



**September 7th, 2025 | FIRST TRADITION 11:00 AM | Thirteenth
Sunday after Pentecost**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fughetta | Healey Willan

James Stanley

INVOCATION

Chancel Choir

PROCESSIONAL HYMN † (Insert)

Gather Us In

OPENING LITANY †

Rev. Heather Rose

Wherever you go, from the top of the highest mountain or into the
deep abysses of the earth, God knows you.

Wherever we go, God knows our name.

Whatever you do, from the time you wake up until you lay your head down again, God knows you.

Whatever we do, God knows our name.

However you live, from your inner thoughts to your public acts and everything in between, God knows you.

However we live, God knows our name.

We gather to worship God, who loves us, knows us, and calls us by name.

We gather to worship God, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made by God who knows our name!

PASSING OF THE PEACE †

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SONG

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 loves me– the Bible tells me so.

CHILDRENS TIME

Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

Glenn Taulbee

This is the word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God

SERMON

Rev. David C. Freeman

Thrive in 25
Trust and Health

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY

Chancel Choir

Christ Has Broken Down the Wall | Mike A. Miller

DOXOLOGY 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!

INVITATION FOR COMMUNION †

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!

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:

Christ has broken down the wall.

Christ has broken down the wall.

Let us join our hearts as one.

Christ has broken down the wall.

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has broken down the wall.

Christ has broken down the wall.

Let us join our hearts as one.

Christ has broken down the wall.

...all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

**Christ has broken down the wall.
Christ has broken down the wall.
Let us join our hearts as one.
Christ has broken down the wall.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE GIVING OF THE CUP

*Communion hymns can be found on pages 528, 614
in the United Methodist Hymnal.*

SENDING FORTH IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP †

As a community and individuals, responding to God's grace, we seek to be good neighbors to make Little Rock a place where all God's children THRIVE. Through our spiritual journey and life in the community, we will work for the core values we believe all children of God need; Trust, Health, Relationships, Imagination, Value, and Education.

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 672 †

God Be With You Till We Meet Again | United Methodist Hymnal

RECEPTION OF 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 RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION †

POSTLUDE

James Stanley

Finale Jubilante | Healey Willan

Communion Fund September 7

On Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of every month, you are invited to leave an extra monetary donation on the altar for our community engagement ministries. Funds left on the altar in September will go to support our yearly sponsorship of Camp Aldersgate Fish Fry. Camp Aldersgate provides barrier-free camp experiences for individuals with special needs. FUMCLR has supported their important work every year!

ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE

Clergy:

Rev. David C. Freeman

Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson

Rev. Heather Rose

Music & Worship Arts: Chancel Choir, James Stanley, Shannon Webb

Liturgist: Glenn Taulbee

Audio/Visual: Christopher Cone, Lesley Andrews

Altar Guild: Pamela Owen, Suzanne Mackey

Altar Flowers: To the glory of God and in loving memory of William F. Sherman.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Requesting Prayer:

Kaye Hoover, Hilda Thomas, Pat Blackstone, David Anderson, Bill Burton, Jace McRorey, Marsh Family, Chris Mink

Sympathy:

To Jamie Ward, following the death of her mother, Sharon Bulloch, on August 21st.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, September 7, 2025

9:00 am	First Word Worship
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	First Tradition (Sanctuary)
12:00 pm	First Arts Sundays
12:00 pm	UWF Lunch
1:00 pm	Intermediate Drumming
2:30 pm	Mike Charles Basketball Academy
5:30 pm	Canvas Community Worship

Monday, September 8, 2025

9:00 am	Flower Girls
1:00 pm	Community Café
5:00 pm	SPRC Meeting
6:00 pm	Beginner Taiko

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

7:00 am	Tues Morning Bible Study
9:00 am	Staff Meeting
10:30 am	Worship Planning
12:00 pm	Three Pastors Walk Into a Bar
1:00 pm	Community Café
4:00 pm	Mike Charles Basketball Academy
4:15 pm	FANN
6:00 pm	Town Hall – Children and Veterans
6:00 pm	Enneagram Book Study
6:30 pm	Intermediate Taiko

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

1:00 pm	Community Café
5:00 pm	Wed. Nights On Center
5:45 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 11, 2025

10:00 am	PALS Small Group
12:00 pm	Caregiver's Group
4:00 pm	Mike Charles Basketball Academy