Give thanks



THE CHARACTER OF A METHODIST

Welcome to Worship and Live-Streaming @10:45am

Welcome to Worship

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost **November 15, 2026, 10:45am**

GATHERING

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

Welcome

Prelude--*Andante amoroso* --Alexander Fesca

Introit--*Come Christians Join to Sing*--arr. Marie Willis-Guarneri Wesley Ringers

Call to Worship--

God has blessed us with gifts of grace, love, and abundance.

With grateful hearts, we celebrate God's generosity!

We are blessed not simply to receive, but to share God's goodness with others.

Let us worship with joy and offer our lives in generous service to God!

Opening Hymn**66--*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven***

Invocation *(please be seated)--*

Generous and faithful God, we thank You for the abundance of Your grace and the countless ways You provide for us. Open our hearts to trust in Your faithfulness. Inspire us to give joyfully, serve compassionately, and share freely what You have entrusted to our care. May our gratitude become generosity, and may our generosity become a living witness of Your love in the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Reading--Psalm 113: 1-4

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--*Halle, Hallelujah*--arr. John Michniewicz Wesley Choir

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

Scripture Reading--2 Corinthians 9:6-15

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

Sermon--*"Gratitude Lends Itself to Generosity"* Pastor Howard Pippin

RESPONSE

The People respond to the Word

Hymn of Response **102--*Now Thank We All Our God*

Discipleship Moment

50 Year Members--

Susan Reese, Tim Reese, Carol Hudak, Victor Hudak, Karen Pierce, Larry Pierce, Marie Cannon

Offertory--*Lord, Here Am I*--John Ness Beck Chancel Choir

Consecration Prayer

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 **396--*O Jesus, I Have Promised*

***Benediction**--Grace to You* Chancel Choir

***Postlude**--Savior of the Nations, Come*--Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God and given
in loving of their parents, Mildred & Harry Estelle, and Lena & Bill Walker,
by Kathy & Keith Walker

***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,
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Contact Information

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330-923-5241

Office Hours: M-F 9am-3pm
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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
#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
#102 Now Thanks We All Our God

1. Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us still in grace,
and guide us when perplexed;
and free us from all ills,
in this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given;
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven;

CLOSING HYMN
#396 O Jesus, I Have Promised

1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

2. O let me feel thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.

3. O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be.
And Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.

CHURCH NOTES

NOVEMBER 15, 2026

TODAY!

Today is Consecration Sunday! Please turn in your pledge cards today, or as soon as possible. Nancy (Financial Secretary) is here today to answer questions. Stop by the table in the Breezeway if you need assistance.

Join us for a potluck after the 10:45am worship.

NEWS

Community Thanksgiving Service: 11/24 @7p. First Christian is hosting this year. The accessible entrance and parking is on Stow Ave. We hope you'll join us.

New Class: The *College and Careers Class* would like to invite anyone who would be interested to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in room 321. We pray, read scriptures, and discuss a range of discipleship topics. Contact Sue Boltz or the church office if you have questions.

QUILT AUCTION FOR MISSIONS

Quilting group is holding a Silent Auction for a 1920's *Reverse Pinwheel Quilt*, donated by Mae Peck. Bidding starts today and continues until December 31. See the quilters on Sunday mornings, or contact the office (9am-3pm) during the week.

Epworth Choir Fundraiser

GARDNER PIES

$15 each

Orders due 12/3, ready 12/20

Find paper forms @Welcome Center

ARTS SERIES CONCERTS & EVENTS

Poetry Night: 11/20 @6:30p/Parlor Contact fallsfirstmarie@gmail.com to share your poetry. Space is limited.

Chili Cook-off: 11/20 @5:30p/Wesley Hall. Benefits Epworth Choir. Tickets sold at the door (Adults $10, Kids 4-10 $5, under 3 Free. Family Max $20)

There's still time to enter your chili into the contest. Contact Marie.

Exploring Jazz Styles: 11/19 @11a/Wesley Hall. Learn more about the different styles of Jazz and the common elements. Scott Marsh, from Moonlight Serenaders is directing this program. Register with Parks & Rec. 330-971-8225

Singer's Companye Concert: 12/2 @7p/Sanctuary. Pre-concert lecture with Dr. Gordon in the Parlor.

Declutter & Organize: 12/3 @11am/Wesley Hall. Thoughtfully working through memories and helping people part with sentimental belongings. Register with Parks & Rec. 330-971-8225

A SEASON OF GIVING

This congregation has traditionally participated in many programs that help folks during the holidays. Below are some ways you can make the Thanksgiving and Christmas season brighter for those in need. *Please remember to indicate on the memo line of your check which program you are supporting so we can make sure the funds get to the appropriate cause. Thank you!*

Good Neighbors: "Old Fashioned Holiday Collection" Monetary gifts can be placed in the offering plate. Any physical gifts can be dropped off in the box by the church library, or Good Neighbors on T, TH, 8-2pm, 330-928-8057. Holiday items are requested by November 19.

