

We Gather to Worship God

Someone is casting out demons in Jesus' name who isn't part of Jesus' own circle, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus who refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes the good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY Johann Pachelbel
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

* INTROIT

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 185 *Laudes Donini*
When Morning Gilds the Skies

* OPENING DIALOGUE

If it had not been God who was on our side,
the troubles of our world would have swallowed us whole.

If it had not been God who was on our side,
the sorrows of our times would have swept us away.

Are any among us suffering?

Come and pray.

Are any among us cheerful?

Come sing songs of praise.

Are any among us sick?

Come and ask for healing.

Our help is in our God,

the One who made heaven and earth.

Call upon God, creator and rescuer.

God is on our side.

* 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 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

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor. This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

THE ACT OF PRAISE

Psalm 124

Cleansing Fountain

*If God had not been on our side,
Let Israel always say;*

*If God had not been on our side,
With foes in fierce array,*

They would have swallowed us alive

While thirsting for our blood;

The torrent would have overwhelmed

And drowned us in the flood.

The raging waters surely would

Have buried us beneath;

Praise God who has not let us be

A victim for their teeth.

Like birds from broken nets, O Lord,

We have escaped from death;

Our help is in the Name of God

Who made both heaven and earth.

THE SECOND LESSON

James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins. This is the word of God for the people of God.

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

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Rejoice the Lord Is King

Craig Courtney

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 9:38-50

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if our eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. "For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

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

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Rev. Kyle

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

Greener Grass Theory

Rev. Kyle Randle

~ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ~

* HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 596

Liebster Jesu

Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Verso in G Minor

Domenico Zipoli

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Prayer for Guidance

Allen Pote

* PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Doxology No. 95

~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

* THE HYMN OF SENDING No. 577

CWM Rhondda

God of Grace and God of Glory

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Benedetto Marcello

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

* CONGREGATION STANDING

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our Grandson, Daniel Michael Jones' 10th birthday on October 6 by Grans and Pops.

The rosebud on the altar is to celebrate the birth of Reese Hawley Steiner with proud parents, Scott and Jessica.

Prayer Concerns: George and Amy Lovell Jenkins, Betty Folks, Catherine Causey, Bill Taylor, Sylvia Avant, Bob Thompkins, Rebecca Howell, Savannah Seremet, Julia Land, Myron and Maxine Dunn, Eugenia Benton, Gwen Mishoe, Billy Joe Calhoun, Ruth Thomas, Ted Boyd.

Serving This Sunday, September 30

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

Acolytes and Crucifer: Ben Chanaca, Grady Hagen, Matthew Daly

Children's Church: Mark and Jenny Chanaca

Counting Committee: Sallie Goldfinch, Lynn Hammond

Bus Duty: Charles Myers

Trustee Duty: Debbie Jenkins, Tyler Thomas

Sound Technicians: Lee Hickman, Charles Hucks, 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 30

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
11:30 a.m. Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal / Sanctuary
12:45 p.m. Trinity UMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary
2:00 p.m. Trinity UMC Worship / Sanctuary
3:00 p.m. Acolyte Training / Sanctuary
4:15 p.m. FUMC Players Drama Team / Sanctuary
5:00 p.m. UMYF High School / Family Life Center (FLC)
5:00 p.m. UMYF Middle School / FLC
5:00 p.m. Bridge Group/ FLC

Monday, October 1

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
11:00 a.m. Henry/Rogers Circle Meeting / FLC Room 101

Tuesday, October 2

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Educations Wing
10:00 a.m. Burroughs/Collins Circle Meeting / FLC Room 101
11:00 a.m. Jimmy Hammond / FLC Gathering Room
6:00 p.m. Cocaine Anonymous (CA) Meeting / FLC Room 102
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts / FLC Room 104
8:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting / FLC Room 101

Wednesday, October 3

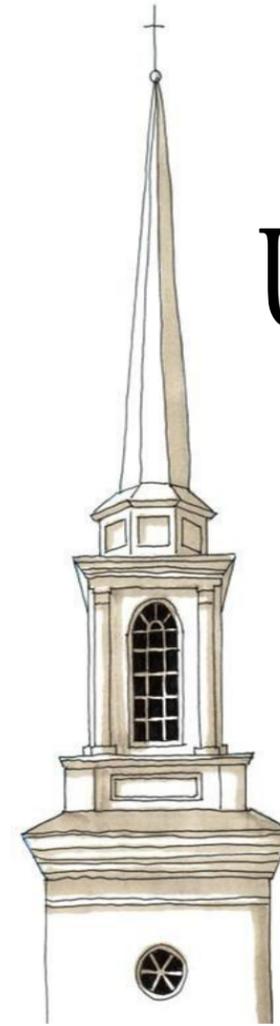
8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
3:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Activities / FLC
4:00 p.m. Asbury Ringers Rehearsal / Room 211
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class / Education Wing Room 123
4:30 p.m. Wesley Treble Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105
4:45 p.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal / Room 211
5:15 p.m. Cherub 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
6:15 p.m. Ladies Bible Study Fellowship / Room 216
6:15 p.m. Disciple Fast Track Adult Study / Room 218
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room 105

Thursday, October 4

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts / FLC Room 104
7:00 p.m. Trinity UMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room105

Friday, October 5

8:30 a.m. Preschool / Education Wing
7:00 p.m. CA Meeting / FLC Room 102



First United Methodist Church

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

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 30, 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.