

November 13, 2022 | FIRST TRADITION 11:00 AM | TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GATHERING

PRELUDE

James Stanley

Vater unser im Himmelreich, BWV 636 | J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP †

Rev. Donna Hankins

ONE: Come, all who are weary

ALL: Weary of wealth, of poverty, of power, of struggle, of division

ONE: Come, all who are heavy-laden

ALL: Laden with too much, with too little, with anxiety, with fear, with anger

ONE: Come, all who have hope

ALL: Hope for liberation, for peace, for freedom, for the kingdom

ONE: Hear and believe these words

ALL: "See, I am making all things new."

OPENING HYMN 369 verses 1-2 †

Blessed Assurance | United Methodist Hymnal 369

PASSING OF THE PEACE †

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN 369 verse 3 †

Blessed Assurance | United Methodist Hymnal 369

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | United Methodist Hymnal 888 †

ONE: This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

ALL: Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit. Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

This is my story, this is my song; praising my savior all the day long! This is my story, this is my song; praising my savior all the day long!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shannon Rookey

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Jesus loves me, this I know for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loved me- the Bible tells me so.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson

HYMN 480 †

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go | United Methodist Hymnal 480

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



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PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

GOSPEL LESSON | The Publican | Beardsley van de Water Kendi Jensen-Loving
Luke 18: 9-14 | Pew Bible, New Testament Page 77

Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and pray'd thus within himself: "God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, or even as this publican; I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess." And the publican standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heav'n, but smote upon his breast, saying, "God be merciful unto me, a sinner." I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other, for he that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

SERMON God's Thumb on the Scale

Rev. David C. Freeman

WELCOMING STATEMENT

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

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

MINISTRY MOMENT

Phil Reemes

OFFERTORY

Laudate Dominum | W. A. Mozart

Chancel Choir
Jaimee Jensen-Loving, soloist

DOXOLOGY † | United Methodist Hymnal 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, 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 ESSENTIAL LIFE †

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

Go into the world pursuing justice.

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

Go into the world seeking to share.

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

Go into the world putting love into action.

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

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

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

CLOSING HYMN 536†

Precious Name | United Methodist Hymnal 536

During the singing of the hymn, individuals desiring to join the church are asked to come to the chancel so the pastors may offer membership vows and welcome you to the congregation.

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.

SENDING FORTH IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

BENEDICTION †

CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You and Keep You | Peter Lutkin

Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE

Wir danken dir, Herr Jesu Christ...BWV623 | J. S. Bach

James Stanley

ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE

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

Music & Worship Arts: James Stanley, Shannon Rookey, Chancel Choir, Jaimee Jensen-Loving

Liturgist: Kendi Jensen-Loving

Audio/Visual: Christopher Cone, Jake Wyatt

Altar Guild: Debbie Boyd

Altar Flowers: To the Glory of God and in memory of Carol Ann Nolley, outstanding wife and mother, given by Don Nolley, Kim Johnson, and David Nolley.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Requesting Prayer:

Debbie Kirby, Meredith Thomas-Holladay, Marcia Adams, Ann & Jason West, Pat Lile, Jim Powers, Lynda Langford, Betsy Hoffman, Irma Jewell, Pat Blackstone, Lee Johnson, Ceile Faulkner, the people of Ukraine, victims of gun violence.

Congratulations:

Congratulations to Nathan and Ellen Coulter on the birth of their son, James Nathan, on November 8th. Nate and Nathalie Coulter and Hope Coulter are the grandparents.

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 301)

In-Person

Unity (Rm 204)

Hybrid: In-Person and on Zoom

Anderson Sherman (Rm 212)

Hybrid: In-Person and on Zoom

Choate (Rm 210)

In-Person

Bowen Cabe (Rm 203)

Hybrid: In-Person and on Zoom



2022

CDC Angels

Sponsor a teacher or support staff at our Child Development Center this Christmas.

ONLY A FEW ANGELS LEFT TO SPONSOR!

EMAIL REV. HALEY AT HJONES@FUMCLR.ORG FOR A NAME AND INSTRUCTIONS.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, November 13, 2022

7:30 am	Quapaw Quarter Breakfast
9:00 am	First Word (Cokesbury)
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	First Tradition (Sanctuary)
12:00 pm	Grief Expressions
4:00 pm	Diversity & Inclusion Taskforce
5:00 pm	First YOUth
5:30 pm	Canvas Community Worship

Monday, November 14, 2022

9:00 am	Flower Girls
6:30 pm	Taiko Drumming (gym)

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

7:00 am	Tues Morning Bible Study (Hybrid/Rm. 204 & Zoom)
9:00 am	Staff Meeting
10:30 am	Worship Planning
5:00 pm	Stewardship & Finance Committee
6:00 pm	Board of Stewards Meeting

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

5:30 pm	Center Street Ringers
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 17, 2022

6:30 pm	District Wide Charge Conference
7:00 pm	Ensemble Rehearsal at church







First United Methodist Church
DOWNTOWN
Little Rock

WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN DOWNTOWN LITTLE ROCK. We have embraced our role in urban ministry. Our members and friends come because they are attracted to our vitality, warmth, friendliness, and energy. They stay because we travel with them on their journey.

AUDIO AND VIDEO OF TODAY'S SERVICE IS AVAILABLE. CD's and DVD's of today's service are available by calling the church office at 501.372.2256 or by emailing Lesley Andrews at landrews@fumclr.org.

ATTENTION PARENTS. We understand worshiping with children can be an adventure, but it is an essential part of their growth in Christ. If your child is staying in worship, please see an usher if you would like a worship bag. However, if you desire a nursery, one is available on the second floor outside the Sanctuary. If you need assistance, please see an usher or a member of the Hospitality Team.

Follow us on social media: @fumclr    



First United Methodist Church

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