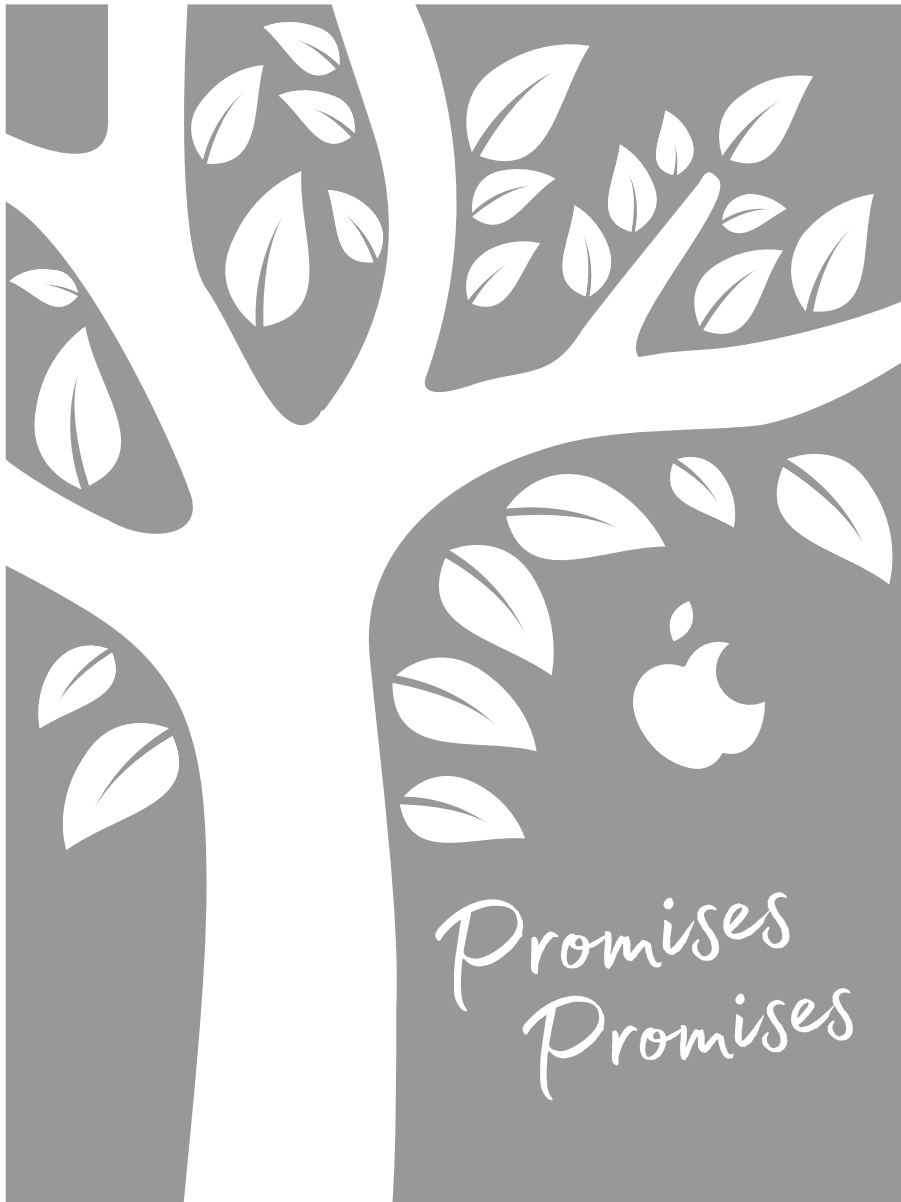


First United Methodist Church Cuyahoga Falls



Welcome to Worship and Live Streaming @9:30am

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30am

August 23, 2026

GATHERING

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

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude--*It Is Well with My Soul*--Christina Harmon

Call to Worship--

The grace of the Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you

And also with you.

The risen Christ is with us.

Praise the Lord.

Opening Hymn420**--*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

Invocation (please be seated)--

Almighty God, breathe, O breathe, thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast. Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest. Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Reading--Genesis 39:1-4, 19-23

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

Anthem--*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*--arr. Dan Forrest

Summer Choir

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

Sermon--*"Promises, Promises: Pit to Prison"*

Pastor Jon Priebe

RESPONSE

The People respond to the Word

Hymn of Response **707--Hymn of Promise

Discipleship Moment

Offertory--Interlude--D'Auvergne Barnard

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.***

Communion (Hymnal p. 13)

SENDING FORTH

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

Closing Hymn **378--Amazing Grace

Benediction **666--Shalom to You

***Shalom to You now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.***

Postlude--Menuetto--W.A. Mozart

The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God and given
in honor of Debbie & Rick Amundsen on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary,
by Fritz & Linda Sterling

The rose on the altar this morning
is in honor of the birth of Cole Matthew Lawrence, born August 14 to Tessa & Matt Lawrence.
Proud grandparents are Tom and Barb DiTirro.

Music--One License A-731491

***indicates please stand as you are able*

Clergy & Staff

Jon Priebe, Lead Minister, fallsfirstjon@gmail.com
Howard Pippin, Associate Minister, fallsfirstpippin@gmail.com
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/Calendar,
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

Prayer Requests/Pastoral Care

The fastest way to contact us is to call the church office. After hours voicemails come through to the church staff.



