

We Gather to Worship God

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week, Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We, having been washed in the word when we were born in the font, return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY Aaron Copeland
Fanfare for the Common Man

* INTROIT

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 92 Dix
For the Beauty of the Earth
Use refrain for Holy Communion

* OPENING DIALOGUE

From the corners of worry and fear,
from the shadows where we huddle with our doubts,
**God calls us to this place of sanctuary
where we can draw from Love's deep wells.**
In every moment where we look for strength to continue,
in every time wonder if faith is worth it,
**Jesus calls us to this time
where we can welcome the peace given to us.**
In every person who embraces us with acceptance,
in every touch that offers healing and hope,
**the Spirit calls us to see those around us
as God's beloved, our sisters and brothers of grace.**

* 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 confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.
(silence is kept for reflection)

Source of all life,
**we confess that we have not allowed
your grace to set us free.**
We fear that we are not good enough.
We hear your word of love freely given to us,
yet we expect others to earn it.
We turn to the church inward,
rather than moving it outward.
Forgive us. Stir us.
Reform us to be a church powered by love,
willing to speak for what is right,
act for what is just,
and seek the healing of your whole creation.
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! 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

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved!
Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.
My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Look, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.
My beloved speaks and says to me:
"Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;
for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.
The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.
This is the word of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God.

THE ACT OF PRAISE

Psalm 15

St. Peter

*Lord, who may dwell within your house
Or on your holy hill?*

*Those who do good and speak the truth,
Whose lives are blameless still;*

*Who have no guile upon their tongues
Nor harm their neighbor's life,
But honor those who fear the Lord
And turn away in strife;*

*Who do no wrong, but keep their word
And seek no bribe or gain;
All those who do such things shall live
And safe from harm remain.*

THE SECOND LESSON

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

On Eagle's Wings

Michael Joncas

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person." This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS Rev. Kyle

Words and Actions

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 Randle

Habits and Rules

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

* THE HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 399 *Messiah*
Take My Life, and Let It Be

OFFERTORY *Blessed Redeemer* Gary Lanier
Janet Lawrence, *clarinet*

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 95

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION No. 13

*Taking the Bread and Cup
*The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord's Prayer
Giving the Bread and Cup

All are invited to the Lord's Table at the direction of the ushers. There will be three serving stations. Communion will be received by Intinction. The bread will be placed in your hand for you to dip into the Cup. You are invited to kneel and pray at the Chancel Rail after receiving the elements.

The offering received at the Chancel Rail during Communion will be given to the Epworth Children's Home.

COMMUNION HYMNS

HYMN No. 2152 *Change My Heart, O God* *Change My Heart*
HYMN No. 2036 *Give Thanks* *Give Thanks*

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

* THE HYMN OF SENDING No. 103 *St. Denio*
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY David German
Festive Trumpet Tune

* **CONGREGATION STANDING**

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Dale Gladson for his birthday, September 7
by his family

Congratulations to Derek and Whitney Paschal on the birth of their daughter
Penelope Elizabeth who was born August 11.
Congratulations to grandparents, Blake and Janet Martin.

The rose on the altar is to celebrate the birth of
Joseph Smith Hyman
with proud parents, Joe Hunter and Mary Catherine, big sister Annie,
big brother Will, and Grandparents, Howard and JoAnn Smith.

Serving This Sunday, September 2

Altar Guild: Frances Driggers, Sue Dusenbury, Sylvia Richardson,
Lois Sayre

Acolytes and Crucifer: Cooper Thomas, Chad Steinfield, Caroline Daly

Children's Church: Sammy and Debbie Johnson

Counting Committee: Sallie Goldfinch, Lynn Hammond

Trustee Duty: Debbie Jenkins, Tyler Thomas

Sound Technicians: Lee Hickman, Charles Huckes, Dave Carey

Ushers: Brad Todd (Chairman), Kent and Will Bitting, Mark Brooks,
Tucker Gore, William Goldfinch, Britt Stiltner, Bill Taylor, Alex Todd,
Johnny Vaught, Mark Woodward.

This Week at FUMC

Sunday, September 2

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. New Adult Study / Family Life Center / Room 101
9:30 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast WRNN 99.5 FM
10:30 a.m. Worship Service / Sanctuary

Monday, September 3

Labor Day: Church Office is closed.

Tuesday, September 4

8:30 a.m. First Day of Preschool / Educations Wing
1:00 p.m. Jimmy Hammond / Family Life Center (FLC)
6:00 p.m. Cocaine Anonymous (CA) Meeting / FLC
8:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting / FLC Room 101

Wednesday, September 5

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
3:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Activities / FLC
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 / Room 205
6:30 p.m. Disciple Fast Track Adult Study / Room 218
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
7:00 p.m. Sonshine "Sunday" School Class / Commons

Thursday, September 6

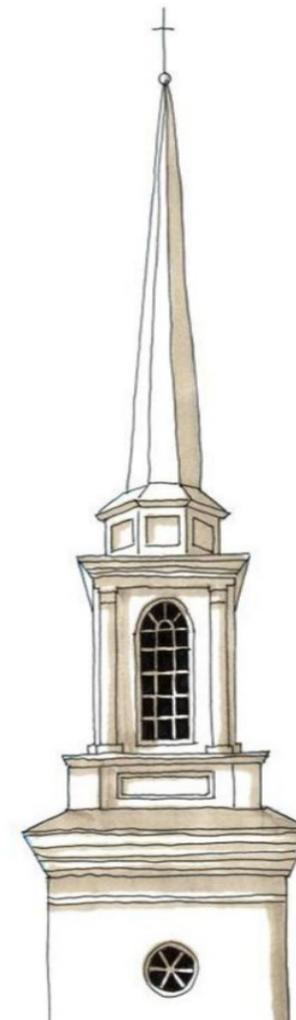
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing

Friday, September 7

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

Saturday, September 8

10:00 a.m. Girl Scouts / FLC Gathering Room



First United Methodist Church

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

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 2, 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.