



AN ORDER OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

Sixth Sunday of Easter | May 22, 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* *This Is My Father's World* UMH-144

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 Genesis 12:1-3 (NRSVue)

¹ Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

HYMN* *Deep in the Shadows of the Past* FWS-2246

Children's Message

Scripture Reading John 1:1-5, 10-14, 16-18 (NRSVue)

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. . . .

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. . . . ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace., ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

HYMN**Lift High the Cross*

UMH-159

Scripture Reading Acts 10:34-43 (NRSVue)

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is

Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Sermon

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT [8:15]

THE APOSTLES' CREED* [10:30]

**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 AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**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.**

Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ, Christ who died for us and rose for us,
Thanks be to God who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

(If you are a guest, please feel no obligation to give.)

RESPONSE* *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH-94

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*

Standing on the Promises

UMH-374

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: Diedre Dunham ^[4/3], Carol Fick ^[3/20], Ellouise Marshall ^[2/06].

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

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 Huscher United Methodist Church and their pastor Randall Whitley.

CHURCH CALENDAR

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

TUESDAY, MAY 31

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

- 10:30 a.m. Staff meeting
- 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir practice

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 5 — 4-H Sunday

- 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, JUNE 6

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Peatling

TUESDAY, JUNE 7

- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise
- 6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

- Great Plains Annual Conference
- 5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil Begins
- 9:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group
- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIOR HIGH GRADUATES OF AHS 2022

These students were honored last Sunday: 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.

THINGS I WANT YOU TO KNOW #7

The seventh thing I want you to know is something that I wish I had shared when we first came. I'm not particularly eager to go to places/events by myself. Like most people, I get nervous going to places where I don't know anyone (or even where I know only a few people). Many, if not most, parishioners want their pastor to be active in the community. The best way you can help this along is to extend an invitation to a ball game, a concert, a play, a club meeting, the parade, the fair, etc.

Note: you don't need to pay your pastor's way when you invite them out. What my mother calls "Dutch Treat" is fine, even preferable. We're not looking for a free lunch, just your company.

PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR MAY AND JUNE

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

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.

WANT TO TALK TO THE PASTOR? — John's mobile phone number is 620-252-9622 and his email is john@revcollins.com.

VOICES: THE LAST SCENE IN THE BIBLE

I think we all know this, we simply need reminding of it from time to time.

“The last scene in the Bible isn’t about “saved souls” going up to heaven. It is about the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven to earth as the centerpiece of the “new heaven and new earth” promised by the prophets and reaffirmed by Jesus himself and his first followers.”

— N. T. Wright

I’m sharing this reminder now because it fits with my sermon for this Sunday.

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 Veri’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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

Name and Name, Acolytes

Ray Wyatt and Kent Wyatt, Liturgists

Kaylee Weibert and Wendy Robinson, Sound

Kaxton Weibert and Eyler Holt, Slides

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries

clark@abilenefirstumc.org

Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor

parishvisitor@abilenefirstumc.org