



Welcome to Worship and Live Streaming @10:45am

Senior Sunday

10:45am

May 17, 2026

GATHERING

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

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude--Pie Jesu--arr. Douglas Wagner

Epworth Ringers

Call to Worship--Psalms 27:11-14

Come, let us gather with open hearts and hopeful spirits.

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Bring your joys and your burdens, your questions and your praise.

God welcomes us just as we are and invites us into grace.

Opening Hymn529--How Firm a Foundation**

Invocation (please be seated)--

We come before You this day thankful for life, for breath, and for the gift of community. Quiet our minds and center our hearts on You. Fill this place with Your presence and our spirits with Your peace. Guide our thoughts, our words, and our worship, that all we do may honor You and draw us closer to Your love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Reading--

Gloria Patri--Glory Be to the Father (Hymnal p. 70)

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.

Anthem--Praise His Holy Name--Keith Hampton

Epworth Choir

God's Word for Young Disciples--(congregation sings "Jesus Loves Me" as the children come forward)

Scripture Reading**--Proverbs 3:5-6

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

Sermon--*"Stepping Forward in Faith"*

Pastor Howard Pippin

Senior Anthem--*Even Here*--Mark Miller

Elliotte Barker, Brayden Carpenter, Dylan Carpenter, Dominic Dunlap, Nehemiah Priebe, Katie Walker

Senior Recognition

Baptism--Claire Ann Renee Luecke

Baptism Response **2051 TFWS--*I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry*

RESPONSE

The People respond to the Word

Discipleship Moment

Offertory--*How Great Thou Art*--arr. Craig Courtney

Chancel Choir

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 Hymn521**--*I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

Postlude--*Grand Chorus*--Michel Corrette

The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God and given
in loving memory of our daughter, Tara, by Tom & Kathy Jackson
in loving memory of Robert & Edna Keyser, by Millie Keyser & Dale Gilbert

Music--One License A-731491

Next Steps: Stepping Forward in Faith

God speaks a simple but powerful truth: Trust Me. God is not asking you to be perfect. He is asking you to be faithful.

- Lean not on your own understanding. That means you don't have to have it all figured out.
- "in all your ways submit to Him," it doesn't mean only in church or only on Sundays.
- The Promise: He will make your paths straight.

What do you need to trust God with more in your life?

Memory verse: Proverbs 3:5 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;"

Next week: Numbers 11:24-30 & Act 2

****indicates please stand as you are able**

Clergy & Staff

Jon Priebe, Lead Minister
Howard Pippin, Associate Minister
Marvin Brown, Senior Minister Emeritus
Marie Willis-Guarneri, Director of Music & Worship
Eric Charnofsky, Organist & Accompanist
Donna Curfman, Director of Children's Ministries
Jennifer Brooks, Director of Weekday Christian Preschool
Office Staff: Christy Meyers-Receptionist, Nancy Yeager-Finance, Kim Kerr-Membership, Sarah Neri-Publishing

Contact Information

245 Portage Trail
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
330-923-5241

Office Hours: M-F 9am-3pm
infofumccf@gmail.com
www.firstchurchcf.com



OPENING HYMN

#529 How Firm a Foundation

1. "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,
to you who for refuge
to Jesus have fled?

2. "Fear not, I am with thee,
O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God
and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen and help thee,
and cause thee to stand
upheld by my righteous,
omnipotent hand.

3. "When through deep waters
I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe
shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee,
thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee
thy deepest distress.

4. "When through fiery trials
thy pathways shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient,
shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee;
I only design
thy dross to consume,
and thy gold to refine.

HYMN LYRICS

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. Amen.

BAPTISM RESPONSE

#2051 I Was There to Hear Your Bounding Cry

"I was there to hear your bounding cry,
I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
With a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
To find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
To whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
And you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
From dusk to rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
Not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
Complete what I've begun.

continued next page...

