

Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 22, 2022

---

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

*Prelude - My Lord, What a Morning* (Hymn 719) - Raymond Haan

**Call to Worship** (Romans 5)

God's love has been poured into our hearts

**through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.**

But God proves his love for us in this way:

**while we still were sinners Christ died for us.**

**Opening Hymn No. 261\*\* - Lord of the Dance**

I danced in the morning  
When the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon  
And the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven  
And I danced on the earth,  
At Bethlehem  
I had my birth.

Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he

I danced for the scribe  
And the pharisee,  
But they would not dance  
And they wouldn't follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen,  
For James and John  
They came with me  
And the Dance went on.

Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

I danced on the Sabbath  
And I cured the lame;  
The holy people  
Said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped  
And they hung me on high,

And they left me there  
On a Cross to die.

Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

I danced on a Friday  
When the sky turned black  
It's hard to dance  
With the devil on your back.  
They buried my body  
And they thought I'd gone,  
But I am the Dance,  
And I still go on.

Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

They cut me down  
And I leapt up high;  
I am the life  
That'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you  
If you'll live in me -  
I am the Lord  
Of the Dance, said he.

Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

**Invocation** (Inspired by the Heritage litany of Charles Yrigoyen)

**Almighty God, you have raised up servants to proclaim the gift of redemption and a life of holiness. For our spiritual forebears in this congregation and in the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist traditions, we give thanks. Through their difficulties and in spite of their weaknesses, you worked through them and you were their hope and their salvation. We give you thanks for calling us into a place in this rich tradition and humbly ask that you grant us new vision, new love, new wisdom, and a fresh understanding; that in our difficulties, and in spite of our weaknesses, you will work through us and you will be our hope and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**Scripture Reading**

Luke 5:27-33 (New Testament page 63/59)

After this he went out and saw a tax-collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up, left everything, and followed him.

Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house; and there was a large crowd of tax-collectors and others sitting at the table with them. The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, 'Why do you eat and drink with tax-collectors and sinners?' Jesus answered, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance.'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **PROCLAMATION**

*The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages*

#### ***God's Word for Young Disciples***

##### ***Anthem***

8:30 - *His Eye is on the Sparrow* - Mark Hayes

11:00 - *I Believe* - Mark Miller; *Order My Steps* - Jack Schrader

***Sermon*** - *The Unfinished Word of God in the Church*

Rev. Jon Priebe

##### ***Hymn of Response No. 526\*\* - What a Friend We Have in Jesus***

What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged;  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge;  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;  
thou wilt find a solace there.

***Recognition of Graduates***

**Emily Rose Hipkins**

**Evan Michael Hipkins**

**Regan Breanne Lieberth**

**Marissa Mae Meyers**

**Ryan Emery Parsons**

**Luke Andrew Sawyer**

**Jacob Laurence Schmidt**

**Steven Samuel Shafer**

**Jacob Charles Whitehouse**

***Discipleship Moment***

***Offertory***

8:30 - *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* - James Pethel

11:00 - *God is Great* - Ricky Dillard

***Doxology***

**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.**

***Prayers of the People and 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.**

**SENDING FORTH**

*The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith.*

***Closing Hymn No. 593\*\* - Here I Am Lord***

I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard My people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin,  
My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear My light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord,  
Is it I Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if You lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have born my peoples pain.  
I have wept for love of them,  
They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak My word to them,  
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if You lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them,  
My hand will save

Finest bread I will provide,  
Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give My life to them,  
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if You lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.

***Benediction and Choral Response\*\**** - (Hymn No. 143)

**And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.**

***Postlude*** -*Symphony 1: Finale* - Louis Vierne



**The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and given:**

In loving memory of Donald Bowles, by Joan, Mark, Nancy, Isabelle, Emma, and Sarah Bowles;  
In honor of Mike and Sue Ward's 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary, by Jim & Zetta Ward

**Liturgists:** 8:30 - Sharon Nerhood; 11:00 - Keith Walker

**Service Music:** 8:30 - Chancel Choir; 11:00 - Epworth Choir

**Altar Guild:** Jen LaFleur, Carol Lewis

**Music:** One License A-731491

**\*\*Please rise as you are able. Please silence all cell phones and other electronic equipment. Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available in the narthex. CDs of the service are available by signing up at the Welcome Center.**

## CHURCH NOTES

**Worship hours will change beginning next Sunday, May 29.** We will go to one service at 9:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday School or Children's Worship, but we will still have childcare for infants through preschoolers.

**Vacation Bible School:** Registration for VBS is still open at <http://firstchurchcf.mycokesburyvbs.com>. A reminder to those who have registered that you need to complete and mail or bring your payment to the church in order to hold your space. Also, those registering for SERVE and Extreme must complete the Medical Form. There is still a need for a few helpers for all VBS, SERVE, and Extreme programs. Please contact Donna Curfman if you are able to help.

