

# We Gather to Worship God

Today's gospel tells the story of the man born blind, healed by Christ. I was blind, but now I see, declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved sons and daughters. As David was anointed King of Israel, in baptism God anoints us and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY Gerald Near  
*The Glory of the These Forty Days*

## \* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No.152 Forest Green  
*I Sing the Almighty Power of God*

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*In the darkest valley,  
**at the banquet table;**  
 in the hard work of life,  
**at the moments of ease;**  
 in our day-to-day reality,  
**at times set aside—**  
*like this time, now—*  
**for worship, for listening, for paying attention;**  
*with every step we take:*  
**goodness and mercy follow us;**  
**our cups overflow.***

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 881  
*The Apostles' Creed*

*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.*

## \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.  
 Merciful God, forgive us. **Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot  
 break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.***  
 Silence.

*We were silent when we should have said something.*

Silence.

*We acted when we knew better.*

Silence.

*We were still when we know we should have moved.*

Silence.

***For the wrong we have done, for the mercy we have failed to do,  
 have mercy on us,  
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen..***

*Behold, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation. Almighty  
 God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to everlasting  
 life. Amen.*

\* RESPONSE No. 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.

The passing of the peace is an invitation for the worshiping assembly to share the gift of Christ's peace with one another. Exchanging the peace after confession and pardon is a gesture of love and blessing. We invite you to turn to your neighbor and offer blessing by saying, "Peace be with you."

~ **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD** ~

ANTHEM *O Lord, You Know Me Completely* Hal Hopson  
Wesley Treble Choir

THE FIRST LESSON I Samuel 16:1-13 OT Pgs. 259-260

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

THE ACT OF PRAISE Psalm 23 *Land of Rest*

*The Lord's my shepherd, all my need  
 Through him will be supplied;  
 By quiet streams and through green fields  
 The Lord will be my guide.*

*The Lord revives me, guides my feet  
 On pathways that are right,  
 And I shall fear no evil though  
 I walk through darkest night.*

*Your rod and staff, they comfort me;  
 In presence of my foes  
 You feed me; you anoint my head  
 And my cup overflows.*

*Your goodness and your mercy,  
 Lord, Shall surely follow me,  
 And I will dwell in God's own house  
 For all eternity.*

THE SECOND LESSON Ephesians 5:8-14 NT Pg. 194

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

ANTHEM Harry Rowe Shelley  
*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

\* THE GOSPEL LESSON John 9:1-41 NT Pgs. 102-103

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS Rev. Kyle  
*Last, but Not Least*

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 Rev. Kyle D. Randle  
*From Darkness to Light*

~ **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD** ~

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS No. 39

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 378 *Amazing Grace*  
*Amazing Grace*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Lord, in your mercy.*

***Hear our Prayer.***

OFFERTORY Felix Mendelssohn  
*Adagio (from Sonata VI)*

\* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 95

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

\* THE HYMN OF SENDING No. 451 *Slane*  
*Be Thou My Vision*

## \* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

## \* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* CLOSING VOLUNTARY Gordon Young  
*Toccata on Picardy*

## \* CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of  
 Sonny Stillely for his birthday March 23,  
 with love by Bobby, Frank, Margo and Holly.



## NOTES FOR WORSHIP

Numbers by the hymns, Affirmation of Faith, and Doxology are from the United Methodist Hymnal and The Faith We Sing Hymnal (TFWS) found in the pew racks. Old Testament and New Testament scripture readings are from the New Revised Standard Version, located in the pew. Page numbers for the readings are listed in the order of worship.

## WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### Newcomers and Guests

Welcome! We are grateful that you have chosen to worship with us today. We hope that you will receive a blessing from the service. If you don't already have a church home, it is our hope that you will consider letting First Church fill that need.

All worshipers are asked to sign the Attendance Pad at the end of each pew and pass it along to your neighbors. Rev. Randle will contact you later in the week.

### We welcome children into our worship!

Children are part of the family of God. They learn how to worship God by seeing other people worship. Children are welcome in the church to worship with their parents or caregivers. We understand that sometimes it is hard to be present in worship with young children. If you choose, we have a nursery for infants and toddlers.

