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling

## **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex

6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee - 200

## **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

9:30 a.m. Prairie Arts Quilters

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

3:30 p.m. Power & Light

5:15 p.m. Bible Discussion Group

6:00 p.m. Communion (in-person and Zoom)

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal

## **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3**

5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins

9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group

9:30 a.m. Quilt Guild

5:30 p.m. Basketball Dinner

6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

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

# 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).

## BOUR 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 Anna Gugler, Piano

Jack Hunter, Special Music

Heather James and Linda Rist, Liturgists

Kaylee Weibert and Jackson Green, Sound

Kaxton Weibert and Tyler Green, Slides

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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