



**AN ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

January 30, 2022 | Fourth 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

GATHERING

Gathering of the Congregation

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn [8:15]	<i>This Is My Father's World</i>	UMH-144
Prelude [10:30]	<i>Morning Song of Praise</i>	Bell Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 75:1-3 (NRSV)

¹ In you, O LORD, I take refuge;

let me never be put to shame.

² In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;

incline your ear to me and save me.

³ Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress, to save me,

for you are my rock and my fortress.

Opening Prayer

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10 (NRSV)

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

⁶ Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷ But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a boy';
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,

and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD."

⁹ Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth;
and the LORD said to me,

"Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over
kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant."

HYMN*

Here I Am Lord

UMH-593

Children's Message

Choral Anthem [10:30]

Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 13 (NRSV)

¹ If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge,

it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

HYMN*

They'll Know We Are Christians

FWS-2223

Scripture Reading

Luke 4:16-30 (NRSV)

¹⁶ 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, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ "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,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ 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. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at

Capernaum.' " ²⁴ And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Sermon

"Blinded by the Light" by Rev. Pat Ault-Duell

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 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.**

(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.)

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* *How Firm A Foundation* UMH-529

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: Pastor John and Pastor Jenny, Ellouise Marshall ^[1/09], Hope Higgins ^[1/16], and Don Rickley ^[1/16]

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

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 Cawker City-Glen Elder United Methodist Churches and their pastor Earl Haggard.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A GUEST PREACHER TODAY — PASTOR JOHN HAS COVID-19

Pat Ault-Duell, a retired pastor and former District Superintendent, will be filling the pulpit today. Pastor John Collins started showing symptoms of what he thought was a cold last Saturday (January 22, 2022). Turns out it was Covid-19. The CDC's guidelines now only require 5 days quarantine and then 5 days wearing a mask. But John's doctor at the Heartland Health Care Clinic is still recommending a full 10 day quarantine. He will be back Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

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) You can join us in-person in room 200 or online by going to 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.

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 one of the pastors 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.

WANT TO TALK TO THE PASTOR? — John's mobile number is 620-252-9622 and his email is 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 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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- 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 10

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- 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

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

Rev. Pat Ault-Duell, Guest Preacher

Kristy Engle and Angie Hoerner, Piano

Jamie Linenberger and Andrea Purvis, Liturgists

Joy Clemence and Jensen Woodworth, Sound

Joy Clemence and Carson Woodworth, Slides

CONTACT INFORMATION

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