

The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church

15th SUNDAY After PENTECOST | 11:00 AM | September 1, 2024

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Aria
Floor Peters

Nicholas Bowden
Director of Music & Organist

INTROIT

Hymn of Fellowship
John Ness Beck

Chancel Choir and People

*In Christ there is no east or west, in Him no south or north;
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.
In Him shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord close binding humankind.*

All singing: (please stand)

**In Christ there is no east or west in Him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence and People
Associate Minister

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.
The risen Christ is with us.
Praise the Lord!

**Almighty God,
to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 92

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

*INVITATION & CONFESSION

The Rev. Drew West and People
Minister of Families and Children

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Let us pray together:

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

***PARDON**

Rev. West and **People**

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. Lawrence

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:

"The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you."

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES AND PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. West

OFFERTORY

Under His Wings

Stephen Manders

Chancel Choir

Luanne Harms, Mezzo-Soprano

Under His wings, there my soul finds peace.

Even through the storm, I can trust Him: He redeemeth me.

Whom from thy love can sever? I find my strength in thee.

Safely abide forever under His Wings.

I shall not fear I'm in the shadow of His wings,

and I shall dwell in the hose of The Lord forever.

I will sing: He is my fortress, my Redeemer.

I will worship Christ The King, and He shall hide me under His wings!

Under His wings my soul shall abide, safely abide forever.

***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

Rev. West

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

James 1:22-27

Rev. Lawrence

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Changing of the Season"

Rev. Lawrence

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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.
I present to you Virginia Lillian Hester for baptism.

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?
I do.

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

According to the grace given to you,
will you remain a faithful member of Christ's holy Church
and serve as Christ's representative in the world?
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 this person 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 this person
with a community of love and forgiveness,
that she may grow in her trust of God,
and be found faithful in her service to others.**

**We will pray for her
that she may be a true disciple
who walks in the way that leads to life.**

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith
as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in 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.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Eternal God:

When nothing existed but chaos,
you swept across the dark waters
and brought forth light.

In the days of Noah

you saved those on the ark through water.

After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.

When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,
you led them to freedom through the sea.

Their children you brought through the Jordan
to the land which you promised.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,

nurtured in the water of a womb.

He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.

He called his disciples

to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection

and to make disciples of all nations.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,

to bless this gift of water and those who receive it,

to wash away their sin

and clothe them in righteousness

throughout their lives,

that, dying and being raised with Christ,

they may share in his final victory.

**All praise to you, Eternal Father,
through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
lives and reigns forever. 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.**

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sister 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 a member of the family of Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves
in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.

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 RESPONSE

Rev. West and People

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***HYMN 368**

My Hope Is Built

THE SOLID ROCK

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Lawrence

Go forth in peace.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **Amen.**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
John Rutter

Chancel Choir

*The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. Amen.*

***POSTLUDE**

Trumpet Tune
John Carter

Mr. Bowden

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

Please remember in your prayers:

Van Askew
Nancy Byers
Richard Clayton
Karen Davis

Robbie Gray
Martha Hale
Tangie Hubbard
Jerry Light

Bettina McDowell
Ron McDowell
Ingrid Shields
Brenda Tierman

Paul Wiley

The sanctuary flowers are presented to the glory of God

by Dick Webb in memory of Julia Webb and in honor of their 63rd anniversary.

QR Code to
CONNECT



QR Code for
WEEKENDER



Online Giving: onrealm.org/FFUMC/give

Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version
Hymns: Copyright 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

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

NA Meeting: Thursdays 7 PM

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GIVING



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