



**AN ORDER OF  
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

Senior Recognition Day | Fifth Sunday of Easter | May 15, 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

Prelude [8:15]

Bell Choir Prelude [10:30]

*The Water Is Wide*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed!**

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Opening Prayer

**HYMN\***

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

UMH-62

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture Reading

Revelation 21:1-7 (NRSVue)

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them;



## Scripture Reading

Acts 11:1-18 (NRSVue)

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?"

<sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the

same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?"

<sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

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

Presenting 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\*** *They'll Know We Are Christians* FWS-2223

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:** Diedre Dunham <sup>[4/3]</sup>, Carol Fick <sup>[3/20]</sup>, Ellouise Marshall <sup>[2/06]</sup>.

**COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS:** Michael Heger's aunt Vita <sup>[5/15]</sup>, Mary Collins (mother of John) <sup>[5/15]</sup>, Lucky Seyler, (brother of Rita Everson) <sup>[5/1]</sup>, Clara Thomas (infant granddaughter of Darrol & Diedre Dunham) <sup>[4/24]</sup>, Kathy Swisher (daughter of Eunice Gay) <sup>[3/27]</sup> and those grieving the loss of Ken Simpson (Pam Simpson's father in law) <sup>[5/15]</sup>,

**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 Hunter Grace Chapel United Methodist Church and their pastor Jeffrey Metzler.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **SENIOR HIGH GRADUATES OF AHS 2022**

These students are being honored today: Braden Adams, Samuel Burton, Joy Clemence, Nick Holmes, and Maren Meneley. Please congratulate them when you see them.

## **THINGS I WANT YOU TO KNOW #6**

Sometimes, I'll ask you "does that make sense?" A tweet from Twitter user @DrAmyPsyD explains what I'm thinking:

"When I say, 'Does that make sense?,' it's not because I don't think you're smart. It's because I think that I am incoherent."

I wish I had seen this nine years ago and been able to share it with you then, but this is exactly what I'm thinking when I ask that question in a sermon.

## **FINAL BIBLE STUDY AND COMMUNION**

This Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 6 p.m. we'll be celebrating our final Wednesday Communion in room 200.

Prior to that, beginning at 5:15, we'll have our final Wednesday Bible Study on eternal life. You can attend in person in room 200 or you can join us via Zoom at [wp.me/P3IZ7I-nZ](https://wp.me/P3IZ7I-nZ). You don't need to read anything ahead of time to participate. (Most people don't.) We'll begin with a short video introduction and then continue the discussion from there. If you want to watch the video or study the materials ahead of time you can go to [bit.ly/3PuXznc](https://bit.ly/3PuXznc). For the past nine years I've been trying to explain how salvation begins here and now and continues into forever in the life to come. If you want to hear an explanation of the same phenomena from a different perspective, this is the Bible Study for you. I hope to see you there.

## **MEMBERS OF THIS YEAR'S CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Members of this year's confirmation class were: Shane Bryant, Ethan Gonzales, Jackson Green, Tyler Green, Eyler Holt, Luke Hunter, Emily Vinduska, and Kaylee Weibert.

## **PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR MAY AND JUNE**

May 15	John Collins
May 22	John Collins
May 29	Peggy Riley
June 5	Rick Saylor
June 12	Mark Queen
June 19	John Collins
June 26	Amanda Cormack

## **THINGS I WANT YOU TO KNOW #5**

I've heard through the grapevine that a going away party is being planned for me. I'm not entirely sure who all is planning this, so I'm just going to share my preferences here. I would prefer not to have a stand alone party. I would prefer that Jenny be included because we were unable to have a farewell for her due to Covid-19.

We get the keys to the Manhattan townhouse on June 1. The moving truck departs with our stuff on June 15, my last Sunday will be June 19. Jenny and I are looking forward to sharing Holy Communion with you during that service. It would be great to have either our regular spread or some cake and punch-coffee-tea-whatever afterwards as we say goodbye to all of you. That's really all we want or need.

