

# We Gather to Worship God

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables, in which Jesus says the reign of God is like workers who get paid the same no matter when they start. God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY J. S. Bach  
*O God, Thou Faithful God*

## INTROIT

\* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 315 St. Kevin  
*Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

*We gather to meet with God  
**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**  
 To give God praise  
**And to seek God's face**  
 To bring before God all our days  
**And every part of our lives**  
 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, draw near to us  
**As we draw near to You.***

\* 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

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*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 you word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn 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.*

*God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

\* 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 ~

THE FIRST LESSON Exodus 14:19-31 OT Pg. 61

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

THE ACT OF PRAISE No. 135 Exodus 15:1B-11, 20-21  
*Canticle of Moses and Miriam*  
 Read Responsively

THE SECOND LESSON Romans 14:1-12 NT Pg. 163

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

ANTHEM African-American Spiritual

*Wade in the Water*  
 Wesley Treble Choir  
 Chad Steinfield, tambourine, Lee Hickman, string bass

\* THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 18:21-35 NT Pg. 20

*We have an advocate, Jesus Christ the righteous; your sins are forgiven on account of his name. 1John 2:1, 12*

*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 Rev. Kyle D. Randle

*Why Is Forgiveness so Hard?*

## ~ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ~

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 551 Marsh Chapel

*Awake, O Sleeper*

THE PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY Johann Pachelbel

*Now Praise We God Almighty*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Antonio Vivaldi

*Come and Be Joyful*

\* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Doxology No. 95

## ~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

\* THE HYMN OF SENDING No. 560 Acceptance

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

\* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

\* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* CLOSING VOLUNTARY Leon Boellmann

*Toccata (from Suite Gothique)*

\* CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Garvin Sr. and Betty Jo Huggins, by their grandsons, Gunner and McCarthy.

The rosebud on the altar is to celebrate the birth of Ty James Hudson!

Congratulations to proud parents, Alison and Colby, grandparents, Lynn and Jimmy Hammond, and great grandparents, Amy Lovell and George Jenkins!

## Prayer Concerns

**Assisted Living/Rehab Facilities: MedStar:** Lois Vaught; **Morningside of Georgetown:** Marie Newman; **Brookdale:** Bobbie Davis, Harriet Edwards; **Anderson Oaks:** Mary T. Foxworth; **Agape:** Mary Hucks, **Mt. Prospect, IL:** Faye Perrault; **Martinez, GA:** Helen Wakefield

**At Home:** David Reimschuessel, Irby Koon, Julia Land, Lois Sechriest, Myron and Maxine Dunn, Eugenia Benton, Rebecca Howell, Betty Folks, Gwen Mishoe, Billy Joe Calhoun, Ruth Thomas, Lois Vaught, Ted Boyd.



### 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, September 17

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

**Acolytes and Crucifer:** Lila Myers, Savannah Seremet, Alston Tew

**Counting Committee:** Sallie Goldfinch, Sarah Staub

**Trustee Duty:** Kent Bitting, Johnny Vaught

**Bus Duty:** Mark Brooks

**Children's Church:** Joy Tietje

**Sound Technicians:** Lee Hickman, Charles Hucks

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

### This Week at FUMC

#### Sunday, September 17

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Melody Bells Rehearsal / Room 117
- 9:30 a.m. The Hut Bible Class / Broadcast WRNN 99.5 FM
- 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship / Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Acolyte Training / Meeting / Sanctuary
- 5:30 p.m. UMYF and Bridge Meeting / Family Life Center (FLC)

#### Monday, September 18

- 8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
- 12:00 p.m. Hymns, Hotdogs, and Hamburgers / Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts / FLC

#### Tuesday, September 19

- 8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting / Room 215
- 6:00 p.m. Cocaine Anonymous (CA) Meeting / FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts / FLC
- 8:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting / FLC Senior Room

#### Wednesday, September 20

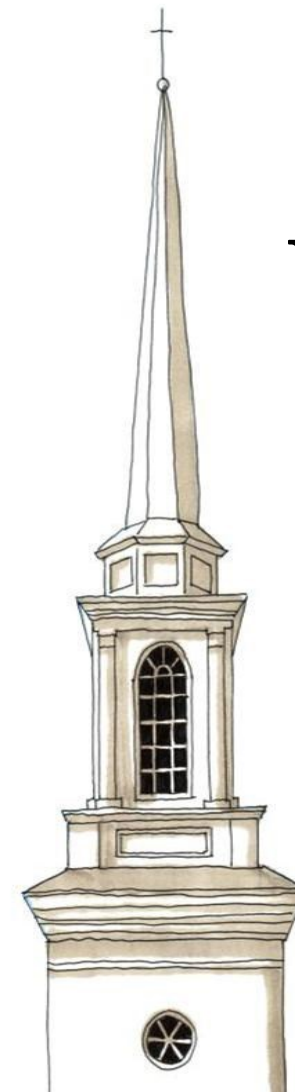
- 8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
- 3:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Activities / FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Wesley Treble Choir Rehearsal / Room 105
- 4:30 p.m. Chime Choir (Grades 1 & 2) / Room 211
- 5:10 p.m. Voices in Bronze (Grades 3-5) Rehearsal / Room 211
- 5:10 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal / Room 105
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal / Fellowship Hall
- 6:15 p.m. "Seamless" Ladies Bible Study / Room 216
- 6:15 p.m. "Soul Shift" Bible Study / Room 217
- 6:15 p.m. Carillon Rehearsal / Room 205
- 7:00 p.m. Sonshine Class Meeting / Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Room 105

#### Thursday, September 21

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

#### Friday, September 22

- 8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
- 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)

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 17, 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.

### Stewardship for the week of September 10

<b>Operating</b>	<b>6,831.92</b>	Sunday School	156
Epworth	570.00	Worship	243
UMCOR	720.00	Wonderful Wednesday	133
Building Fund	100.00		
Capital Campaign 14'	190.00	Help4Kids	
Total	8,411.92	Vienna Sausages	42
		School Supply Items	16
		CAP Items	16