

Second Sunday of Easter
April 16, 2023

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

GATHERING

The people of God come together in the Lord's name

Prelude - *Canticle* - Matthew Compton

Call to Worship

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult O earth

Break forth, O mountains, into singing!

For the Lord has comforted his people

and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

Opening Hymn No. 317** - *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing*

O sons and daughters, let us sing!

The King of heaven, the glorious King,

o'er death and hell rose triumphing.

Refrain:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

That Easter morn at break of day,

the faithful women went their way

to seek the tomb where Jesus lay.

(Refrain)

An angel clad in white they see,

who sat and spake unto the three,

"Your Lord doth go to Galilee."

(Refrain)

That night the apolstles met in fear;

amidst them came their Lord most dear,

and said, "My peace be on all here."

(Refrain)

On this most holy day of days

our hearts and voices, Lord, we raise

to thee, in jubilee and praise.

(Refrain)

When Thomas first the tidings heard,

how they had seen the risen Lord,

he doubted the disciples' word.

(Refrain)

*"My pierced side, O Thomas, see;
my hands, my feet, I show to thee;
not faithless but believing be."
(Refrain)*

*No longer Thomas then denied;
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"Thou art my Lord and God," he cried.
(Refrain)*

*How blest are they who have not seen,
and yet whose faith hath constant been,
for they eternal life shall win.
(Refrain)*

Invocation

O Lord, your wondrous birth means nothing unless we are born again, your death and sacrifice mean nothing unless we die to sin, your resurrection means nothing if you be risen alone. Raise us and exalt us, O Savior, now to the state of grace, and hereafter to the state of glory; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, God for ever and ever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 29:11 (Old Testament p. 731/687)

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Gloria Patri

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.

Anthem

8:30 - *How Firm a Foundation* - Koch

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in His excellent Word! What more can He say than to you He hath said, who unto the Savior for refuge have fled? "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid. I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand." "When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress." "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose I will not, I will not desert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

11:00 - *A New Song* - Courtney

Sing a new song. Sing to the Lord a new song. For the Word of the Lord is right and true. His work is done in faithfulness. The Lord loves righteousness and justice. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. Sing to the Lord a new song. Our soul waits for the Lord, our help and our shield. For our heart rejoices in Him because we trust in His holy Name. May Your unfailing kindness be upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you. Amen.

God's Word for Young Disciples

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response No. 325 - *Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus*

Hail, thou once despised Jesus!

Hail, thou Galilean King!

Thou didst suffer to release us;

thou didst free salvation bring.

Hail, thou universal Savior,

who hast borne our sin and shame!

By thy merits we find favor;

life is given through thy name.

Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,

all our sins on thee were laid;

by almighty love anointed,

thou hast full atonement made.

Every sin may be forgiven

through the virtue of thy blood;

opened is the gate of heaven,

reconciled are we with God.

Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory,

there forever to abide;

all the heavenly hosts adore thee,

seated at thy Father's side.

There for sinners thou art pleading;

there thou dost our place prepare;

thou for saints art interceding

till in glory they appear.

Worship, honor, power, and blessing

Christ is worthy to receive;

loudest praises, without ceasing,

right it is for us to give.

Help, ye bright angelic spirits,

bring your sweetest, noblest lays;

help to sing of Jesus' merits,

help to chant Emmanuel's praise!

Discipleship Moment

Offertory - *In the Garden* - Charles Callahan

(Please fill out the attendance sheet found in the pews.)

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/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. 314** - In the Garden

*I come to the garden alone
while the dew is still on the roses,
and the voice I hear falling on my ear,
the Son of God discloses.*

Refrain:

*And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own;
and the joy we share as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.*

*He speaks, and the sound of his voice
is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
and the melody that he gave to me
within my heart is ringing.*

(Refrain)

*I'd stay in the garden with him
though the night around me be falling,
but he bids me go; thru the voice of woe
his voice to me is calling.*

(Refrain)

Benediction and Choral Response - (Hymn No. 292)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

Postlude - O Sons and Daughters of the King - Wilbur Held

The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and given
in loving memory of their parents, by Keith and Kathy Walker.
in memory and Paul and Evelyn Shultz given by daughter Bonnie Shultz

