



November 23rd, 2025 | FIRST TRADITION 11:00 AM |
Thanksgiving Sunday

GATHERING

PRELUDE

James Stanley

Harvest Home | Gilbert M. Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP †

Rev. David C. Freeman

In the midst of difficulty, the Lord sets a table of rejoicing for us.

Though the world seems focused on turmoil, yet will we praise God!

Our lives should be witnesses to God's goodness and power.

Our hearts should encompass compassion and service to God's people.

Help us to be your workers and witnesses in today's world, O Lord.

Enable us to be faithful and strong for you. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 694 †

Come Ye Thankful People Come | United Methodist Hymnal

PRAYER OF THE DAY †

Lord of bounty and blessing, we come to you this day in gratitude for all that we have been given. We are grateful for the blessings and for the opportunities to be of service to others in your holy Name. Bless each of us here, that we may become true blessings to others. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE †

**May the peace of Christ be with you
And also with you**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

ANTHEM

I Saw the Light | Hank Williams

James Stanley, Mark Wyers

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Tom Gentry

Psalm 46: 7-11

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 131

We Gather Together | United Methodist Hymnal

SERMON

Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson

Give Thanks

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY

Chancel Choir, Clint Kesterson, soloist

My Good Lord's Done Been Here | André Thomas

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!

SENDING FORTH IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING †

**All things come from you, O God,
and with gratitude we return to you what is yours.
You created all that is, and with love formed us in your image.
When our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior.
All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you.
And so, with thanksgiving for all your gifts,
we offer you ourselves, and all that we have,
in union with Christ's offering for us. Amen**

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP †

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 102 †

Now Thank We All Our God | 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

The Lord Bless You and Keep You | Peter Lutkin

POSTLUDE

James Stanley

Harvest Fanfare | Gilbert M. Martin



Celebrate the First Sunday of Advent, November 30

9:45 am Advent Fair

Join us in the gym and get a meaningful and fun start to your Advent season!

11:00 am One Service

We're worshipping together as a whole church community to begin the season of Advent. The service will include Holy Communion.

12:00 pm Potluck

Stay for lunch together. Last names A-R bring a main or side dish, S-Z bring desserts.

12:00 pm Deck the Halls

After lunch help decorate the church building for the season. We'll have assignments for putting up trees, hanging wreaths, or stringing lights.



ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE

Clergy:

Rev. David C. Freeman

Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson

Music & Worship Arts: Chancel Choir, James Stanley, Shannon Webb, Mark Wyers, Clint Kesterson

Liturgist: Tom Gentry

Audio/Visual: Chris Cone, Lesley Andrews

Altar Guild: Susan Weir, Gay Poole

Altar Flowers: To the Glory of God and in Memory of Judge William R Overton and Warren Webster Overton and in honor of my Overton family, given by Susan Overton Sutton

IN OUR PRAYERS

Requesting Prayer:

Kaye Hoover, Hilda Thomas, Pat Blackstone, John Gerrard, Sr

Sympathy:

To the Friends and Family of Ruth Emerson who passed away
November 20th 2025

A Celebration of Life for Ruth will be held at 1:00pm in the Chapel
on Monday November 20th.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, November 23, 2025

9:00 am	First Word Worship
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	First Tradition (Sanctuary)
2:30 pm	Mike Charles Basketball Academy
5:30 pm	Canvas Community Worship

Monday, November 24, 2025

9:00 am	Flower Girls
12:00 pm	Faulkner Circle
1:00 pm	Ruth Emerson Service
1:00 pm	Community Café

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

7:00 am	Tues Morning Bible Study
9:00 am	Staff Meeting
10:30 am	Worship Planning
1:00 pm	Community Café
4:15 pm	FANN

Wednesday, November 26, 2025

5:45 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 27, 2025

All Day	Office Closed
---------	---------------

Friday, November 28, 2025

All Day	Office Closed
---------	---------------