



**AN ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

Fourth Sunday in Lent | March 27, 2022

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Church of Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors.

601 North Cedar, Abilene, Kansas 67410

785-263-2623 — www.abilenefirstumc.org

GATHERING

Gathering of the Congregation

Welcome and Announcements

HYMN*

Maker, In Whom We Live

UMH-88

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 Lesson

Psalm 32:1-11 (NRSV)

¹ Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

² Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³ While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;

himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

HYMN*

Amazing Grace

UMH-378

Scripture Reading

Luke 15:1-2, 11-32 (NRSV)

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

...

¹¹ Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against

heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.” ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

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

Prayers of Intercession

Invitation to the Offering

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

(If you are a guest, please feel no obligation to give. This is simply one of the ways we worship God.)

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*

Mighty to Save

WS-3038

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: Carol Fick ^[3/20], Sondra Murnohan, ^[3/20], Ellouise Marshall ^[2/06], and those grieving the loss of Verl Eckman ^[3/06],

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS: Those grieving the loss of Mike Johnson ^[3/27], Kathy Swisher (daughter of Eunice Gay) ^[3/27], Nathan Smith (son of Bob and Pandi Smith) ^[3/20], those grieving the loss of Jim Belvill (brother of Maria Nuss, friend of Anna Gugler) ^[3/27]

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.

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 Enterprise United Methodist Church and their pastor Arnold Boyd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THINGS I WANT YOU TO KNOW AS I LEAVE #1 by John Collins
On my appointive assessment this past year, I indicated to the Bishop and Cabinet that I was ready for a move. (I thought it best for both you and for me). June 30 will be the last day that I have pastoral responsibility for Abilene First UMC. July 1 will be the first day of my appointment at College Avenue UMC in Manhattan. I will be serving full time there and so I will not be coming back to Abilene to serve in any pastoral role. (Rev. Mik King told me I was welcome to come back for funeral sermons, but I said no because I strongly believe that all my professional time should be rendered to the church to which I am appointed.) I will no longer be your pastor, but Jenny and I hope to remain your friends.

Those of you who met Mik this past Sunday have a sense of how capable and compassionate she is. You'll be in good hands. Funerals and weddings are services that bind a congregation and a new pastor together and I want your relationship with Mik to be as strong as possible.

2022 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications for our 2022-2023 College Scholarships are available at <https://abilenefirstumc.org/downloads/>. The deadline for applications is Friday, April 8.

SERVING AT THE SALINA RESCUE MISSION — We're looking to start preparing and serving meals at the Salina Rescue Mission again. Let Pastor John know if you're interested in participating in this ministry.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY SUNDAY — Next Sunday, April 3, 2022, is a first Sunday of the month. That means we'll be receiving collections for the Little Free Pantry (both cash and pantry

items). Below are some suggested items:

Energy/Snack/Granola bars, peanut butter and jelly, pancake mix (the kind that only needs water is best), macaroni, canned meat/fish, individual cereal packets, pasta, spaghetti sauce, fruit snacks, snack bars, canned fruit, and self-contained microwaveable meals, personal hygiene products, and water.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN — The next meeting of UMW will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. The guest speaker will be from the Love Chloe Foundation, Salina. This is a non-profit benefiting children who have cancer. It provides a way for teachers to help educate and classmates to be involved in a special way to help these children. Please join the women to hear this special presentation.

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.

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 sign up at tinyletter.com/jcollins11.

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.

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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 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
- 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class

MONDAY, MARCH 28

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Power & Light
- 5:15 p.m. Bible Discussion Group (in-person and Zoom)
- 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 31

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

- 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
- 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class

MONDAY, APRIL 4

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

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

6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee - 200

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

9:30 a.m. Prairie Arts Quilters

9:30 a.m. UMW Coffee-Special Program

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, APRIL 7

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

6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

SUNDAY, APRIL 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

5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class

MONDAY, APRIL 11

- 6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees - 200
- 7:00 p.m. Sand Springs 4-H - Wright Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Design - 200
- 7:30 p.m. Scholarship Committee

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 9:30 a.m. Cancer Support Group
- 6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee - 200

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

- 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, APRIL 14

- 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 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

Shauni Larson and Joy Clemence, Liturgists

Kaylee Weibert and Jackson Green, Sound

Kaxton Weibert and Tyler Green, Slides

CONTACT INFORMATION

John Collins, Pastor

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Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor

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