Service Music: 8:30 Epworth Choir; 11:00 Chancel Choir; Christina Wade, flute **Both:** Chancel
Ringers

Music: One License A-731491

CHURCH NOTES

Craig Courtney Concert: Next Sunday, April 23, at 3 pm, we are honored to welcome composer Craig Courtney to our church to direct a concert of his own music with the Chancel and Epworth Choirs. Mr. Courtney is internationally known for his compositions and many of them are your favorites, and you may not have ever put his name together with those pieces of music. This is a perfect time to invite someone to church for a concert that will be about an hour in length.

Interested in joining First Church? We will hold a Discovery Class to learn more about the Methodist Church in general and specifically First Church for anyone interested in beginning the membership journey. The classes will be held in the Parlor at 9:45 on Sundays, April 23 and 30 and May 2.

Classes to Start Next Sunday: We are starting the two courses that are on our pathway to membership on Sunday, April 23 which will run for 6 weeks. You may register for them at the Welcome Center or on the pew pads.

Ministry By Strengths will be held Sundays at 9:45 am. The only cost is \$20 for the Clifton Strengths assessment which we will use during the class.

Disciple Like Jesus will be on Sundays from 4 pm to 5:15 pm. There is no cost unless you want a hard copy of the book. You will receive a digital version.

Nursery Help: We are in need of helpers in the nursery on Sunday mornings beginning immediately. If you are interested, please contact Donna Curfman at Ext. 219 or dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com.

UMW/UWF Accessory Sale Donations: We are asking for donations of gently-used jewelry and purses for the Accessory Sale which will take place on Saturday, May 13, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Wesley Hall. The deadline for donations is May 7. All money raised goes to missions. Donations may be dropped off in the church office. If you have any questions, contact Sue Boltz at 330-928-8635.

Shoeboxes For Christmas: In an effort to 100 shoeboxes this Christmas, we are asking for different donations each month. During April we would like to collect washcloths, jump ropes, and costume jewelry for kids. If you have questions, please contact Linda Demeter at 740-334-9290.

Montgomery Scholarship: It is hard to believe, but the school year is quickly winding down, and this means it is time for interested graduating seniors to apply for the Reid and Roberta Montgomery Scholarship. Applications may be picked up in the church office beginning Monday, April 3, and the deadline to submit applications will be Sunday, April 30. Applicants must be a member of First Church, a graduating senior, and planning to enroll in college or a technical school for the 2023-2024 school year.

Vacation Bible School: Registration has begun for *The Hero Hotline* which runs from June 19 - 23. Programs for children aged 3 (by September) through 4th grade are from 9 a.m. to noon. Children in 5th and 6th grades will participate in a program of mission projects and field trips. VBS Extreme is an afternoon extension program with activities and field trips for those entering

1st through 6th grades. There are limited openings for each program so register early. Registration deadline is May 26.

Need Youth Names: If you have a student who will be entering 7th grade in the fall and would like to receive information on Epworth Choir and YF, please send an email to epworthyouth2@gmail.com. There will be an opportunity for your youth to come to Youth Group on Sunday, May 2, to see what it's all about! We would also like to have the names of all graduating seniors so that they can be recognized at the church service on Sunday, May 21, Senior Sunday. Please send it to Jen McKenna at epworthyouth2@gmail.com or call the church office.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
APRIL 16, 2023**



MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller

HOSPITALIZED:

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

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| Kathy & Scott Adie Bob Ahonen Debbie Amundsen Shirley Asher Mary Ellen Atwood Jim Bailey Behrman family Mark & Cindy Blaser | Robert Boyd Larry Brimlow Don Corbett Susan DeLong Jim Evans Jean Finnegan Rose Gregory Mary Griest Joyce Haberkost | Jim Henes Phil Hennen Marcia Liikala Pat Park Kathi Sawyer Cynthia Schrier Christina Shaw Ken Tunstall |
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DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:

Family of member Marge Blocksom on her death on 4/3.

Family of member Neil Lindsley on his death on 4/3.

Carol Lewis and family on the death of her husband member, Gerald Lewis on 3/30.