

FIRST CHURCH AT WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Abide With Me* William Monk
Kim Carey, *flute*; Melinda Hyman, *piano*

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 453 *More Love to Thee*
More Love to Thee, O Christ

* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God, who has done great things.

**We rejoice in our God, who made a way
through the desert of this world.**

Let us worship God,
who has caused streams of mercy
to flow in the wasteland.

**We are the people God has formed through Christ;
we worship him, and we rejoice!**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

We praise God for the grace that has saved us.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

~ PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE ~

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

¹⁸Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

²⁰The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,

to give drink to my chosen people,

²¹the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALTER

Psalm 126

Azmon

**Freedom was like a dream to us
When God set Zion free;
We laughed, we sang, our voices rang
With shouts of liberty.**

**The heathen nations round us said
“God’s gifts to them are good;”
Yes, God has done great things for us,
We praise him as we should.**

**Restore our fortunes now, O Lord,
Like Negev’s waterways,
And grant that those who sow in tears
May reap with hymns of praise.**

**Let those who weep as they go out
And take with them good seed,
Bring back in joy such harvest sheaves
As may fulfill their need.**

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

How Firm a Foundation

Paul Koch

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’ feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Gayle Fanshaw

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

Tim Whitten

* HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 2182

When God Restored Our Common Life

Restoration

* 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 *O That I Had a Thousand Voices* Michael Burkhardt

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 95

~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

* HYMN OF SENDING NO. 298 *Wondrous Love*
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

* BENEDICTION

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY Felix Mendelssohn
Allegro Molto (from Sonata VI)

* CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and
in celebration of Tillman and Linda Locklair's 50th Wedding Anniversary
by Ann, Donna and families.

Today, we welcome Tim Whitten to lead us in worship. Tim is the Disaster Recovery Director for Hurricane Florence for the South Carolina Annual Conference. Tim was also the former Director of Education and Mission at First UMC.

Rev. Kyle and Josh are away this weekend at Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island leading our confirmands and youth on retreat. May we hold Tim, Rev. Kyle, Josh, the other adult leader, and the youth in our prayers this morning.

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.

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, April 7

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 / Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Retreat Returns / FLC
6:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting / FLC Room 101

Monday, April 8

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
6:00 p.m. SPRC Meeting / FLC Room 101
7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts / FLC Room 102

Tuesday, April 9

8:00 a.m. Peoples Underwriters / FLC Room 102
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting / Room 213
6:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting / Commons
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, April 10

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, April 11

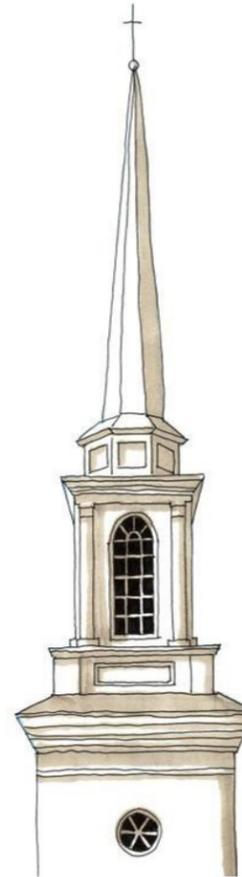
7:00 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast / Chick-Fil-A
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
12:00 p.m. Lenten Luncheon / Kingston Presbyterian Church
1:00 p.m. CAP Board Meeting / FLC Room 101
6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts / FLC

Friday, April 12

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

Next week is Palm Sunday. Worship will begin outside in the Courtyard. The congregation is asked to gather outside. Palm branches will be distributed to everyone. At the Procession of the Palms, all will process into the Sanctuary.

A Covered Dish Fellowship will follow Palm Sunday Worship in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite dish to share!



First United Methodist Church

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Fifth Sunday in Lent
April 7, 2019
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.