**The Giving Tree** has been set up in the Breezeway. Please check it for items which are needed for VBS and other children's program. All donations should be turned in by May 29. Perishables are due June 12.

**Golf Outing:** The next Walter Bud Mills golf outing will be on Saturday June 25, 2022, at 1:30. Cost is \$75 per golfer, or \$300 per foursome or \$55 for youth golfers. There will be dinner and prizes and a raffle. All proceeds benefit the Epworth Choir. We are looking for raffle items/baskets and for hole sponsors for the outing. Brochures are available at the Welcome Center.

**VBS needs:** We are in need of the tubes from paper towels for a VBS mission project. Please drop off before Sunday, June 5.

**VBS/Teacher's Training:** These sessions are mandatory for all who are involved in VBS or the Sunday School program. They will be held on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 from 12:30 - 2 p.m. or 5:30 - 7 p.m. A light meal will be provided. Safe Sanctuary training will be held for all new helpers or those who need to be re-certified. More information will be sent to all who need this.

**1st Church Feeds:** Our next monthly food pantry called 1st Church Feeds will take place Saturday, May 28, from 11:30 am- 12:30 pm. Packing will take place Monday, May 23, at 10:00 am, and Wednesday, May 25, at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in participating, we can always use helping hands. Please contact Jen LaFleur at [jenlafleur98@yahoo.com](mailto:jenlafleur98@yahoo.com).

**Blessing Box:** Our blessing box continues to bless those who need help with food in our own community. We are running low on most items and could use the following: ramen noodles, canned soup, canned meats (tuna, chicken, spam, etc...) pasta mixes, pasta, pasta sauce, individual serving cereal boxes, cracker packs, powdered drink mixes, personal hygiene items (soap, shampoo, tooth brushes, toothpaste, etc...). Items may be placed on the table outside the church library, or directly into the blessing box, letting you directly be the hands of Jesus in our community.

**First Fridays:** Please mark your calendars for this summer's First Fridays which will take place June 3, July 1, and August 5. We will once again meet at Kelsey Creek Pavilion at Water Works Park for a meal together and a time of fellowship. This year we will also have our Game Night during this event as a way to enjoy God's creation in fellowship and fun with one another. Please keep an eye for more information closer to each date.

## Financial Report:

### Church Budget update:

	<u>Compared to Budget</u>		<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Projected Actual</u>
	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>Year-to-date</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>2022</u>	<u>4/30/22</u>		
Income	-\$8,367	-\$212981	\$780,918	\$759,620
Operating Expenses	-\$2,916	-\$30	\$835,345	\$835,315
Total Over/Under	-\$11,283	-\$21,268	-\$54,427	-\$75,695

## Next Step

### Dinner at Levi's

vs. 27 – Jesus called an unclean tax collector as his disciple

vs. 29-30 – Luke calls the guests “others”; Pharisees call them “sinners”

It's human nature to try to define ourselves by who we're not

### The Unfinished Work of God in the Church

vs. 30 - Jesus didn't identify people by sins, we do that (*see Luke 19:7*)

one of the most common criticisms of Jesus was his inclusion of sinners

the UMC is the unfinished work of God that accepts sinners like me

**Questions for Reflection:** Is there a particular sin that I have a hard time reconciling how God could be gracious toward? What in my past might be driving this difficulty in me? Might there be some who would have this same hard time looking graciously toward the sins that I have struggled with?

**Questions for Discussion:** How can we better allow space for a variety of sinners to come to Jesus and grow closer to holiness in our Church? How would you handle someone who wants to follow Jesus but doesn't have it all together?

**Memory Verse:** Luke 5:32 – “I have come to call not the righteous, but sinners, to repentance”

**Readings for this Week:** Luke 5:33-39, Psalm 136, Revelation 2:1-7

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –  
PRAYER BULLETIN  
May 22, 2022**



**MINISTERS & STAFF:**

Forrest Waller

**HOSPITALIZED:**

Marilyn Waller – Akron General

**MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:**

Scott Adie	Jean Finnegan	Pat Park
Bob Ahonen	Dave Gohr	David Potter
Shirley Asher	Rose Gregory	Robby & Lou Robinson
Glenn Atwood	Joyce Haberkost	Kathi Sawyer
Paul Beal	Jim Henes	Kay Steiner
Alice Becher	Ann Kaiser	Michael Taucher
Behrman family	Lori Kidd	Ken Tunstall
Donna Copeland	George Kirk	Jim Vogel
Don Corbett	Jeanette Murray	Peg Yeager

**DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:**

Barb Behrman and family on the death of her mother, Edna Instore, on 5/17.