

# The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church

6th SUNDAY IN EASTER | 11:00 AM | MAY 5, 2024

## MUSIC OF PREPARATION

*Andante Moderato*  
Giuseppe Tartinni

Nicholas Bowden  
Director of Music & Organist

## INTROIT

*All That Hath Life and Breath*  
René Clausen

Chancel Choir

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Drew West  
Assistant Minister of Families and Children

## \*HYMN 568

*Christ for the World We Sing*

ITALIAN HYMN

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS

### INTRODUCTION TO BAPTISM

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.

We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Today we present Aspen David Kemberling for baptism.

We present Sophia Allgood, Ginny Fernandes, Xander Nicholas Hansen, and Aspen David Kemberling for Confirmation.

### RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin? If so say, "I do."

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? If so say, "I do."

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? If so say, "I do."

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world? If so say, "I will."

Will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries? If so say, "I will."

Will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness? If so say, "I will."

## **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include those now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

## **CREED OF 2024 CONFIRMATION CLASS**

**We believe God is the Creator of all good, Father of all people.**

**God is forgiving and full of love and desires to be in friendship with us.**

**We believe Jesus came to earth, born as a baby to live a human life.**

**He died on a cross and was resurrected so our sins would be forgiven.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**who fills our hearts and guides us in life and comforts us in our troubles.**

**We believe in the Church, the holiness of God's presence and our call to love God and all people.**

## **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

Let us pray.

... We pray this in the name of the risen Christ. **Amen.**

## **BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS**

I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM**

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **COMMENDATION AND WELCOME**

Now it is our joy to welcome our new siblings in Christ!

**Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus.**

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.**

Members of the household of God,

I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. West

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:  
"The peace of Christ be with you." **"And also with you."**

**CONGREGATIONAL NOTES AND PASTORAL PRAYER**

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence  
Associate Minister

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Rev. West

**OFFERTORY**

*Rejoice! The Lord Is King*  
Malcom Archer

Chancel Choir

**\*DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100th

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above,  
ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

The Rev. Kaylen Short  
Senior Minister

*Children are invited to return to seats after Children's Moment.  
No Wonders of Worship today as we celebrate Communion together.*

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Rev. Lawrence

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

John 15:9-17

Rev. Lawrence

<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

"So It Begins"

Rev. Short

... And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Gluten-free elements are available upon request at the chancel.

You are invited to contribute to the Benevolence Fund by leaving an offering on the chancel rail. These funds are used to assist those in need.

Communion Music: *Thou Knowest, Lord, the Secrets of Our Hearts*, Purcell Chancel Choir

**\*HYMN 593** *Here I Am, Lord* HERE I AM, LORD

**\*BENEDICTION** Rev. Short

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* Chancel Choir  
Peter J. Lutkin

**\*POSTLUDE** *Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals* Mr. Bowden  
Sigfrid Karg-Elert

\*Please stand in body or spirit. Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

**Please remember in your prayers:**

- |                 |                |                  |                |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Van Askew       | Robbie Gray    | Jerry Light      | Brenda Tierman |
| Nancy Byers     | Martha Hale    | Bettina McDowell | Paul Wiley     |
| Richard Clayton | Tangie Hubbard | Ron McDowell     |                |
| Karen Davis     | Doris Kerlin   | Ingrid Shields   |                |

In Memoriam  
Wendell Shelnett  
April 22, 2024

**Our Christian prayers and sympathy are with**  
Eleanor Albea and family upon the death of her brother, Wendell Shelnett, on April 22.

**The flowers in the sanctuary are presented to the glory of God**  
and for the use of the FFUMC Flower ministry.

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AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays 7 PM;  
Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meeting: Tuesdays and Thursdays 7 PM

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