

We Gather to Worship God

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other. In baptism we become a part of Christ's living and life-giving self that makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at this table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Hallelujah
Carillon Handbell Choir

Leonard Cohen

INTROIT

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 98

To God Be the Glory

To God Be the Glory

* OPENING DIALOGUE

ALLELUIA! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! ALLELUIA!

Glory and honor, dominion and power, be to God for ever and ever.

Christ is risen indeed! ALLELUIA!

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.

* THE GLORIA PATRI No. 70

Meineke

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us come to into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

(silence is kept for reflection)

God of grace and glory,

you have brought us through the night of sin

into the light of Jesus' resurrection.

Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin.

Make us alive in Christ, O God.

Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin,

renew us in grace,

and restore us to living in your holiness,

through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

Rejoice with all creation around God's throne!

The light of the risen Christ

put to flight all evil deeds,

washes away sin,

restores innocence to the fallen,

cast out hate, brings peace,

and humbles earthly pride.

Jesus Christ loves you

and frees you from your sins by his blood.

To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

Amen.

* THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

**All may exchange signs of peace.*

~ *WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD* ~

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,

and like a lamb silent before its shearer,

so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

Thanks be to God.

THE ACT OF PRAISE

Psalm 22

Maryton

O praise the Lord, you that fear him,

O Israel's offspring, stand in awe;

All you who are of Jacob's line

Give glory always to the Lord.

The Lord does not despise the poor,

But when they cry, he hears their plea;

I will praise God and make my vows,

I will perform them publicly.

The poor shall hear and have their fill;

Those who seek God shall give him praise;

All nations shall turn to the Lord

And bow before his throne always.

Kingship belongs to God the Lord,

He rules the nations from his throne;

All those who sleep within the earth

Bow down to worship him alone.

My soul shall live for him, my heirs

Shall serve the Lord at his command,

To people yet unborn make known

The saving deeds of his right hand.

THE SECOND LESSON

I John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Beautiful Savior

Allen Griffith

* THE GOSPLE ACCLAMATION No. 2043

Celtic Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 15:1-8

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS 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 *Gardening 101* Rev. Kyle Randle
~ **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD** ~

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS No. 38

* HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 2248 (TFWS) *Bunessan*
Baptized in Water

THE PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY *Amazing Grace* *American Melody*

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 94
~ **WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD** ~

* THE HYMN OF SENDING No. 529 *Foundation*
How Firm a Foundation

* BENEDECTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY G. F. Handel
Allegro Maestoso (from Water Music Suite)

* CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and
in memory of George H. Jenkins, Sr.
by the families of Churchill Jenkins and George H. Jenkins, Jr.

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, April 29

Altar Guild: Christi Edwards, Jade Edwards, Debbie Johnson
Acolytes and Crucifer: Cooper Thomas, Ben Chanaca, Grady Hagen
Children's Church: John and Lauren Sawyer
Counting Committee: Sallie Goldfinch, Lynn Hammond
Bus Duty: Delan Stevens
Trustee Duty: Debbie Jenkins, Anna Barnhill
Sound Technicians: Lee Hickman, Charles Hucks, Dave Carey
Ushers: Spivey Hood (Chairman), Bob Butler, Matt Daly, Andy Hendrick, Blake Hewitt, Daniel Hunnicutt, James Mau, Doug Roof, Ben Smith, Randy Wood.

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, April 29

9:30 a.m. Newcomers Meet and Greet / Family Life Center
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
5:00 p.m. UMYF and Bridge Ministries / Family Life Center (FLC)

Monday, April 30

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts / FLC

Tuesday, May 1

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting / Room 213
10:00 a.m. Burroughs/Collins Circle / FLC Senior Room
11:30 a.m. Jimmy Hammond / FLC
6:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts / FLC
8:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting / FLC Senior Room

Wednesday, May 2

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
3:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Programs / FLC
3:45 p.m. Children's Activities / FLC
4:30 p.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal / Room 211
4:30 p.m. Wesley Treble Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
5:10 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
5:10 p.m. Voices in Bronze Rehearsal / Room 211
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal / Fellowship Hall
6:15 p.m. FUMC Chamber Orchestra / Sanctuary
6:15 p.m. Ladies Study: *Daniel~Lives of Integrity* / Room 216
6:15 p.m. *The Gospel of Mark Study* / Room 217
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
7:00 p.m. Sonshine "Sunday" School Class / Commons

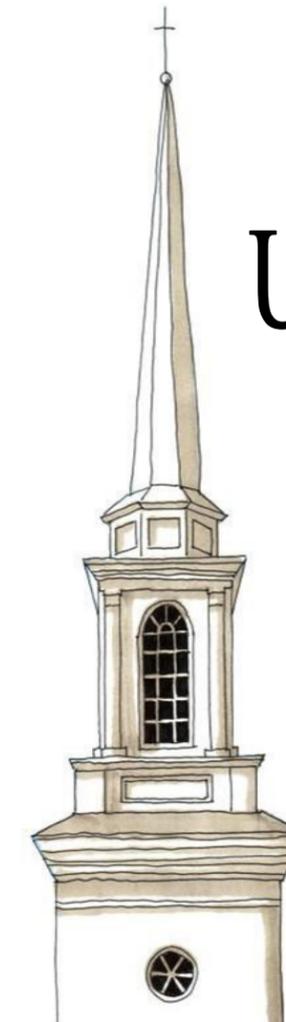
Thursday, May 3

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts / FLC

Friday, May 4

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing

Please hold drop off donations for the Yard Sale until the week of May 14th.
Please don't leave Yard Sale items in the Mission Corner of the Commons.
Contact Jan Gawith for special arrangements: (843) 347-9274



First United Methodist Church

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 29, 2018
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.