

First United Methodist Church Cuyahoga Falls



Welcome to Worship and Live Streaming @10:45am

Welcome to Worship

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026, 10:45am

GATHERING

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

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude--Prelude No. 1 from Six Little Preludes--J.S. Bach

Introit--Turn You Eyes Upon Jesus

Combined Choirs

Call to Worship--

Come, for our God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Come, for we were never meant to walk this journey alone.

Come, let us carry one another in faith, love, and compassion.

Come, and let us bring our burdens into the presence of Jesus.

Opening Hymn66**--Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Invocation (please be seated)--

Gracious God, gather us into a community where the hurting are seen, the weary are carried, and the broken find hope. Teach us to make room for one another and to bring every burden into Your presence. Heal us through Your love and through the people You place around us. In the name of Jesus, our Healer and our Hope, we pray. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Reading--Psalm 147:1-7

Gloria Patri (Hymn #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--People Need the Lord--arr. Tom Fettke

Epworth Choir
Cammie Barker, soloist

God's Word for Young Disciples--(congregation sings "Jesus Loves Me" as the children come forward)
2nd Grade Bible Presentations

Scripture Reading--Mark 2:1-12

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

Sermon--"*Healing Through Our Community*"

Pastor Howard Pippin

RESPONSE

The People respond to the Word

Hymn of Response **375--*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

Discipleship Moment

Offertory--*Like a River in My Soul*--Tim Osiek

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 Hymn **430--*O Master Let Me Walk with Thee*

continued...

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--Postlude--Benjamin Cornelius-Bates

**The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God and given
in loving memory of Steven Carlson, by Jeanette Carlson**

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-Coordinator/Receptionist,
Nancy Yeager-Finance, Kim Kerr-Membership/Calendar,
Sarah Neri-Publishing

Contact Information

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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

#66 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to the throne thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore God's praises sing.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise the Lord for grace and favor
to all people in distress;
praise God, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glorious now God's faithfulness.

3. Fatherlike, God tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame God knows;
motherlike, God gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Widely yet God's mercy flows.

4. Angels in the heights, adoring,
you behold God face to face;
saints triumphant, now adoring,
gathered in from every race.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise with us the God of grace.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

#375 There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain:

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some times I feel discouraged,
and think my work's in vain.
But then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again.
(Refrain)

2 Don't ever feel discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend,
and if you look for knowledge
he'll ne'er refuse to lend.
(Refrain)

3 If you can't preach like Peter,
if you can't pray like Paul,
just tell the love of Jesus,
and say he died for all.
(Refrain)

CLOSING HYMN

#430 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

1. O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

2. Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.

3. Teach me thy patience; still with thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong;

4. In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.

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.

Next Steps: Healing Through Our Community

Community Sees What Others Overlook

Sometimes the healing starts with somebody saying, “I see you.”

Community Carries Us When We Can't Carry Ourselves

There will be times in life when you will need people to carry you.

Community Doesn't Let Things Stand in the Way

These friends weren't looking for an easy way. They were looking for a way.

Community Brings Us Into the Presence of Jesus

They carried him to Jesus.

Reflection Question: Who has God placed in your life to help carry you in a difficult season, and how have they helped you experience God's healing? What does it look like for our church community to “carry someone to Jesus” when they are hurting, struggling, or unable to carry themselves?

Memory Verse: Psalm 147: 3 “He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.”

Next week: Healing Through Our Losses - Ps. 42:1-5; John 11:17-44

CHURCH NOTES 9-20-26

M & M Fundraiser for Epworth Youth: Take a tube of M&M's to enjoy, fill the empty container with a check, cash, or coins, (checks made out to First UMC with M&M's in the memo) write your name on the label and return it to church by October 18. That's it! Your donations help to support Epworth youth events, missions, & youth sponsored outreach to the community. Thank you!

Epworth Youth: Next Sunday, September 27 is Bring a Friend Week! We'll start with a Nerf battle, followed by a special snack supper with the Swenson's food truck. All Epworth (& Wesley) youth + guests will receive 1 sandwich and 1 side, from the truck. Drinks will be provided in Asbury Hall. Please bring money for shakes, specialty drinks, and extras if you wish. Hope to see you, and a friend, at 4:00pm, next week!

Toddler Time: Mondays from 9:15-10:30am, beginning October 5. Weekday Christian Preschool will once again be offering a FREE Toddler Time class for ages 18 months -2 years old with caregiver. Stories, songs, art, & more! Call Jennifer Brooks at 330-923-5243 to register.

Word Communion Sunday: Sunday, October 4 at 10:00am we will gather for our Ecumenical Community Worship at St. Luke's Lutheran ELCA (2121 6th Street 44221) to join with Christians around the world in celebrating Holy Communion, remembering that we are one in Christ, no matter our background, language, or culture. We hope you'll join us! *Important Note: we will NOT have a worship service or Sunday School in the building that Sunday.*



The Art Series
AT FIRST CHURCH

EXHIBITION
OCTOBER 2-JANUARY 26, 2027
"Healing through the human experience"

We invite you to explore our Arts Series Concerts and Events. Please Scan the QR code or visit firstchurchcf.com/arts-series-2 for more information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



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

Join Us In Prayer