



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
Fayetteville First UMC
13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 22, 2021

GREETING

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin
Senior Minister

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Fountain Reverie
Mr. Justin Maxey, Director of Music & Organist

Perry Fletcher

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence
Associate Minister

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 84:1-4

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

**My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,

where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

***HYMN 580**

Lead On, O King Eternal

LANCASHIRE

***INVOCATION**

Dr. Martin

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

Dr. Martin and **People**

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. *universal UMH 881



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***GLORIA PATRI**

MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:

“The peace of Christ be with you.” **“And also with you.”**

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Dr. Martin

FIRST READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

Rev. Lawrence

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***HYMN 451**

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Rev. Lawrence

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

arr. Benjamin Harlan

*Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far thy face to see and in thy presence rest.*

*No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mem’ry find
A sweeter sound than Jesus’ name, O Savior of mankind!*

*O hope of ev'ry contrite heart, O joy of all the meek,
To those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!*

*But what to those who find? Ah, this no tongue or pen can show
The love of Jesus what it is, one but His loved ones know.*

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Rev. Lawrence and People

**Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the Scriptures are read
and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

***GOSPEL READING**

John 6:56-69

Rev. Lawrence

⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." ⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Life Lessons: Be Prepared

Dr. Martin

***HYMN 514**

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

WEBB

***BENEDICTION**

Dr. Martin

*May the peace of Christ go with you wherever he may send you.
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our arms.*

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

Please remember in your prayers:

Van Askew
Annelle Burch
Joe Byers
Nancy Byers

Richard Clayton
Anne Free
Margaret Grainger
Martha Hale

Tangie Hubbard
Cindy Jennings
Doris Kerlin
Claudia Rhodes

Helen Voyles
Mabel Wilbanks
Brad Wilkinson

In Memoriam
Ilene Watson
August 14, 2021

Our Christian prayers and sympathy are with

James and Florence Prine upon the death of James's brother, Herbert, on Friday, August 13.

Lewis Watson, Jabra Thomason, Hope Satterfield, and Rory Turner upon the death Lewis' wife, Jabra's mother, and Hope and Rory's grandmother, Ilene Watson, on August 14.



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Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version

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