Art Kits	Blocks	Lego	Coloring Books	Ribbon Candy
Cars	Trucks	Baby Dolls	Footballs/Basketballs	Candy Canes
Blocks	Science Kits	Dinosaurs	Throw Blankets	Candy Kisses
Activity Books	Playing Cards	Board Games	Soccer Balls	Chocolates
Trains	Hot Wheels	Barbie Dolls	Stickers	

Toiletries: Shampoo, Conditioner, Razors, Toothbrushes, Bath Bombs, Lip Gloss, Deodorant, Body Sprays, Brushes, Press on Nails, Dish Soap, Body Wash, Nail Polish, Bar Soap.

Open M: Open M is collecting monetary donations toward the purchase of turkeys this year. They are asking for $20 donations. Donations should be placed in the offering plate, drop box, or mailed to the church by the December 7 deadline (please write "turkey" in the memo line). Our goal is to supply enough funding to supply 200 turkeys! You may also adopt or shop for a family for Christmas. Please register through Open M at www.openm.org/christmas-sponsorships

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Family Promise: FP will be collecting monetary donations to cover holiday meals and gifts. Our goal is to cover $500 worth of holiday meals and $1500 worth of gifts for the families of Glendora house. Please make sure to designate "Family Promise" in any of your monetary gifts. Thank you!

Blessing Box and Clothesline @FirstUMC: Items requested can be donated any time this fall/winter.

Individual "heat & eat" stews, pastas	Mac N' Cheese	Granola bars
Cereal Boxes	Fruit & Veges with tab tops	Pasta & sauce
Peanut Butter & Jelly	Knitted Hats	Gloves of all sizes
Hand warmers	Sample size toiletries	Scarfs

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.
-John Wesley

ACTS OF GRACE

Collection for Refuge Host Homes

Refuge HOST HOMES

During the month of December Acts of Grace Circle will be collecting gift cards for Refuge Host Homes. They are requesting: Uber, Gas Cards, Target and Gift Eagle. If you are interested in participating, there is an envelope in the church office by December 13. Refuge Host Homes is a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing safe, supportive housing for vulnerable pregnant women in the Greater Akron, Ohio area. While the organization operates throughout Akron, its official mailing address is PO Box 67322, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 and inquiries can also be directed via email to emilieoxley@refugehosthomes.org





Annual

HOLIDAY NUT SALE

All proceeds benefit Work Camp 2027.

The 2026 Nut Sale will be every Sunday between and after services beginning November 22, or during office hours M-F, 9-3pm.

ART SERIES

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE ART SERIES AT FIRST CHURCH

EXHIBITION

"Healing through the human experience"

OCTOBER 2-JANUARY 26, 2027

NOVEMBER 19 @ 11 AM
IN WESLEY HALL
EXPLORING JAZZ STYLES

WITH SCOTT MARSH-MOONLIGHT SERENADERS



WE'LL EXPLORE HOW THESE MUSICAL STYLES DIFFER WHILE ALSO HIGHLIGHTING THE COMMON ELEMENTS THAT CONNECT THEM. THROUGH ENGAGING AUDIO EXAMPLES, YOU'LL LEARN TO RECOGNIZE THE UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS OF EACH STYLE, INCLUDING THE INSTRUMENTS, RHYTHMS, AND SOUNDS THAT HELP DEFINE THEM

REGISTER NOW

PLEASE REGISTER WITH PARKS AND REC @ 330-971-8225 OR WWW.CITYOFCF.COM/DEPARTMENTS/PARKS-RECREATION



DECLUTTER & ORGANIZE

THOUGHTFULLY WORKING THROUGH MEMORIES AND HELPING PEOPLE PART WITH SENTIMENTAL BELONGINGS.

DECEMBER 3 11-12
IN WESLEY HALL

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ART SERIES

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE ART SERIES
AT FIRST CHURCH

Poetry Reading & Open Mic

Plus Chili Cook off!

Featuring Poets Duane Dodson & Karen Schubert

- 5:30pm in Wesley Hall we will have a Chili Cook off to benefit Epworth Choir and their annual tour. Tickets for dinner sold at the door.
- 6:30pm in the Parlor, our guest poets will share their poetry followed by an open mic for poets of all ages. Poetry night is a free event. Please contact Marie Willis-Guarneri to sign up (fallsfirstmarie@gmail.com) to share your poetry. Spots are limited.

November 20

Dinner @ 5:30 in Wesley
Poetry @ 6:30 in Parlor



245 Portage Trail
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221