

WORSHIP OF GOD
FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 6, 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

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 8)

One: O God, how majestic is Your name
ALL: There is none greater than You
One: When I look at the heavens, the stars in the skies
ALL: and around at all creation I wonder
One: what are human beings that You are mindful of us
ALL: that You care for us
One: You have given us the responsibility to care for Your creation
ALL: And we stand amazed at the power of Your love and Your trust in us
One: Let us worship God.

†Hymn: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*
Red Hymnal No. 472

†Prayer of Confession

ALL: We humble ourselves before You O God, aware that we have failed to be the good stewards You call us to be. We have polluted the lakes and streams, the very air we breathe, and even our bodies with plastics. The amount of waste in our dumps and in our oceans stands witness against us. All we can do is seek Your forgiveness for our failure to care for Your beloved creation. We stand convicted pleading for mercy. We trust in Your forgiveness and grace and pray for Your guidance to lead us into becoming better stewards of all that we have been given. Amen.

†Silent Reflections

(30 seconds of silence is observed for silent reflections)

†Kyrie: *O Tender God Have Mercy*



O ten - der God, have mer - cy, for you are for us.



O liv - ing Christ, have mer - cy, for you will heal us.



O ten - der God, have mer - cy, for you are for us,



for you are for us.

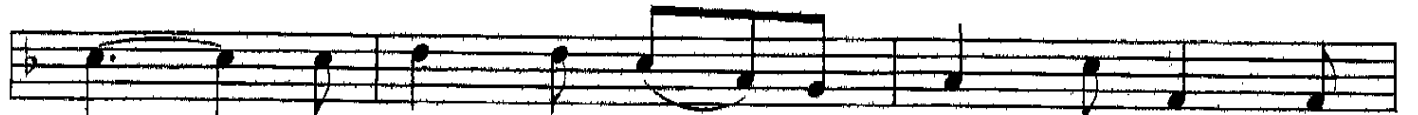
Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-715560 Worldmaking.net

†Our Assurance of God's Pardon

†The Gloria Patri: *I Come With Joy*



I.I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved and



⁴ free, — The life of Je - sus to re - call, in



⁷ love laid down for me, — in love laid down for me, —

Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-715560 New Century Hymnal

†Hymn: *God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
3 As each far hor - i - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new,

Flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
Known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing through un - trav - eled realms of space;
Chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - oring you.

We, your chil - dren, in your like - ness, share in - ven - tive powers with you;
Probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield - ing un - i - mag - ined power,
May our dreams prove rich with prom - ise, each en - deav - or, well be - gun;

Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - a - ting, show us what we yet may do.
Fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the next three lines. The fourth system contains the final three lines of the hymn.

Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-715560 New Century Hymnal

Hebrew Scripture

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

Anthem/Special Music

Leader: This is a word of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon
“When Life Hurts”
Rev. Carol Hallman

†An Affirmation of Faith

The UCC Statement of Faith

ALL: We believe in You, O God, the Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to Your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in Your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by Your righteous will, declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, You have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death, and reconciling the world to Yourself.

You bestow upon us Your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.

You call us into Your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be Your servant in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world, and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ’s baptism and eat at His table, to join Him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust You forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, Your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in Your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto You. 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: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-715560 With One Voice

Invitation

Offertory

†Doxology: "Praise God!" The Whole Creation Sings

Unison

"Praise God!" The whole cre - a - tion sings. Praise
God on earth, all liv - ing things. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia! Praise God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Praise
Au - thor, Word, and Spir - it One. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-715560, Ref. 77531

Blessing

† Communion Hymn: *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

Kahn

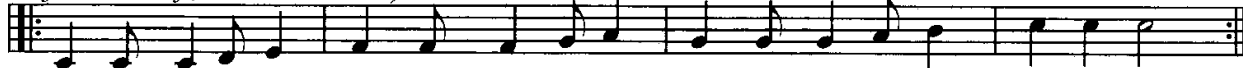


1. Let us tal-ents and tongues em-ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
2. Christ is a - ble to make us one, at his ta - ble he set the tone,
3. Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,



5 bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Imman - u - el) ev - ery - where!

(first time soft, second time loud)



9 Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-715560 New Century Hymnal

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation to the Table

The Communion Prayer

Leader: God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Call to Supper

Sung Response: *The Gifts of God*

Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan



The gifts of God for the peop-le of God! Come now, for all is pre-pared. The



gifts of God for the peop-le of God! The Gos - pel is a - mong us!

Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-715560

Sharing the Elements

All are invited to come forward for communion this morning. There are gluten free crackers or bread offered. Please dispose of your cup before returning to your pew.

Special Music

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALL: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth Your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

†Hymn: *Lord of All Hopefulness*
(Insert)

Benediction

Postlude

Assisting in Today's Worship

Rev. Carol Hallman, Resident Pastor

Nathan Bowman, Music Director/Organist

Phyllis Little, Lay Reader



Scan the QR Code with your camera to donate to First UCC.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Desiree Artz, Brenda Bernhardt, Tyler Bernhardt, Rev. Warren Casiday, Gerri D. Crummett (Donna Odrosky's sister), Betty Diehl, Stacy Erb, Roger Hogendorn (grandson of Linda Hauze), Emily Hauze (daughter-in-law of Linda Hauze), Rick Lockhart (Radell Lockhart's uncle), Jim Lyerly, John Marion, Shirley McNeil, Eddie Meeker, Doris Miller, Dan Morgan, Pat Norris, Patsy Paxton, Glenda Shrewsbury, Patty & Mark Shuping and family, Romas & Sarah Shuping, Claire Skinner, Tom Troutman, Barbara Waller, Waylon Ward, Eric Webster, Frances Wensil, 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, October 6

11:00 a.m.....Worship with Communion
After Worship Congregational Meal

Monday, October 7

6:30 p.m..... Circle 7 Meeting

Tuesday, October 8

10:30 a.m..... Meals on Wheels Deliveries

Wednesday, October 9

6:00 p.m..... WOW Wednesday
7:00 p.m..... Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 10

11:30 a.m..... Primetimers
5:00 p.m..... Mission Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m..... Finance Committee Meeting

Sunday, October 13

9:30 a.m..... LIFT Intergenerational Sunday School
11:00 a.m..... Worship
4:00 p.m..... Property Committee Meeting

Please join us after Worship today for a Congregational Meal of various homemade soups in the Fellowship Hall.

A Blessing of the Animals will take place this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. on the First UCC Playground. Animals and photos of your animals will be blessed.

On Sunday, October 27 we will observe All Saints Sunday during Worship. Please let the office or Pastor Carol know of anyone you would like to have recognized during the service.

Sunday, October 27 will also be our annual Foundation Sunday. Please join us for presentation of Foundation awards.

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, Phyllis Little, Shirley McNeil, Greg Alcorn, Ken Clapp, Carolyn Cline and Lynn Bernhardt. Concerns and suggestions are welcome at any time.

This Sunday's Sermon

October 6, 2024

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
(NRSVUE)

Hebrews 1:1-4:

God Has Spoken by His Son

1 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, **2** but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son,^[a] whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. **3** He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains^[b] all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for^[c] sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, **4** having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hebrews 2:5-12

Exaltation through Abasement

5 Now God^[a] did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. **6** But someone has testified somewhere, "What are humans that you are mindful of them^[b] or mortals that you care for them?"^[c]

7 You have made them for a little while lower^[d] than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor,^[e]

8 subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God^[f] left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, **9** but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower^[g] than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God^[h] he might taste death for everyone.

10 It was fitting that God,^[i] for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. **11** For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father.^[j] For this reason Jesus^[k] is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, **12** saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."