



**AN ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

Second Sunday of Easter | April 24, 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

GATHERING

Gathering of the Congregation

Welcome and Announcements

HYMN*

The Day of Resurrection

UMH-303

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture Reading

Psalm 150 (NRSV)

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty firmament!

² Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

³ Praise him with trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp!

⁴ Praise him with tambourine and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe!

⁵ Praise him with clanging cymbals;
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

⁶ Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD!

HYMN**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

UMH-139

Children's Message

Presentation of Bibles to Second and Third Graders

Choral Anthem [10:30]

By Your Mercy

Scripture Reading

Acts 5:27-32 (NRSV)

²⁷ When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

HYMN**Christo Vive (Christ Is Risen)*

UMH-313

Scripture Reading

John 20:19-31 (NRSV)

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you

forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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.**

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS [8:15]

Linenbergers

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;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

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*

The Summons

UMH-2130

Dismissal with Blessing and 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: Greg Root ^[4/10], Diedre Dunham ^[4/3], Carol Fick ^[3/20], Ellouise Marshall ^[2/06].

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS: Clara Thomas (infant granddaughter of Darrol & Diedre Dunham) ^[4/24], Monica VanRossun (Pam Simpson's son's fiancée) ^[4/24], Becky Frederick and Carol Kruse (sisters of Kent Wyatt) ^[4/17], Rick and Maggie Brockman (son and daughter in law of Pam Jackson) ^[4/10], Barbara Stultz (sister of Fran Hunt, friend of Judy Jones) ^[4/3], Kathy Swisher (daughter of Eunice Gay) ^[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 Gypsum United Methodist Church and their pastor Rebecca Stredney.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THINGS I WANT YOU TO KNOW AS I LEAVE #3 by John Collins

I probably should have shared this when I came, but I'm sharing it now. I fear that we've missed some opportunities to connect. I don't know that you need or want a pastoral visit unless you let me know. There are two reasons for this.

First, because of HIPAA, I don't have any way of knowing you are in the hospital unless you let me know or have someone else let me know.

Second, being raised in Kansas, I was taught that you don't invite yourself over to other people's homes. Instead, you wait for an invitation. As someone who often wants to be alone when I'm hurting this makes sense to me. If you need or want a visit, I'm more than happy to come but very reluctant to invite myself over.

Third, unless you tell me otherwise, I'll generally assume that you want me to reply in the same manner that you contact me. So, for example, if you text me, I'll take it you prefer that I text you back unless you tell me you want a phone call or an in-person visit.

I'm sharing this even though it's about time for me to leave because every pastor I know faces this challenge. I'm sharing this in the hope that it might be helpful for your relationships with future pastors.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE CARDS by John Collins

Once again we have cards to be signed by the entire congregation in the back of the Narthex (the lobby). Please take the time to sign. These cards can be a real encouragement to folks who are sick.

FIRST UMC PRAISE BAND TO PERFORM by Braden Adams

The High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) group is hosting an event for the whole community on Sunday, April 24, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. at the Rec Center! Our FUMC praise band will be playing at the event, and will be joined by the mascot of the Kansas City Chiefs, Dan Meers. He is a motivational Christian speaker and will be sharing his story. More information at abilenefca.com! Hope to see you there!

THINGS I WANT YOU TO KNOW AS I LEAVE #4 by John Collins

My colleague, Amanda Baker, wrote what follows about funerals. I'm thankful that she gave me permission to share it with you. Hopefully, it helps to explain why I don't believe you need me to come back to officiate at funerals after I move.

"It isn't hard for skilled clergy to preach a funeral for a person we've never met. I know that sounds strange, but it's true. Meeting the family and gathering the stories and tidbits that tell us about a person's life and witness are some of the best things we get to do, and I promise it's enough. When we do know the person, we nearly ALWAYS learn things we hadn't known, and, to tell the truth, we're much more at risk of skewing the service with our own perception of the person."

"We bring an understanding of the grief process, a theology of resurrection, the tradition of the Church, and a willingness to listen. You bring the stories and the love, and together they create the right service for the person you love."

"I know many of you have been to a service where it was wildly evident the officiant didn't know anything about the deceased. But that isn't really the problem. The problem is that they didn't listen to the people who did."

2022-2023 CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship Committee met recently and awarded scholarships to everyone who applied. Recipients were: Braden Adams, Sam Burton, Joy Clemence, Chesney Sprinkle, Rae Schwarting, Sydney Burton, Beth Holmes, Maren Menely, Claire Weishaar, and Reagan Ditto.

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.

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.

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 UMC as a member and making a formal commitment to God, the church, and yourself? If so, please let Pastor John know.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

- 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 25

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 7:00 p.m. EOTT Quilt Guild - Wright Hall

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

- 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 28

- 5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins
- 9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group
- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

- 9:00 p.m. Youth Eisenhower Marathon Lock-in

SUNDAY, MAY 1

- 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, MAY 2

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

TUESDAY, MAY 3

- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 12:00 p.m. Dickinson County Retired School Personnel
- 6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee - 200

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

- 9:30 a.m. Prairie Art 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, MAY 5

- 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

SUNDAY, MAY 9 — Confirmation Sunday

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

Anna Gugler and Angie Hoerner, Piano
TBA and Lynn Peterson, Liturgists
Shannon James and Wendy Robinson, Sound
Chantay Porter and Molly Burton, Slides

CONTACT INFORMATION

John Collins, Pastor
620-252-9622 (Mobile) — john@revcollins.com

Pam Simpson, Office Administrator
Phone: 785-263-2623 — office@abilenefirstumc.org

Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries
wendy@abilenefirstumc.org

Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries
clark@abilenefirstumc.org

Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor
parishvisitor@abilenefirstumc.org