

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

August 31, 2025 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

Lay Reader

Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: Sing aloud to God our strength;
shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

**All: Raise a song; sound the tambourine,
the sweet lyre with the harp.**

Leader: I am the Lord your God,
who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

**All: We open our mouths to sing your praise. We open our
hearts to you and give you our worship!**

Leader: Your mighty acts are wondrous, and your faithfulness is sure.

All: With all that we are and all that we have we praise you!

†Hymn: *We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer*

Red Hymnal No. 19

†Prayer of Confession

Congregation

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

~The Book of Common Prayer

†Silent Reflections

(a short period of silence is observed for silent reflections)

†Kyrie: *O Tender God Have Mercy*

O tender God, have mercy, for you are for us
O living Christ, have mercy, for you will heal us.
O tender God, have mercy, for you are for us,
For you are for us.

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†Our Assurance of God's Pardon

Rev. Anne Tambling

†The Gloria Patri: *I Come With Joy*

I come with joy, a child of God,
Forgiven, loved and free,
The life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,
In love laid down for me.

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Children's Message

Rev. Anne Tambling

†Hymn: *Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?*



1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;
4 I will weep when you are weep-ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

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Scripture Lessons

Lay Reader

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Leader: This is a word of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Anne Tambling

†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

Rev. Anne Tambling

Leader: May the Spirit of God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

†The Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Anne Tambling

†The Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)

Congregation

†Prayer Response: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.
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Offertory Invitation

Lay Reader

Leader: Let us now receive our morning offering.

Offertory

†Doxology: *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

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

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†Blessing

Lay Reader

Leader: Almighty and loving God, you flood our lives with your many blessings of food, shelter and love. Use these our gifts and our lives to enrich the lives of others, bringing your Kingdom on earth. In Jesus' name, we pray.
Amen.

†Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation*

Red Hymnal No. 322

†Benediction

Rev. Anne Tambling

Postlude

Assisting in Today's Worship

Rev. Anne Tambling, Intentional Interim Minister

Dr. Phillip Burgess, Guest Organist

Linda Hauze, Lay Reader



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In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Desiree Artz, Brenda Bernhardt, Tyler Bernhardt, Rev. David Crook, Gerri D. Crummett (Donna Odrosky's sister), Maggie Derby (great granddaughter of Jim Weaver), John Drye (Ann Teague's cousin), Emily Faust, Jim & Bettie Lyerly, John Marion, Shirley McNeil, Eddie Meeker, Doris Miller, Evan Moreno, Dan Morgan, Patsy Paxton, Paul Paxton, Cathy Robbins, Glenda Shrewsbury, Patty & Mark Shuping and family, Tom Troutman, Barbara Waller, Waylon Ward, Don Whitfield, Janette Yost. ***If you know of anyone who should be added or removed from our prayer list, let the office know.***

Announcements

Monday, September 1

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 2

6:30 p.m..... Circle 6 Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, September 3

5:30 p.m..... WOW Wednesday Bible Study

7:00 p.m..... Choir Rehearsal

Circle 7 Meeting has been moved to Monday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have questions or suggestions for the Transition Team, we invite you to contact one of the members. Concerns and suggestions are welcome at any time.

Greg Alcorn
Don Whitfield
Phyllis Little
Ken Clapp
Carolyn Cline
Lynn Bernhardt

Dan Mikkelson
Mark Schiemann
Larry Bolick
Kimberly Nelson
Rev. Anne Tambling