

# *The Worship of God*

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church  
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany | 11:00 AM | February 1, 2026

## MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Nicholas Bowden, organ  
Minister of Music  
Carolyn Hancock, Violin

## INTROIT

*All that hath life and breath, praise ye the Lord!*  
John Ness Beck

The Chancel Choir

*All that hath life and breath, praise ye the Lord;  
shout to the Lord, Alleluia!  
Praise Him! Laud Him! Alleluia!*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Drew West  
Minister of Children and Families

## \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 64

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

NICAEA

## \*INVITATION, CONFESSION, & PARDON

Rev. West and People

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*Let us pray together:*

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have failed to be an obedient church.**

**We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love,  
we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

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! Glory to God. Amen.**

## \*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. West

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:

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

## CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

Rev. West

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. West

## OFFERTORY

*Brightest and Best*  
arr. Shawn Kirchner  
Southern Harmony, 1835

The Chancel Choir  
Carolyn Hancock, Violin  
Rick Massengale, Piano

Hail the bless'd morn, see the great Mediator down from the regions of glory descend! Shepherds go worship the babe in the manger, lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

*Brightest and bests of the stars of the morning, dawn on the darkness and lend us thine aid. Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining, low lies his bed with the beasts of the stall. Angels adore him in slumber reclining, Maker, and Monarch, and Savior of all.

*Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on the darkness and lend us thine aid. Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

Shall we not yield him, in costly devotion, odours of Edom and off'rings divine, Gems of the mountains and pearls of the ocean, myrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

*Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on the darkness and lend us thine aid. Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

## \*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. West

*Children are invited to return to seats after Children's Moment.*

*No Wonders of Worship today as we celebrate Communion together.*

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Barb Combs and **People**  
Certified Lay Speaker

**God of all the ages,  
you have revealed your grace  
in our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**As we wait patiently on your mercies,  
strengthen us to live in your justice,  
that with open hearts we may hear  
and accomplish your will,  
through Christ Jesus. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Matthew 5:17-26*

Ms. Combs

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder,' and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment, and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council, and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny."

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

*"Isn't That Excessive?"*

The Rev. Charles Robinson  
Minister of Nurture

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves  
in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**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.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

Gluten-free elements are available upon request at the chancel.

You are invited to contribute to the Benevolence Fund by leaving an offering on the chancel rail. These funds are used to assist those in need.

## CHORAL MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Ave Verum*  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

The Chancel Choir

*Ave, ave verum Corpus natum de Maria Virgine: Verum passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine.  
Cujus latus perforne: Esto nobis prae gustatum in mortis examine.*

Transliteration: *Hail, true Body, born of the virgin Mary; Who has suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for all humankind: whose side was pierced, whence flowed water and blood: Be for us a fortaste (of heaven) during our final examining.*

## \*HYMN 428

*For the Healing of the Nations*

CWM RHONDDA

## \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Robinson

## \*CHORAL RESPONSE

*The Lord bless you and keep you*  
Peter J. Lukin

The Chancel Choir

*The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you, and give you peace. Amen.*

## \*POSTLUDE

*Voluntary in G*  
John Stanley

Mr. Bowden

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in bold type.

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### Please remember in your prayers:

Courtney Burch  
Karen Davis

Martha Hale  
Tangie Hubbard

Paul Wiley  
Dick Webb



WEEKENDER

**Souper Bowl Ends**  
**February 8th**  
**11:00 A.M.**

**SAGE Trip**  
**February 10th**  
**8:30 A.M.**

**Nathan Avakian Concert**  
**February 22nd**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**Sanctuary**



CONNECT

Online Giving: [onrealm.org/FFUMC/give](https://onrealm.org/FFUMC/give)

Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version  
Hymns: Copyright 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays, Wednesdays,  
Fridays, Saturdays 7 PM; Thursdays, 7:30 AM

NA Meeting: Thursdays 7:30 PM



GIVE

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