HYMN LYRICS

OPENING HYMN

#420 Thou Hidden Love of God

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

3. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
till all this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

4. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

#707 Hymn of Promise

1. In the bulb there is a flower
In the seed an apple tree
In cocoons a hidden promise
Butterflies will soon be free
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

2. There's a song in every silence
Seeking word and melody
There's a dawn in every darkness
Bringing hope to you and me
From the past will come the future
What it holds a mystery
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

3. In our end is our beginning
In our time infinity
In our doubt there is believing
In our life eternity
In our death a resurrection
At the last a victory
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

CLOSING HYMN

#378 Amazing Grace

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4. The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.

5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.

6. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.

BENEDICTION

#666 Shalom to You

Shalom to You now, shalom, my friends.
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

CHURCH NOTES 8-23-26

Epworth Choir Retreat: August 29-30. Epworth will meet at Waterworks Park at 8:30am for park clean-up. Immediately following, we will load up and carpool to Heindel Farm for a weekend of music, camping, games and fellowship. The cost is \$20. Scholarships are available. Please RSVP to Marie Willis-Guarneri.

Anniversary Celebration August 30: The Dodson family would like to invite you to join them for a reception in Wesley Hall honoring Janet & Fred Dodson in celebration of their 70th Wedding Anniversary (September 1)! We'll have cake, cookies, and punch after the 9:30 service next Sunday.

Rally Day & Church Square Picnic: September 13 we'll return to two services at 8:30am and 10:45am, with Sunday School for all ages in-between. Bishop Hee- Soo Jung will preach at both services. The Church Square Picnic will follow the 10:45am service. Please sign up to bring a side dish or beverage to share. We'll collect a love offering to support future Church Square Events. See the Welcome Center or the weekly email, or the graphic on page 9 of this bulletin to sign up to bring an item or stay to help clean up.

Annual Bud Mills Memorial Golf Outing: Join us September 19 @ Fox Den Golf Course. You'll find registration brochures and sponsor letters at the Welcome Center. All proceeds from this event benefit Epworth Choir.

2nd Grade Bible Presentation: September 27 we'll present Bibles to our 2nd grade students at the 10:45am worship. If you would like to have a child receive a Bible and have not been notified, please contact Donna Curfman ASAP to add them to the list. dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com, 330-923-5241 x213

Acme Community Cash Back: Save those Acme receipts for Work Camp '27. Acme receipts that are dated August 1-February 15, 2027 AND have Community Cash Back printed at the bottom are eligible. Receipts need to remain intact for credit. You may drop them off at the Welcome Center or the church office. Thank you for supporting Work Camp.

First Church Feeds & Family Promise: First Church Feeds is collecting shampoo and adult toothbrushes for the month of August.

Family Promise renovations on the old and new shelter will be completed some time in September. At that time we will need to begin increasing our monthly food donations from 10 of each of the items to 17. We will continue to collect peanut butter, jelly, ramen noodles packages, Velveeta mac and cheese (or any other similar shells and cheese product not in cups), and canned fruit.

Items can be deposited in the boxes by the church Library. Thanks for your support of these ministries.

FODDER

God Was With Joseph

Genesis 39:2 – God is with Joseph in his prosperity at Potiphar’s house

Genesis 39:21 – How is it that God is also with Joseph in his disgrace?

All Glory to God

God’s presence and favor do not depend on our circumstances

Do we have eyes to see God when things go well and when we suffer?

Questions for Reflection: When have you been tempted to equate success with God’s presence or hardship with God’s absence? What if we instead looked at situations with the question, “Where is God present in this?”

Discussion Questions: What helps you trust that God is with you when you can’t see what God is doing?

Memory Verse: **Philippians 4:11b** – “... for I have learned to be content with whatever I have.”

Readings for this Week: Genesis 40-41, Matthew 28:16-20



[Click here to view this week’s prayer list.](#)

Join Us In Prayer

Join us for our annual

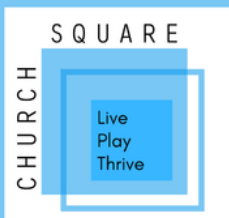
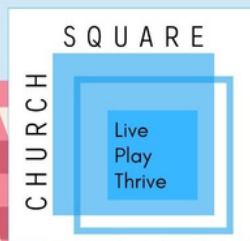
CHURCH SQUARE PICNIC

Sunday, September 13 @Noon

Sign up to bring a side dish or beverage to share!



CLICK HERE



Small Group COTTAGE MEETINGS

We invite you to view the latest concept illustrations for the Church Square redevelopment project. You'll also have a chance to discuss and ask questions in a small group format.

Thursday, August 13 @11:00am Full

Wednesday, August 19 @7:00pm Full

Tuesday, September 1 @7:00pm Full

Sunday, August 30 @10:45am (after worship)

See the sign-up at the *Welcome Center* or call the office

EPWORTH AUGUST 29 - 30
SUMMER CAMP

MUSIC | FELLOWSHIP | DEVOTIONAL TIME | GAMES



Epworth will begin at Waterworks Park at 8:30 for park clean-up. Immediately following, we will load up and carpool to Heindel Farm for a weekend of music, camping, games and fellowship. Cost is \$20. Scholarships available. RSVP to Marie Willis-Guarneri.

**SHOP & EARN
 5% CASH BACK FOR
 First UMC
 Work Camp 2027**



IT'S EASY!

Save your Acme Fresh Market receipts dated August 1, 2026 – February 15, 2027 to help us raise money!



Earn 5% Community Cash Back on these Participating Brands:



**SUPPORT
 WORK CAMP**

Save your Acme receipts! There will be a container to collect them at the Welcome Center or you can mail them to the church office. Receipts must be intact, dated August 1, 2026-February 15, 2027, and have "Community Cash Back" on the bottom. Thank you for your support!