

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - LITTLE ROCK



Surviving to **Thriving**

Being good neighbors to make Little Rock a place where children THRIVE.

**MAY 15, 2022 | FIRST TRADITION 11:00 AM | FIFTH SUNDAY OF
EASTER**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Jubilate! Amen! | Dmitri S. Bortniansky

Center Street Ringers

CALL TO WORSHIP

You are a child of God created in the Divine Image. You are welcomed, affirmed, and included at First Church, not despite, but because of your age, ability, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity. This is how the Holy Spirit works: when you are welcomed, all are welcomed. When all are welcomed and embraced as the Body of Christ, the world is transformed into a place where all of God's children can THRIVE, finding the Trust, Health, Relationship, Imagination, Value, and Education they need.

Rev. Donna Hankins

We are all children of God. Thanks be to God!

PASSING OF THE PEACE †

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN †

Ye Servants of God | United Methodist Hymnal 181

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Whether the anxiety stems from work, parenting, finances, physical issues, or even world conditions, You are there, Lord, to help us shoulder the weight. Help us to recognize You in all Your ways. Through such difficult times, You will teach us gratitude to enlarge our faith and help us see things we could see earlier, if we would only let You. We offer this prayer through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson

CHILDREN'S TIME

CHORAL ANTHEM

I Cried All Night Long | Clayton White

Ensemble Choir
Ginger Young, soloist

RECOGNITION AND BLESSING OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING

SENIORS

Brandon Bates

Leader:

We praise God in honor of those who have reached the milestone of graduation. We celebrate what they have become through God's grace and pray blessing over all that is yet to be. God's Holy Word declares that before you were even formed, God knew you. While in your mother's womb, God foresaw a gracious and good purpose for you. At your birth, God's very breath filled you with promise and life.

All:

Mighty God, bless and protect our graduates as they journey on. Remind them to lean on your strength. Your steadfast love and faithfulness have brought them through trouble, sorrows and setbacks. Your steadfast love and faithfulness will help them face the future unafraid. To You be all the glory and honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

VOCAL SOLO

Hallelujah | Leonard Choen

Leslie Darwin O'Brien

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

GOSPEL LESSON | Luke 17: 11-19 †

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Anna Beth Gorman

SERMON

Anxiety to Gratitude
Surviving to Thriving Series, Week 3

Rev. David Freeman

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

GENEROSITY MOMENT

Bari Halbrook

OFFERTORY

Lord, I Know I Been Changed | Larry Schackley

Ensemble Choir
Kelley Ponder, piano

DOXOLOGY † | United Methodist Hymnal 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING †

PRAYER FOR THE ESSENTIAL LIFE †

All: Let us take hold of the life that really is life!

Leader: Go into the world pursuing justice.

All: Let us take hold of the life that really is life!

Leader: Go into the world seeking to share.

All: Let us take hold of the life that really is life!

Leader: Go into the world putting love into action.

All: Let us take hold of the life that really is life!

Leader: Go into the world seeing the Christ in all we meet.

All: Let us take hold of the life that really is life!

CLOSING HYMN †

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing | United Methodist Hymnal 671

SENDING FORTH IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

RESPONSE FOR NEW MEMBERS †

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

BENEDICTION †

CHORAL BENEDICTION †

Until We Meet Again | Christi Jones

POSTLUDE

James Stanley

class of
CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2022



SCAN ME

Try our Digital Connect Card!

Use the camera on your cell phone to scan QR Code!

Online Giving • New Here • eNewsletter Sign-Up



Maggie Collins
Little Rock Central High School



Owen Melson
Little Rock Central High School



Sean Mills
Arkansas Virtual Academy



Heather Shalin
Little Rock Central High School

ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE

Clergy: Rev. David Freeman, Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson,
Rev. Donna Hankins

Music & Worship Arts: Center Street Ringers, Ensemble Choir, Ginger Young, Leslie Darwin O'Brien, Kelley Ponder & James Stanley

Liturgist: Anna Beth Gorman

Audio/Visual: Christopher Cone

Altar Guild: Paula Johnson, Karen Nelson, Betty Harris, & Susan Weir

Altar Flowers: To the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Maggie Hurst to Aubrey Berkowitz on Saturday, May 14th, given by Joseph and Mimi Hurst.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Requesting Prayer:

Don Nolley, Tim Bartlett, Pat Matthews, Lynda Lewis, Mark Wyers, Grace Hopper, Bob Nelson, Ceile Faulkner, Marianne Ligon, Kristi Rodgers, the people of Ukraine, all displaced people.

Yearly Prayer List

May 9-15

Hattie, Jordan, Tammy, Charlotte, Autumn, Hannah, Charles, Martha, Anthony, Becky, Toby, Joshua, Martha, Cynthia, Susan, Rex, Emily, Ruth, Laura, David, Phyllis, Jack, Nan

Sunday Morning Class Updates

Due to COVID19, many of our Sunday Morning classes will make changes from time to time in their schedules. We'll do our best to keep a running list of classes and their status below.

Quadrilateral (Rm 205)

In-Person

Koinonia (Rm 209)

In-Person

Unity (Rm 204)

Hybrid: In-Person and on Zoom

Anderson Sherman (Rm 212)

Hybrid: In-Person and on Zoom

Choate (Rm 210)

Hybrid: In-Person and on Zoom

Bowen Cabe (Rm 203)

Hybrid: In-Person and on Zoom

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, May 15, 2022

- 9:00 am First Word (Cokesbury)
- 10:00 am Adult Sunday School
- 11:00 am First Tradition (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 pm Vision Team Meeting (Hybrid/Unity)
- 5:00 pm First Youth

Monday, May 16, 2022

- 9:00 am Flower Girls
- 12:00 pm Life Group: Caring for Aging Parents
- 1:00 pm John Coulter Memorial Service

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

- 7:00 am Tues Morning Bible Study (Zoom)
- 9:30 am Staff Meeting
- 10:30 am Worship Planning
- 5:00 pm Stewardship & Finance (Hybrid/Unity)
- 6:00 pm Board of Stewards (Hybrid/Unity)
- 6:00 pm Grief Journey Group

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

- 11:00 am Crepe Coop Food Truck
- 11:30 am Lunch & Learn (First Cup Café)
- 5:30 pm Center Street Ringers
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 19, 2022

7:00 pm Organ Recital by James Stanley

8:00 pm Recital Reception

Lunch and Learn
Wednesday at noon
in the First Cup Cafe
May 18th & 25th

Bring your lunch, curiosity, and questions to a gathering in First Cup. Our time together is an opportunity to spend time with friends and expand our understanding of a topic relevant to our faith community.

May 18th – Tonya Hale will address the topic of gender and pronouns, when and why we use he/she/they.

May 25th – David Freeman will talk about the current state of the UMC in Arkansas and beyond.

All are welcome!