



**AN ORDER OF  
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

Transfiguration Sunday | February 27, 2022

**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\***

*It Is Well With My Soul*

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

Exodus 34:29-35 (NRSV)

<sup>29</sup> Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. <sup>30</sup> When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.

<sup>33</sup>When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; <sup>34</sup>but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, <sup>35</sup>the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

**HYMN\***

*10,000 Reasons*

On Screen

Children's Message

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 (NRSV)

<sup>12</sup>Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, <sup>13</sup>not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. <sup>14</sup>But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; <sup>16</sup>but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup>And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

## Scripture Reading

Luke 9:28-36 (NRSV)

<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup> Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup> They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup> Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup> While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

## Sermon

## Special Music

*The Sun Is Rising***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

Prayers of Intercession

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\***

*What A Friend*

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:** Velda Becker [2/20], Ellouise Marshall [2/06], those grieving the loss of Sara Burwell [2/06].

**COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS:** Those grieving the loss of Christopher Griffith (son of Christine Hoffman) [2/20], Judy Schroeder (friend of Leslie Hoffman) [2/20], Mike Jantz [2/06]

**THOSE WORSHIPING FROM HOME:** Gary Donley, Evelyn York, Velma Becker, Joe and Joanna 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, 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 Concordia Trinity United Methodist Church and their pastor Kibum Kim.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE PRAISE BAND IS BACK!** — We're happy to have the First UMC praise band back with us today. Members are Braden Adams (drums), Magda Meneley (keyboard), Maren Meneley (vocals and uke), Carson Woodworth (guitar), Jensen Woodworth (bass), and Joy Clemence (tech).

## **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES**

Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday (March 2, 2022). We'll have two services. The first will be at 12:15 p.m. and the second will be at 5:45 p.m. The second service will include communion. Neither service should last more than 30 minutes.

## **VOICES: THICK SKIN, TENDER HEART** by John Collins

Words of wisdom from Rachel Held Evan's final book, *Wholehearted Faith*:

"Thick skin, tender heart."

You never want to toughen up so much that you lose your tender heart, the part of you that experiences and processes pain and compassion and love. . . . Sometimes you have to remind yourself that it is okay, and not just okay but normal and right and good, to feel hurt when someone calls you names or questions your faith.

I'm just as uncomfortable with uncertainty and emotional exposure as the next person, but I also know that just about every sociological study on the subject shows that meaningful connection requires risk and vulnerability, and you can't argue with that data.

"Thick skin, tender heart." I'm taking that advice to heart in hopes of becoming more Christlike and fully human.

## **A FEW THOUGHTS ON BAPTISM** by John Collins

There's been a story in the news about a clergy person in another denomination who baptized people with the wrong pronoun ("we" instead of "I"). I don't know enough about that other denomination to weigh in according to their theology, but in the United Methodist Church this would be a non-issue. Below are a few of the reasons.

1. I may have baptized you, but God did the heavy lifting. And for this I am thankful, it would be really hard for me to screw up a baptism because God's doing the majority of the work. To think I could do so by using the wrong pronoun would be to take too much credit for what is primarily an act of God.
2. I do follow the traditional rubric of "Name, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost". But this is not a spell from the fictional world of Harry Potter that won't work unless it is said in just the right way. This is a sacrament, the grace of God is at work and the Holy Spirit will not be turned aside by a simple mistake on the part of the pastor. Furthermore Jesus said to baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19)— but he never gave us an exact wording with the proper pronouns.
3. What happens if more than one person does the baptism? Jenny and I have done a lot of them together. I don't remember ever saying we, but it certainly would have been appropriate. I've got more, but I'm going to stop there.

**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](http://revcollins.com) by simply checking your email inbox. You can sign up at [tinyletter.com/jcollins11](http://tinyletter.com/jcollins11).

**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.

**YOUR NEW PASTOR** — Yesterday, at both worship services, Jill Lang, the chair of the SPRC, shared the following letter from Bishop Reuben Saenz:

Dear Friends,

The cabinet and I are pleased to announce that Mik King will be appointed as your pastoral leader beginning July 1, 2022. This appointment concludes a thorough process during which the staff parish committee of your church has been consulted along with Mik. We have prayed asking for God's wisdom about the best available leadership for your church and this is our decision.

As with all appointments, this one will be fixed during the annual conference closing session on June 11, 2022.

I extend my best wishes and prayers to you all during this transition of pastoral leadership for your congregation.

Grace and peace,

Ruben Saenz, Jr.

As I told the congregation at both services, Mik is both a colleague and a friend. And not only a friend but also one of my best friends.\* I believe she is an excellent fit for this congregation.

\*If you dread another pastor like me—fear not; she's my friend, not my clone. For example, she's a little bit shorter and a whole lot nicer.

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

- 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 28**

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

## **TUESDAY, MARCH 1**

- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 12:00 p.m. Retired School Personnel - Wright Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee

## **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2 - ASH WEDNESDAY**

- 9:30 a.m. Prairie Arts Quilters - 208
- 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

## **THURSDAY, MARCH 3**

- 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 Board
- 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

## **SUNDAY, MARCH 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, MARCH 7**

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

## **TUESDAY, MARCH 8**

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

## **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 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, MARCH 10**

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

# 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

Kristy Engle and Angie Hoerner, Piano

Mary Jane Oard and Sandi Dutt, Liturgists

First UMC Praise Band Members: Braden Adams (drums),  
Magda Meneley (keyboard), Maren Meneley (vocals and uke),  
Carson Woodworth (guitar), Jensen Woodworth (bass), and Joy  
Clemence (tech).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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