



## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

### Fayetteville First UMC

#### 15th Sunday after Pentecost

#### September 5, 2021

#### GREETING

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence and **People**  
Associate Minister

#### MUSIC OF PREPARATION

*Morning Has Broken*  
Mr. Justin Maxey, Director of Music & Organist

arr. Dorothy Wells

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lawrence

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 146:1-3, 10*

Rev. Lawrence

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!  
**I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**  
Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.  
**The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!**

#### \*HYMN 145

*Morning Has Broken*

BUNESSAN

#### \*INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Rev. Joe Watson and **People**  
Minister of Nurture

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.**



Fayetteville First United Methodist Church welcomes you.

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*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.**

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Lawrence

*Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:*

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

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Watson 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

*James 2:1-10, 14-17*

Rev. Watson

*My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?*

*<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.*

*<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.*

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Watson

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

Paul T. Langston

*God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy pow'r;  
Crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us, free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days.*

*Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be  
Armored with all Christ-like graces in the fight to set men free.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage that we fail not man nor thee! Amen.*

## \*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

## \*GOSPEL READING

*Mark 7:24-37*

Rev. Watson

<sup>24</sup>From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

## SERMON

*Life Lessons: Be Rich*

Rev. Lawrence

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

See page 13 for responses.

## COMMUNION

This week we will be celebrating communion by intinction. The ushers will direct you to the front of the sanctuary where you will be offered a wafer dipped in the cup. Individual servings and gluten-free options are available on the altar if you prefer. After receiving the elements, you are invited to kneel or remain at the altar for prayer. Offerings may be left at the altar to support our church benevolence fund to assist those in need in our community.

## 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 454

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

OPEN MY EYES

## \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Lawrence

## POSTLUDE

*Psalm LXXXI, 1-3: Exultemus*

Percy Whitlock

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

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### 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



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Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version

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GIVING

