

# The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church

Second Sunday of Lent | 11:00 AM | March 1, 2026

## MUSIC OF PREPARATION

*Amazing Grace*  
Arr. George Shearing

Nicholas Bowden, organ  
Minister of Music

## INTROIT

*Suite No. 1 in G* (BWV 1007)  
Johann Sebastian Bach

Parker Olsen, Marimba

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Drew West  
Minister of Children and Families

## \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 116

*The God of Abraham Praise*

LEONI

## \*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

The Rev. Charles Robinson  
Minister of Nurture

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Robinson

## OFFERTORY

*Psalm 121*  
arr. Diane Bish

The Chancel Choir

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help.  
My help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth.  
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved; He that keepeth thee will not slumber.

*Psalm 121 (KJV)*

## \*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

Rev. Robinson and People

**Artist of souls,  
you sculpted a people for yourself  
out of the rocks of wilderness and fasting.  
Help us so that these forty days  
may sharpen our hunger for your holy friendship,  
and wet our thirst for the living water you offer  
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

*John 3:1-17*

Rev. Robinson

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

*"The Obvious isn't Always Apparent"*

The Rev. Kaylen Short  
Senior Minister

## 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.

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester*  
L.J. White

The Fayette Young Singers  
The Chancel Choir Trebles

*O holy Jesus, most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clerally, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly. Amen.*

## \*HYMN 593

*Here I Am, Lord*

HERE I AM, LORD

## \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Short

## \*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

*Children's Corner (L.113)*  
*Doctor gradus ad parnassum*  
Claude Debussy

Parker Olsen, Marimba

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in bold type.

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### Please remember in your prayers:

Karen Davis  
Martha Hale

Tangie Hubbard  
Paul Wiley

Dick Webb



WEEKENDER

Mozart Requiem  
Choir Concert with Orchestra  
March 22nd  
7:00 pm

Save the Date  
Great Day of Service  
April 18  
9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Save the Date  
VBS  
June 22-26



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

## FAYETTEVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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