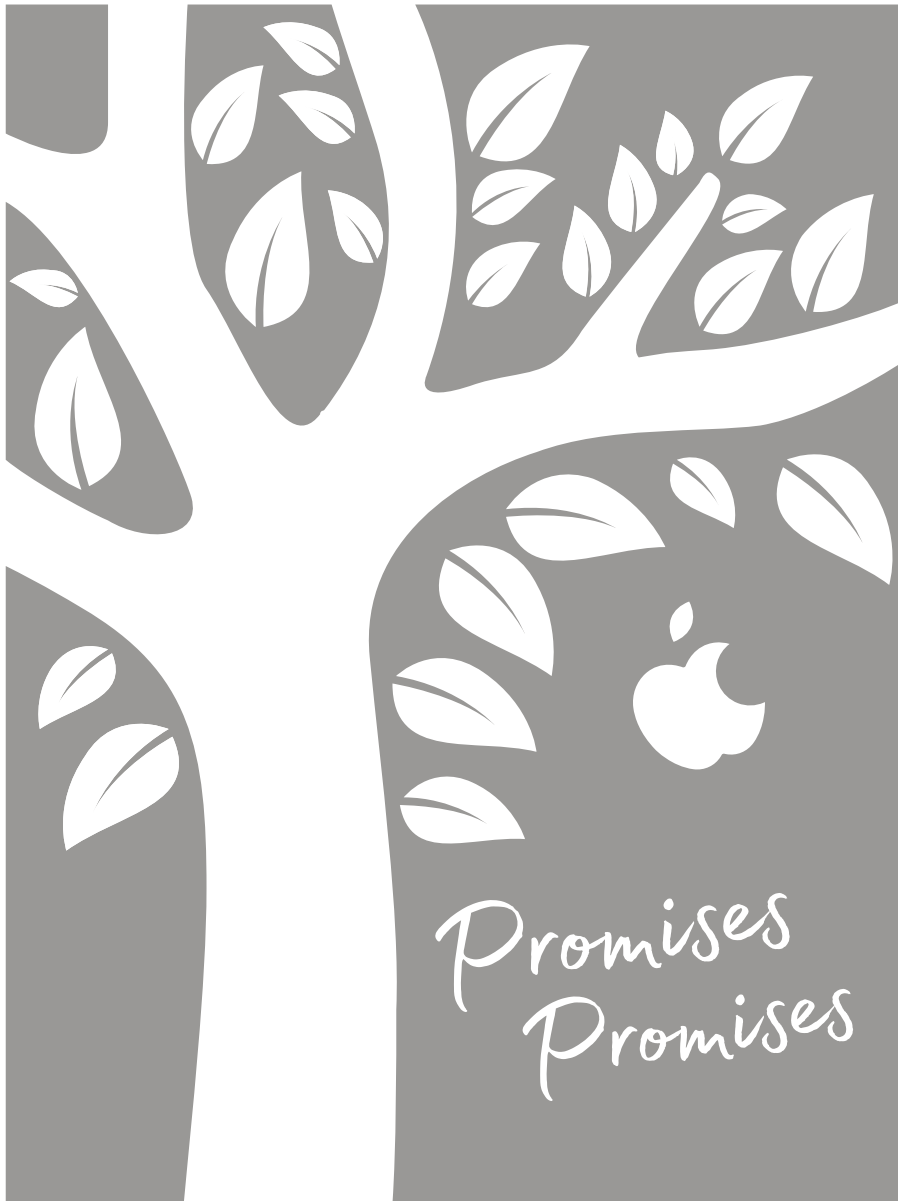


First United Methodist Church Cuyahoga Falls



Welcome to Worship and Live Streaming @9:30am

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30am

September 6, 2026

GATHERING

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

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude--Andantino on Nearer, My God, To Thee--Luigi Mengoni

Call to Worship--

Come worship the God of mercy and reconciliation.

He forgives us fully and calls us to forgive one another.

Let us praise the Lord whose love overcomes evil with grace.

May our hearts be filled with gratitude for His unfailing mercy.

