

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m.

June 16, 2024

GATHERING

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

Prelude - Dear Lord and Father of Mankind - Charles Callahan

Call to Worship

The Holy One, defender of the poor and needy, calls us to gather now.

We come, thankful to be a part of this family of faith.

God knows us well and calls us by name.

We hear our name and respond to God's call. The love of Christ urges us on.

Opening Hymn 61** - Come, Thou Almighty King

Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing,
help us to praise!
Father all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come and reign over us, Ancient of Days!

Come, thou incarnate Word,
gird on thy mighty sword,
our prayer attend!
Come, and thy people bless,
and give thy word success,
Spirit of holiness, on us descend!

Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power!

To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be,
hence, evermore.
Thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore!

Invocation

Holy God, we humble our hearts before you in thanksgiving and awe.

For by your mercy, we find ourselves at home in the branches of your family tree.

**We discover ourselves to be a people with a love that never fails.
We find ourselves within your grand love story for all time and all creation.
Whom can we thank, but you, for such great mercy? Bring your kingdom into our midst as we
worship you this day. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Reading - Psalm 20

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

God's Word for Young Disciples

Anthem - *Gentle Voice* - Lee Dengler

Scripture Reading - Luke 15:11-32

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

Sermon - *Lost Sons and The Forgiving Father*

Pastor Howard Pippin

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response 348** - *Softly and Tenderly*

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me;
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

Refrain:

Come home, come home;
ye who are weary come home;
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, O sinner, come home!

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me?
(Refrain)

Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,
passing from you and from me;
shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming,
coming for you and for me.
(Refrain)

O for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,

pardon for you and for me.
(Refrain)

Offertory - *I Will Arise and Go to Jesus* - Raymond Haan
(Please fill out the attendance sheet found in the pew.)

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 369** - *Blessed Assurance*

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

(Refrain)

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

(Refrain)

Benediction and Choral Response - (Hymn 668)

Let us now depart in thy peace, blessed Jesus. Send us to our homes with God's love in our hearts. Let not the busy world claim all our loyalties. Keep us ever mindful, dear Lord, of thee.

Postlude - *Trumpet Voluntary* - John Stanley



The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and given
in loving memory of Jim White, by Gary White.
in memory of the wedding of Tom & Shirley Waltermire, by Tom Waltermire.

Service Music - Summer Choir
Music: One License A-731491

CHURCH NOTES

Ice Cream Sundaes: Join us next Sunday for ice cream and a chance to speak to folks on the various committees of First Church. Have you ever wondered how you can serve on one of those committees? Or even what the committees do? Here is your chance to have all your questions answered and enjoy a sweet treat as well.

Chess Camp: Chess Camp is for children going into grades K and up. It will take place 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. the week of June 24 – 28. Beginners through advanced chess players are all welcome for a cost of \$25. This will include lunch each day. Brochures are available at the Welcome Center, in the church office and on our website.

Annual Golf Outing: It is time for the 18th Annual Bud Mills Memorial Golf Outing to benefit the Epworth tour of 2025. The outing is at Brookledge on June 22 at 1:30. You may play in the event for \$90. We are seeking hole and cart sponsors as well at the \$150 and \$25 levels.

Money Counters: Every Monday morning a group of dedicated First church members meet to count the offering from the previous Sunday. They begin at 8:30 a.m. and usually done by 9:30. If you are interested in helping them, please call Dale Gilbert at 330-945-4858.

Retirement: Kathy Kuzas will be retiring from First Church after over 35 years of service. Please join us in congratulating her and wishing her all the best for the future. We will host a farewell gathering in her honor on Sunday, June 30, after the worship service. During the month of June, we will have a card shower for Kathy. Please place any cards or notes in the basket on the Welcome Center.

Are You Handy? Do you enjoy doing outside chores? We are looking for volunteers to help out with trimming bushes, weeding and anything else that's needed on the grounds (with the exception of mowing & weed-whacking.) We also could use people who could occasionally help with small odd jobs in the building. If you are willing and able to help, please contact Bob Boltz at rboltz@kent.edu. Young folks are also encouraged to help!

Mark Your Calendar for the upcoming Church Fest on Sunday, July 7, at 10 a.m. The churches of Church Square will gather at the amphitheater on Front Street for a time of worship and fellowship. More information to come.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - PRAYER BULLETIN
June 16, 2024

*Happy
Father's
Day!*

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

Scott Adie Bob Ahonen Debbie Amundsen Mary Ellen Atwood Dorothy Bates Mark & Cindy Blaser Mary Griest Jim Henes	Becky Petty Kathi Sawyer Bonnie Shultz Karen & Michael Taucher Ken Tunstall Sandy Wardell Rose Ann Youngkin
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