

# First Church at Worship

A Musical Service of Worship Celebrating the Contributions of Methodist and Wesleyan Hymn Writers.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY David German  
“Festive Trumpet Tune”

INTROIT (from the Narthex)

\* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 68 Engleberg  
“When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

\* THE EASTER GREETING  
ALLELUIA! Christ is risen!  
Christ is risen in deed! ALLELUIA!  
Response No. 304 “Easter People, Raise Your Voices” Regent Square

\* OPENING PRAYER  
Glorious God, source of joy and righteousness, enable us as redeemed and forgiven children evermore to rejoice in singing your praises. Grant that what we sing with you lips we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives; so that being doers of the Word and not hearers only, we may receive everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## FAVORITE METHODIST HYMNS AND SONGS

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” (st. 1) | No. 57  |
| “To God Be the Glory” (st. 1)              | No. 98  |
| “Blessed Assurance” (st. 1)                | No. 369 |
| “There’s Within My Heart a Melody” (st. 1) | No. 380 |
| “Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing” (st. ) | No. 400 |
| “The Old Rugged Cross” (st. 1)             | No. 504 |
| “Stand By Me” (st. 1)                      | No. 512 |
| “Fill My Cup, Lord”                        | No. 641 |
| “Hymn of Promise” (st. 2)                  | No. 707 |

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION No. 603 Winchester Old  
“Come, Holy Ghost, Our Hearts Inspire” (st. 1,2)

THE FIRST LESSON NT. Pgs.136  
Acts 16:9-15  
This is the word of God for the people of God  
Thanks be to God.

THE PSALTER Psalm 150 Azmon  
Within his temple, give God praise;  
In heaven above, give praise;  
For all his greatness, give God praise;  
For mighty acts, give praise.

Upon the ram’s horn, give God praise;  
With lyre and harp, give praise;  
With dance and timbrel, give God praise;  
With strings and pipe, give praise.

With clashing cymbals, give God praise;  
With cymbals loud, give praise;  
Let all that has breath give God praise;  
Praise to the Lord, all praise.

\* THE GLORIA PATRI NO. 181 Hanover  
Now let us adore and give God all right, all glory and power, all wisdom and might; all honor and blessing with angels above, and thanks never ceasing and infinite love.

\* THE GOSPEL LESSON John 14:23-29 NT Pg. 109  
This is the word of God for the people of God.  
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS Rev. Kyle  
“Pass It On”

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

HOMILY Rev. Kyle D. Randle  
“Plums or Pecans”

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM No. 33  
John Kelley Thompkins  
Emily Weiss Thompkins

THE BAPTISMAL HYMN OF WELCOME No. 605 Beach Spring  
“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”

CALL TO PRAYER No. 473 Lead Me, Lord  
“Lead Me, Lord”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
After each petition, please respond  
Hear us, O God;  
Your mercy is great.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE No. 472 McAfee  
“Near to the Heart of God” (st. 1)

OFFERTORY Ennio Morricone  
“Gabriel’s Oboe”

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Hal Hopson  
“We Are Singing”  
Thomas Hickman, drum, Lee Hickman, string bass

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 95

\* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING No. 140 Faithfulness  
“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thanks be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which you have given us; for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us. O most merciful Redeemer, friend, and brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, for your own sake.  
Amen.

\* THE HYMN OF SENDING No. 127 CWM Rhondda  
“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

\* BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL RESPONSE Peter Ludkin  
“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

\* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* CLOSING VOLUNTARY Sigfrid Kay-Elert  
“Now Thank We All Our God”

\* CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Piper Grace Gawith’s 9th Birthday.  
Much love and God Bless.  
by Grandma, Justin, Kieran, Kristopher, Cassey, Bailey and Josh

## DIRECTIONS FOR SINGING

I. Learn these tunes before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please.

II. Sing them exactly as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all; and if you have learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.

III. Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up, and you will find it a blessing.

IV. Sing lustily and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan.

V. Sing modestly. Do not bawl, so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together, so as to make one clear melodious sound.

VI. Sing in time. Whatever time is sung be sure to keep with it. Do not run before nor stay behind it; but attend close to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can; and take care not to sing too slow. This drawling way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.

VII. Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing Him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve here, and reward you when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.

From John Wesley’s Select Hymns, 1761

## NOTES ON THE HYMNS

“When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

This hymn has become a favorite of congregations, choirs, and musicians since its composition in 1972. It is among the most frequently arranged hymns for choir. Fred Pratt Green was an ordained Methodist minister in England from 1928-1969 who also wrote plays and poetry. Following his retirement, he took up hymn writing, and authored nearly 400 texts until his death in 2000. Green has been called the most important Methodist hymn writer since Charles Wesley.

“Easter People, Raise Your Voices”

This hymn was composed by William M. James in 1979 while he was pastor of Community UMC in New York City.

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

This is the most known and sung of all the Wesley hymns, and is often considered the signature hymn of Methodism. It has nearly always been the first hymn in Methodist hymnals. Charles Wesley wrote this text to celebrate his conversion on May 21, 1738. Wesley titled the original eighteen stanzas “For the Anniversary Day of One’s Conversion.” Seventeen stanzas appear as no. 58 in *The United Methodist Hymnal*.