Opening Hymn98**--To God Be the Glory

Invocation (please be seated)--

God of compassion, soften our hearts with Your forgiveness today. Teach us to extend grace as we have received grace from You. May our worship reflect the mercy and love of Christ. Help us become people of reconciliation, peace, and Christ-like love. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Reading--Genesis 50:15-21

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

Anthem--Christ Has Broken Down the Wall--Mark Miller

Summer Choir

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

Sermon--"Promises, Promises: What Forgiveness Looks Like"

Pastor Howard Pippin

RESPONSE

The People respond to the Word

Hymn of Response **348--Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

Discipleship Moment

Offertory--Andantino--Karl Heinrich Zöllner

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 **124--Seek the Lord

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 in A Major--Benjamin Cornelius-Bates

Next Sunday we will return to two services at 8:30am (communion) and 10:45am (choirs & children's worship). Sunday School will resume for ALL ages at 9:30am. Bishop Jung will be preaching at both services, and the Church Square picnic will take place outdoors at noon. Please sign-up to bring a side or beverage to share. We hope you'll join us!

The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God and given
in honor of Fred & Janet Dodson in celebration of their 70th anniversary, by their children

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

#98 To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
(Refrain)

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
(Refrain)

HYMN OF RESPONSE

#348 Softly & Tenderly

1. 1. 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!

2. 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)

3. 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)

4. 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)

CLOSING HYMN

#124 Seek the Lord

1. Seek the Lord who now is present,
pray to One who is at hand.

Let the wicked cease from sinning,
evildoers change their mind.

On the sinful God has pity;
those returning God forgives.

This is what the Lord is saying
to a world that disbelieves.

2. “Judge me not by human standards!

As the vault of heaven soars
high above the earth, so higher
are my thoughts and ways than yours.

See how rain and snow from heaven
make earth blossom and bear fruit,
giving you, before returning,
seed for sowing, bread to eat:

3. “So my Word returns not fruitless;
does not from its labors cease
till it has achieved my purpose
in a world of joy and peace.”

God is love! How close the prophet
to that vital gospel word!

In Isaiah’s inspiration
it is Jesus we have heard!

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 9-6-26

Rally Day & Church Square Picnic: NEXT SUNDAY 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. We are still looking for a few sponsors. If you have or know of a business that would be interested please reach out to Marie Willis-Guarneri 330-923-5241 x 221.

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.

A Note from UMW: We will NOT have a Book Sale this year. Please DO NOT drop off books at the church. If you have books you'd like to donate, here are some suggestions. You should contact them first to see when you can drop them off.

Local Used Book Stores: The Mythical Bookworm in Munroe Falls (330-808-1789), Shelf Life in downtown Cuyahoga Falls (234-414-4145), Local Libraries: Cuyahoga Falls Library (330-928-2117), Stow Public Library (330-688-3295), Akron Public Library (330-643-9000). Thank you for all the donations and purchases of books over the past 14 years. You helped us distribute gifts to many different mission projects.

NEXT STEPS Genesis 50:15–21

Joseph shows us what genuine forgiveness looks like.

Forgiveness Faces the Hurt

Sometimes we misunderstand forgiveness because we think forgiven people shouldn't still feel pain.

Forgiveness Releases the Right to Get Even

Joseph understands something about revenge: Revenge puts us in a seat that doesn't belong to us.

Forgiveness Trusts God With the Story

People can do something wrong to you—and God can still do something right with you.

Reflection Questions: Am I allowing a past wound to control my present, and what would it look like for me to trust God with that part of my story?

How do we distinguish between genuine forgiveness and simply pretending that what happened didn't hurt—especially when reconciliation or an apology may never happen?

Memory Verse: Genesis 50:20 - Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good.

Next week: Matthew 18:21–35, “Living the Gift of Forgiveness” Rally Day
Guest Preacher: Bishop Jung



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

Join Us In Prayer

Join us for our annual

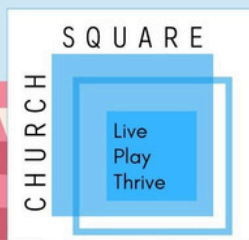
CHURCH SQUARE PICNIC

Sunday, September 13 @Noon

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



CLICK HERE



SINGERS COMPANYE
Passion. Precision. Artistry.

BACK TO BROADWAY

FREE CONCERT SEPTEMBER 12 @4:30PM

A freewill offering will be taken to support their programming