**WANT TO TALK TO THE PASTOR?** — John's mobile phone number is 620-252-9622 and his email is [john@revcollins.com](mailto:john@revcollins.com).

## **GRADUATION RECEPTION FOR JOY CLEMENCE**

Please join us in celebrating Joy Clemence's graduation! We will have a come and go brunch on Saturday, May 21st from 10:30am-1:30pm in Wright Hall at Abilene First United Methodist Church.

## **FOOD PANTRY MONTH**

May is the month First UMC traditionally provides food and funds for the operation of the Abilene Area Food Pantry. The pantry's main needs are:

**Baking Supplies:** cake and muffin mixes, frosting, oil, flour, and sugar. **Canned Foods:** fruit, vegetables, soup, condiments, and meat substitutes. **Cereal:** hot cereal, cold cereal, and cereal and breakfast bars. **Cleaning Supplies:** laundry soap, dish soap, and hand soap. **Paper Goods:** toilet tissue, paper towels, napkins, and facial tissue. **Pastas:** macaroni, noodles, and spaghetti. **Personal Hygiene Items:** shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, women's feminine products, disposable diapers, men's shaving supplies, hand and body lotions, and creams. **Meats:** any kind of canned meat and fish, especially tuna. **Miscellaneous:** peanut butter, jelly, coffee, tea, ramen noodles, rice, dry beans, crackers, juice, syrup, instant potatoes, hamburger helpers, spices, salt and pepper, jello mixes, and pudding mixes.

Grocery sacks are available in the sanctuary. You're invited to take one home, fill it up, and to return it.

## **WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS**

On Sunday (April 24, 2022), we welcomed Jamie and Michael Linenberger into membership at the 8:15 service. Please be sure to take time to personally welcome them the next time you see them.

## **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.

## **A NOTE FROM BETTY ECKMAN**

In the Easter Sunday bulletin Pastor John wrote a note in regards to "Congregation Care Cards", on how important it is for you to sign these cards. Not only for those who are ill, but for those who are grieving. The card we received, with all your signatures, upon Verl's death, was so appreciated. Thank you from Betty and Family.

## **A NOTE FROM MARY RICKLEY**

Thank You to the congregational signed card that was sent to Don Rickley. He really enjoyed receiving it. Also, thank you to the Brussows and Eversons for driving over and spending an afternoon with him.

## **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 Meneley, Claire Weishaar, and Reagan Ditto.

**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, MAY 15**

Senior Recognition Day

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 16**

5:15 p.m. Memorials Committee - 200

6:00 p.m. Church Council - 200

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling

## **TUESDAY, MAY 17**

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

## **WEDNESDAY, MAY 18**

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

1:30 p.m. UMW Circle

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, MAY 19**

5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins

9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group

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

## **SATURDAY, MAY 21**

10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - Joy Clemence Reception

**SUNDAY, MAY 22**

- 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 23**

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

**TUESDAY, MAY 24**

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

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 25**

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, MAY 26**

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

**SUNDAY, MAY 29**

- 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 30**

- Office Closed - Memorial Day

# 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

Anna Gugler, Piano

Rick Williamson and Linda Rist, Liturgist

Carson Woodworth and Jackson Green, Sound

Carson Woodworth and Tyler Green, Slides

## CONTACT INFORMATION

John Collins, Pastor

620-252-9622 (Mobile) — [john@revcollins.com](mailto:john@revcollins.com)

Pam Simpson, Office Administrator

Phone: 785-263-2623 — [office@abilenefirstumc.org](mailto:office@abilenefirstumc.org)

Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

[wendy@abilenefirstumc.org](mailto:wendy@abilenefirstumc.org)

Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries

[clark@abilenefirstumc.org](mailto:clark@abilenefirstumc.org)

Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor

[parishvisitor@abilenefirstumc.org](mailto:parishvisitor@abilenefirstumc.org)