When the evening gently closes in
And you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
With just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your morning cry,
I'll be there when you are old,
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold."

CLOSING HYMN

#521 I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

1 I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

3 When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me

CHURCH NOTES 5-17-26

Join us for a cookie reception outside to honor our graduates after the 10:45am service.

Arts Series Concerts: THIS AFTERNOON @3pm, Master Singers Chorale will present their 25 Anniversary Celebration Concert featuring “*Everyone Sang*,” a composition by our own Eric Charnofsky. This concert will also include works by Rutter, Brahms, Schubert, Mozart, Fauré and more. A free-will offering will be collected.

Geraniums for Pentecost: Per tradition, don’t forget to bring in a red geranium NEXT SUNDAY, May 24. Place your plant on the Chancel (before 9:30am) to decorate the Sanctuary for Pentecost. The plants will be planted outside to beautify the church grounds for the summer.

VBS & Chess Camp: VBS Planning is in full swing! Registration for the June 22-26 session is live! Use the QR code to sign-up.

Chess Camp will be held July 6–10. Registration is open! The camp is for both new and experienced players aged K and up. Brochures can be found at the Welcome Center.

VBS Volunteers & Mandatory Training: We need a few more volunteers. We are looking specifically for folks to lead recreation/games, elementary crafts, and snacks. Our mandatory trainings will take place on June 3 @12:30pm or 6:30pm. The make-up date is June 7, after worship. See Donna to sign-up or for more information.

Bring a Friend Sunday: May 31 we’re encouraging you to bring a friend and try out summer choir, with one rehearsal @9:00am. Or, just bring a friend to worship with you @9:30am. You can both enjoy a strawberry shortcake after worship!

Summer Bible Study: Join us for Summer Sunday Bible Study beginning June 14th, after the 9:30am service. Jerry Killian will lead the study, focusing on "The Commandments of Jesus—The Essence of Discipleship." John 15:10a -"If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love." Everyone is welcome. Attend one, attend them all. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office, 330-923-5241.

Coming Up...

May 24—Pentecost & New Members (begin one service @9:30am)

May 25—Memorial Day (offices closed), Parade line-up @8am

May 31--Bring a friend to worship day

June 7—First Friday Picnic @Waterworks Park (beginning @5:00pm)

June 21—Church Fest 2026, worship @10:30am, catered luncheon & activities following in the Downtown CF Amphitheater & Pavilion

JUNE 22-26, 2026

Registration Opens April 6!

VBS

Register VBS




Save the Date!

CHESS CAMP

July 6-10, 2026

Registration opens April 20, 2026.
See the Welcome Center for a brochure with more information.




MASTER Singers Chorus

Sunday, May 17, 2026
3:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church

Including works by Rutter, Brahms, Schubert, Mozart, Faure and others.

25th ANNIVERSARY

WORLD PREMIERE performance of "Everyone Sang" by Eric Charnofsky



MAY 31

Bring a Friend Sunday

Bring a friend to check out summer choir & summer worship!
Summer choir is a great way to explore choir with just one rehearsal Sunday mornings at 9am.

JOIN US FOR SOME STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE AFTER WORSHIP!




PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR:

In our community:
We lift up teachers & classroom aides.

In our Greater world:
We pray for peace.

Our sympathy & Prayers:
We lift up Ann Thudium & family on the death of her husband, Dick Thudium on 5/5.

From our Congregation:

Bob Ahonen	Tom Jackson
Joanne Ames	Jenny Laconi
Debbie Amundsen	Kathy McFarland
Rick Amundsen	Vince Meeker
Dorothy Bates	Raquel Mehalik
Janet Blank	Robbie Robinson
Suzanne Callahan	Kathi Sawyer
Eric Charnofsky	Michael Taucher
Marge Crabtree	Kathy Walker
Gabe & Rima Elissa	Jim Ward Jr.
John Gullion	Peg Yeager
Kim Haftl	Tim Zuschin
Kathleen Hess	