

The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church

7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | 11:00 AM | JULY 16, 2023

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence
Associate Minister

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

In the Garden
arr. Mark Hayes

Mr. Justin Maxey
Director of Music & Organist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 119
Nan C. Merrill, *Psalms for Praying*

The Rev. Joe Harrington and **People**
Retired United Methodist Minister

Your Truth is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

**You give me strength as I descend into the inner sanctum, to uncover the hidden blessings,
to seek the treasures of the Spirit.**

When I am filled with fear,

I meditate upon your Light.

I yearn to have every doubt and fear quelled and transformed;

O, Heart of all hearts, bless me with your healing Light, that I may be a loving presence.

*HYMN 261

Lord of the Dance

LORD OF THE DANCE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rev. Lawrence 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

*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

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:

"The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you."

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Harrington 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.

FIRST READING

Romans 8:1-11

Rev. Harrington

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.
Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

Rev. Lawrence

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Harrington

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 600

Wonderful Words of Life

WORDS OF LIFE

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence

OFFERTORY

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name
Tom Fettke

Chancel Choir

When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of your fingers;
The moon and stars suspended in space.
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

You have given man a crown of glory and honor,
And have made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation:
The beasts of the field, The birds of the air, The fish of the sea.

Oh, what is man?
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

O Lord, our God the majesty and glory of your name
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens.
O Lord, our God; little children praise You perfectly,
And so would we. And so would we.

Alleluia! Alleluia! The majesty and glory of Your name.
Alleluia! Alleluia! The majesty and glory of Your name.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*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.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Lawrence

Children are invited to return to their seats following the Children's Moment.
Wonders of Worship will resume in August.
The nursery is available for infants through 3 years.

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Rev. Harrington

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow.⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away.⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower.¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Lawrence

***HYMN 664**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

THE ASH GROVE

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Lawrence

***POSTLUDE**

Toccata from Suite Gothique, Op. 25
Léon Boëllmann

Mr. Maxey

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

Please remember in your prayers:

Van Askew
Nancy Byers
Richard Clayton
Karen Davis
Robbie Gray

Martha Hale
Don Harp
Tangie Hubbard
Cindy Jennings
Doris Kerlin

Jerry Light
Claudia Rhodes
Ingrid Shields
Brenda Tierman
Helen Voyles

Julie Watson
Paul Wiley

The flowers in the sanctuary today are presented to the glory of God
and in memory of Hutch Redwine by Harriett Bankston.

The rosebud on the altar is presented to the glory of God
and in celebration of the birth of Charlie Michelle Poole on July 11, 2023.
Parents are Bethany and Chris Poole. Grandparents are Larry and Becky Voyles.

QR Code to
CONNECT



QR Code for
WEEKENDER



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Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version
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AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays 7 PM; Wednesdays 7 PM;
Fridays 7 PM; Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM

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GIVING



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