

FIRST CHURCH AT WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Martha Lynn Thompson

Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho
Carillon Choir; Samuel Hickman, *saxophone*

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 121

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Wellesley

* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

The season of Lent can be barren and lonely,
**but God goes with us
through the wild wilderness.**

Our lives are lived
in seasons of transitions and transformations.

**Lent is a time to ponder
God's providence and persistence.**

Together, we seek fruitfulness,
for it has been promised to us;

**the barrenness of Lent
will give way to the fruitfulness of Easter.**

In this season of penitence and pondering,
let us gather before God.

**We come, as a family,
to wait for the Lord with strength and courage.**

Come, let us worship God!

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

~ **PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE** ~

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, f
or he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

THE PSALTER

Psalm 63

St. Thomas

**O God, you are my God;
I seek you eagerly;
My soul and body thirst for you
In barren lands and dry.**

**Therefore I gazed on you
Within your holy place,
That I might look upon your power,
The glory of your face.**

**Your love is more than life;
My lips shall give you praise
When I remember you at night
And ponder all your ways.**

**Your wings have sheltered me,
My helper in the past;
My soul, Lord, clings to you alone,
Your right hand holds me fast.**

THE EPISTLE LESSON

I Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,³and all ate the same spiritual food,⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did.⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play."⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents.¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall.¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Teach Me, O Lord

Thomas Attwood

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.²He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way

they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?"³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?"⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?'"⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Mr. Josh

*Children ages three through first grade may go to Children's Church in room 123.
Nurseries provided for infants through 3 years in rooms 118 & 120.*

SERMON

Interrogators and Gardeners

Rev. Kyle Randle

* HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 2216 (TFWS)

When We Are Called to Sing Your Praise

Kingsfold

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

No. 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried,
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from
thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

* GLORIA PATRI NO. 70

Meineke

* CONFESSION AND PARDON

In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

God at the margins,

**We have wandered far from your home;
again and again, we lose our way.**

**We turn inward, afraid of the world around us.
We forget that you have saved your people before
and promise to do so again.**

**Do not remember the deeds of our past,
but turn our faces toward the future,
where your forgiveness is sure,
your welcome is clear,
and your love overflows. Amen.**

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.**

* RESPONSE. 482 *Lord, Have Mercy* *Kriewald Kyrie*

Repeated phrases are sung first by leader and then by all

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

** All may exchange signs of peace.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

OFFERTORY *Fugue (from Sonata VI)* Felix Mendessohn

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 95

~ **WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD** ~

* HYMN OF SENDING NO. 127 *CWM Rhondda*
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

* BENEDICTION

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Toccatà on Picardy* Gordon Young

* CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Sonny Stilley in celebration of his birthday
by Bobby Stilley and family.

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, March 24

9:00 a.m. Carillon Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast WRNN 99.5 FM
10:30 a.m. Worship Service / Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal / Choir Room
5:30 p.m. UMYF and Bridge / Family Life Center (FLC)

Monday, March 25

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts / FLC Room 102

Tuesday, March 26

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting / Room 213
6:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting / FLC Room 101
6:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC Room 102
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts / FLC Room 104
8:00 p.m. AA Meeting / FLC Room 102
8:00 p.m. AI-Anon Meeting / FLC Room 101

Wednesday, March 27

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
12:00 p.m. Lenten Organ Meditations / Sanctuary
12:30 p.m. Lenten Soup Luncheon / FLC Gathering Room
3:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Activities / Fellowship Hall
4:00 p.m. Asbury Ringers Rehearsal / Room 211
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class / Education Wing Room 123
4:30 p.m. Wesley Treble Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
4:45 p.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal / Room 211
5:15 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
5:15 p.m. Voices in Bronze / Room 211
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal / Fellowship Hall
6:15 p.m. Carillon Choir Rehearsal / Handbell Room 205
6:15 p.m. Disciple Fast Track Bible Study / Room 218
6:15 p.m. Women's Bible Study Fellowship / Room 216
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105

Thursday, March 28

7:00 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast / Chick-Fil-A
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
12:00 p.m. Lenten Luncheon / St. Anne's Episcopal Church / FUMC Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts / FLC
6:30 p.m. CAP Volunteer Appreciation Dinner / Fellowship Hall

Friday, March 29

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
7:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC

FUMC Staff

Reverend Kyle Randle, Pastor

kyle.randle@fumconway.org

Billy Fallaw, MM, Dir. of Music & Organist

billy.fallaw@fumconway.org

Josh Tietje, BS, Dir. of Christian Ed. & Mission

josh.tietje@fumconway.org

Danny Clonts, Accountant

danny.clonts@fumconway.org

Cathy Estridge, Ministry Assistant

office@fumconway.org

Gayle Fanshaw, Nursery Attendant

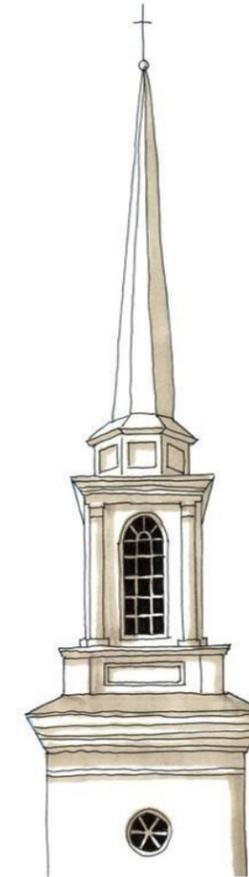
polywog_2815@yahoo.com

James Graham, Sexton

jgraham1506@gmail.com

Chrissy Merolle, Nursery Attendant

Sherrie Gasque, Nursery Attendant



First United Methodist Church

1001 Fifth Avenue
Conway, South Carolina 29526
(843) 488-4251
www.fumconway.org

Third Sunday in Lent
March 24, 2019
10:30 a.m.

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Welcome to First United Methodist Church

Out of a broken and sinful world, all people are welcomed into the body of Jesus Christ at First Church. As children of God, together we join in worship to experience the transforming love of our Savior.

We are here this morning to worship God. Through our songs, words of praise, prayers and scripture reading, we give honor and glory to God. Wondrous things happen as we worship. Lives are changed. The presence of God brings hope, comfort, healing, and joy. Let us worship in gladness. Jesus, the Lord of Life is with us.