The Nursery is located on the first floor of the Education Wing in Rm. 118. Our nursery is staffed with paid professionals and loving volunteers. Parents are asked to sign in their children and check out a pager, so that we may contact you should the need arise during worship. An usher will direct you to the nursery.

### Have a hard time hearing?

If you can't hear the service, please let an usher know. We have hearing assist devices which will help even the most hard of hearing to participate in the service!

A restroom is located in the Narthex, the Parlor, and the first floor of the Education Wing. Baby Changing Stations are located in the Nursery, Rm. 118.

In the hustle and bustle of getting ourselves ready for church, it is easy to forget to turn off our cell phones. We offer this gentle reminder to please turn cell phones off so that the worship service is not disrupted by them.

## Serving This Sunday, March 26

**Altar Guild:** Wilmarie Boatwright, Callie Timbes, Peggy Turnes  
**Acolytes and Crucifer:** Collin Hucks, Anna Kate Nelson, Ross Fallaw  
**Counting Committee:** Sallie Goldfinch, Sarah Staub  
**Bus Duty:** Ben Smith  
**Trustee Duty:** Kent Bitting and Johnny Vaught  
**Children's Church:** Sammy and Debbie Johnson, Joy Tietje  
**Sound Technicians:** Lee Hickman, Charles Hucks  
**Ushers:** Mark Brooks (Chairman) Kent Bitting, Will Bitting, Tucker Gore, William Goldfinch, Billy Jones, Britt Stiltner, Bill Taylor, Brad Todd, Alex Todd, Johnny Vaught

## This Week at FUMC

### Sunday, March 26

9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
9:30 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast WRNN 99.5 FM  
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship / Sanctuary  
5:30 p.m. The Bridge / Family Life Center (FLC)  
5:30 p.m. UMYF / FLC

### Monday, March 27

7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts / FLC

### Tuesday, March 28

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Rooms 117 & 120  
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting / Room 215  
6:00 p.m. Cocaine Anonymous (CA) Meeting / FLC  
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts / FLC

### Wednesday, March 29

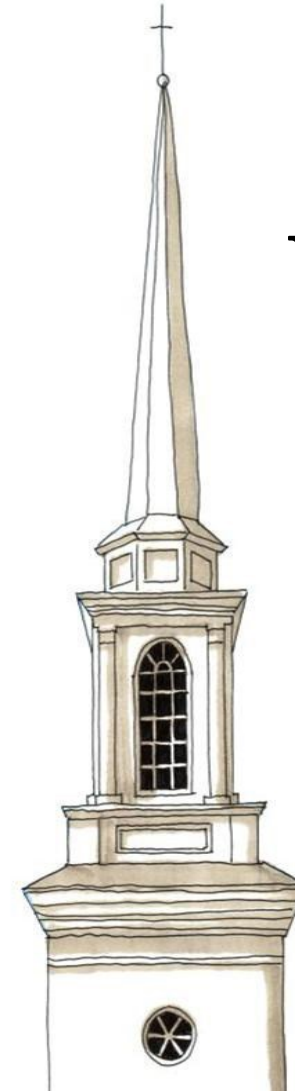
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Rooms 117 & 120  
12:00 p.m. Lenten Organ Meditation / Sanctuary  
12:30 p.m. Lenten Soup and Sandwich Fellowship / FLC  
3:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Program / FLC  
4:30 p.m. Wesley Treble Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105  
5:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105  
5:05 p.m. Youth Handbells Rehearsal / Handbell Room 205  
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal / Fellowship Hall  
6:15 p.m. Death and Resurrection of the Messiah / Room 216  
6:15 p.m. Carillon Choir Rehearsal / Handbell Room 205  
6:15 p.m. Adult Study: Draw All Things to God / Room 224  
7:00 p.m. Sonshine "Sunday" School Class / Parlor  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105

### Thursday, March 30

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Rooms 117 & 120  
12:00 p.m. Lenten Luncheon / St. Paul's Anglican Church

### Friday, March 31

7:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC



# First United Methodist Church

1001 Fifth Avenue, Conway  
South Carolina 29526  
(843) 488-4251  
[www.fumcconway.org](http://www.fumcconway.org)

Fourth Sunday in Lent  
March 26, 2017  
10:30 a.m.



## 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.