

The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church

18th Sunday After Pentecost | 11:00 AM | September 27, 2026

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Improvisation on Come, Thou Almighty King
ITALIAN HYMN

Mr. J Martin Alexander
Associate Organist

*INTROIT

Joyful, Joyful
arr. Johnnie Carl

HYMN TO JOY

Joyful, Joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love. Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the stars above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day. Amen!

*WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Allison Keith
Associate Minister

*HYMN 159

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Rev. Keith 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. Keith

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:
"The peace of Christ be with you." **"And also with you."**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Keith and **People**

God of all who wander in the wilderness,
you go before us as beacon and guide.
Lead us through all danger,
sustain us through all desolation,
and bring us home to the land
you have prepared for us.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Matthew 21:23-32

Florence Prine

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

The Rev. Charles Robinson
Minister of Nurture

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Robinson and **People**

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.

OFFERTORY

I'd Rather Have Jesus
George-Beverly Shea

The Chancel Choir
Sam Burch, Baritone

I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold. I'd rather be his than have riches untold. I'd rather have Jesus than houses or land. I'd rather be true to his nail pierced hand: than to be the king of a vast domain, or be held in sin's dread sway. I'd rather have Jesus than anything this world affords today. I'd rather have Jesus than men's applause: I'd rather be faithful to his dear cause. I'd rather have Jesus than worldwide fame. I'd rather be true to his holy name; than to be the king of a vast domain, and be held in sin's dread sway. I'd rather have Jesus than anything this world affords today.

*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

Dana Lamb-Schaubroeck
Minister to Children

Children ages 4 years through 2nd grade are invited to attend Wonders of Worship in Room B225.
Younger children are invited to attend with a parent.
Children 3rd grade and older are encouraged to stay in the sanctuary for the service.
The nursery is available for infants through 3 years.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 17:1-7

Rev. Keith

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

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

SERMON

"Stone and Rock"

The Rev. Kaylen Short
Senior Minister

*HYMN 140

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Short

*CHORAL RESPONSE

May the Lord, Mighty God
EDELWEISS

The Chancel Choir

*POSTLUDE

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
arr. Don Phillips

J. Martin Alexander

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in bold type.

Please remember in your prayers:

Brian Collins
Karen Davis

Tangie Hubbard
Martha Hale

Beverly Mobley
Joyce Ramsey

Will Sneed
Paul Wiley

In Memoriam
Margaret Pettis
September 19, 2026



WEEKENDER

World Communion
Sunday
October 4, 2026

Titus II
Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, October 6
12:00 pm

Blood Drive
Gym
Sunday, October 11
8 AM - 1 PM



CONNECT

Online Giving: 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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