“To God Be the Glory”

Composed in 1875, this is one of Fanny Crosby’s finest texts. It was popular in Great Britain long before it was popular in the USA, having been introduced there by the Moody and Sankey revivals of the 1870s and 1880s when it was still new and largely unknown in the USA.

“Blessed Assurance”

This is the most sung of all of Fanny Crosby’s over 8,000 hymns, and is among the most popular hymns of United Methodists today. Crosby, blind since six weeks after her birth, began writing at age six. She married musician Alexander Van Alstyne, also blind. She was a lifelong Methodist, and collaborated with the most popular gospel hymn writers of her time, including Bradbury, Doane, Lowry, Sankey, and Kirkpatrick.

“There’s Within My Heart a Melody”

Composed in 1910, it is sometimes inaccurately stated that this hymn was written following a fire that took the lives of the author’s wife and children. Author and composer Luther Bridgers attended Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky, and served as a Methodist Episcopal Church, South, evangelist in eastern Europe, and later as pastor in Georgia and North Carolina.

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Robert Robinson, a barber’s apprentice, was converted under the preaching of George Whitefield in 1755, and for a time preached at the Calvinistic Methodist chapel in Suffolk. He wrote this text in 1758.

“The Old Rugged Cross”

Composed by George Bennard in 1913, this hymn was popular among Methodists for almost fifty years before it was included in our hymnal. Bennard was a Salvation Army worker who became a Methodist evangelist in the northern USA and Canada. He wrote over 300 hymns.

“When the Storms of Life Are Raging Stand By Me”

This was the first hymn by an African American to be included in a Methodist hymnal (1966). Charles Tindley was the son of slaves, taught himself to read and write, and worked as a janitor in the Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia before attending Boston School of Theology, and was eventually ordained. In 1902 he returned to Calvary Methodist as its pastor and the congregation grew to over 7,000 members. Over his protest, it was renamed Tindley Temple Methodist Church.

“Fill My Cup, Lord”

Richard Blanchard was ordained in 1950 and served a number of large Methodist churches in Florida. In 1958, while waiting for a marriage counseling session at the church, he sat down at one of the pianos to soothe his frustrations, and within thirty minutes had completed the song.

“Hymn of Promise”

The hymn resulted from the author pondering ideas of life and death, spring and winter, Good Friday and Easter, and a phrase from T. S. Eliot, “In our end is our beginning.” Natalie Sleeth majored in music theory in college, and married a Methodist clergyman and homiletics professor. The hymn is often sung at funerals and memorial services, including the one for Sleeth’s husband, but it’s message of hope, resurrection, and new life should be heard and sung frequently. It is among the top five favorites of United Methodists.

“Come, Holy Ghost, Our Hearts Inspire”

This Wesley hymn was first published in 1740 under the topic “Before Reading the Scriptures.” The hymn is remarkable for its use of metaphor (fountain, fire, key, dove) and for its description of the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

“Gloria Patri”

The early Methodists were often persecuted, slandered, and even physically attacked, charged with being Papists and against the King of England. It is within this context that Charles Wesley composed this hymn in 1744.

“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”

The baptismal hymn was commissioned by the Hymnal Revision Committee for *The United Methodist Hymnal, 1989*. The hymn elaborates on the biblical and traditional promises of baptism.

“Lead Me, Lord”

This brief hymn is a small part of a larger work for organ and choir composed by Samuel Sebastian Wesley in 1861 in celebration of the new organ at Holy Trinity Church in Winchester. He was the grandson of Charles Wesley and famous as a performer and composer of church music.

“Near to the Heart of God”

This is the only hymn in this service whose words or music were not actually composed by a Methodist. Words and music were written in 1903 by Cleland B. McAfee, a Presbyterian. However, it became a favorite among members of the former Evangelical United Brethren Church, which joined with the Methodist Church in 1964. It was one of a number of hymns specifically requested by EUBs to be included in the 1989 hymnal.

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

With text by Thomas Chisholm and music by William Runyan, both Methodist ministers, it is curious why this hymn, written in 1923, did not appear in Methodist hymnals until 1989. It did, however, appear in the 1957 Evangelical United Brethren Church hymnal. It has since become a favorite of United Methodist congregations, with a theme of an unchanging God in a changing world.

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

William Williams was well-known in Wales during the last half of the 18th century as a Methodist poet and preacher. The original Welsh title is “Nerth I fyned trwy’r Anialwch,” which literally means “Strength to pass through the Wilderness.”

This service was adapted from “A Great Day of Singing: A Musical Service of Worship Celebrating the Contributions of Methodist and Wesleyan Hymn Writers.” Copyright © 2004 The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, Nashville TN. Used with permission.



# First United Methodist Church

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 5, 2013  
11:00 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. *A Great Day of Singing* was begun in the 20th century as annual Sunday worship service set aside for the celebration of music and congregational singing. The order of worship is thoroughly United Methodist, taken directly from our Basic Pattern, pages 3-5 in *The United Methodist Hymnal*. Let us worship in gladness. Jesus, the Lord of Life is with us.