

WORSHIP OF GOD
FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024 Eleven o'clock in the Morning

Website: 1stucc.org Facebook: First United Church of Christ-Salisbury

Office Telephone: 704-633-2723

First UCC's Mission Statement

"To grow in faith, love and fellowship as we serve God and all of our community."

Prelude

It is Well With My Soul

arr. by Riley

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: You are the vine, O God.

ALL: and we, the branches.

One: You provide us life and love

ALL: Nurturing and pruning us, along the way.

One: We come this day, a grateful people

ALL: For the blessings You offer and the love You share

One: We come this day to welcome You O God, into our hearts and into this space so that we might worship and praise you.

†Hymn: *The Summons*



1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? ____ Will you go where you don't know and
 your name? ____ Will you care for cruel and kind and
 your name? ____ Will you set the pris - oners free and
 your name? ____ Will you quell the fear in - side and
 my name. ____ Let me turn and fol - low you and



nev - er be the same? ____ Will you let my love be
 nev - er be the same? ____ Will you risk the hos - tile
 nev - er be the same? ____ Will you kiss the lep - er
 nev - er be the same? ____ Will you use the faith you've
 nev - er be the same. ____ In your com - pa - ny I'll



shown, __ will you let my name be known, __ will you
 stare ____ should your life at - tract or scare? ____ Will you
 clean, __ and do such as this un - seen, __ and ad -
 found __ to re - shape the world a - round, __ through my
 go ____ where your love and foot - steps show. ____ Thus I'll



let my life be grown in you and you in me? ____
 let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me? ____
 mit to what I mean in you and you in me? ____
 sight and touch and sound in you and you in me? ____
 move and live and grow in you and you in me. ____

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†Prayer of Confession

ALL: There are times, Merciful God, when we lose our way. We wander off the path seeking after other gods. Power, wealth, all glitter brightly. Forgive us, and bring us back to the path we should be traveling. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

†Silent Reflections

(30 seconds of silence is observed for silent reflections)

Kyrie: Shepherd Lead

Shep - herd, lead, lead me in your righ-teous-ness,
 make your way plain be - fore my face. For it is you, God,
 you, God on - ly, who makes me to lie down in safe - ty.

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†Our Assurance of God's Pardon

†The Gloria Patri

1 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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A Reading for Acts

Acts 8:26-40

Epistle Lesson

1 John 4:7-21

†**Hymn: *All People That On Earth Do Dwell***
Red Hymnal No. 24

Gospel Reading

John 15:1-8

Leader: This is a word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“Of Vines & Grace, Of Baptism & Belonging”

Rev. Carol Hallman

†**Statement of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

ALL: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader: May the Spirit of God be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

(debts, debtors)

Prayer Response: *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

Red Hymnal No. 501

Invitation

Offertory

When Morning Gilds the Skies

arr. by Drylie

†Doxology

We give you but your own, what - e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is yours a - lone, we give it grate-ful - ly.

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Blessing

†Hymn: *Saviour Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Red Hymnal No. 461

Benediction

Postlude

In Christ Alone/The Solid Rock

arr. Tornquist

Assisting in Worship

Rev. Carol Hallman, Resident Pastor

Laurie Klaus, Guest Pianist

Carolyn Cline, Lay Reader



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Remember in Your Prayers

Brenda Bernhardt, Tyler Bernhardt, family of Millie Campbell, Rev. Warren Casiday, Gerri D. Crummett (Donna Odrosky's sister), Betty Diehl, Stacy Erb, Roger Hogendorn (grandson on Linda Hauze), Emily Hauze (daughter-in-law of Linda Hauze), Cathy Hedrick (John Marion's sister), Jasmine Kirby and son Noah (Don Whitfield's niece and great-nephew), Rick Lockhart (Radell Lockhart's uncle), Jim Lyerly, John Marion, Shirley McNeil, Eddie Meeker, Dan Morgan, Pat Norris, Patsy Paxton, Glenda Shrewsbury, Patty & Mark Shuping and family, Romas & Sarah Shuping, Claire Skinner, Molly Tripp and Baby Owen Scott (Lucy Robinson's granddaughter and great-grandson), Tom Troutman, Barbara Waller, Waylon Ward, Janette Yost. *If you know of anyone who should be added or removed from our prayer list, let the office know. If you have prayer concerns, please text, call or email Pastor Carol.*

Today, Sunday, April 28

9:30 a.m.....	Bible Study
11:00 a.m.....	Worship
After Worship	Council Meeting

Sunday, May 5

9:30 a.m.....	Bible Study
11:00 a.m.....	Worship with Communion
3:00 p.m.....	Afternoon Tea

Please join us next Sunday in the Fellowship Hall at 3:00 p.m. for an Afternoon Tea sponsored by First UCC Church Women. Tea and light finger foods will be provided. Invite a friend or neighbor to join you at this new event.

We invite you to share any suggestions you may have with Church Council, the pastor or Pastor/Parish Relations. Our Council members are Don Whitfield, Patti Marion, Donna Odrosky, Bobbie Troutman, Phyllis Little, Shirley McNeil, Greg Alcorn, Ken Clapp, Carolyn Cline and Lucy Carte. Concerns and suggestions are welcome at any time. ***Copies of approved monthly Council Minutes will be made available on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. They can also be emailed upon request.***