



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY
(TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST)

August 13, 2017 | 9:30 A.M.



THE GROWING SEASON
in the *year of worship*



WELCOME

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today. Founded in 1821, First Church is the oldest Protestant church in the area and the oldest Methodist church in Florida. This historic church, with four regular Sunday services, has a membership of 3200 and is overflowing with life. If you are visiting, we hope that you will consider becoming a member of our church family. You may join any Sunday by profession of faith or transfer of membership. Come and be a part of what God is doing here in 2017.

THE GROWING SEASON: CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Today is the second Sunday of "The Growing Season," our annual discipleship campaign at First Church. Our focus for 2017 is Christian Worship, and during The Growing Season we are looking at our worship through the core visions of Christian Education, Missions and Outreach, Evangelism, and Christian Stewardship. Today's focus is Christian Education. This bulletin helps to explain the ways we practice Christian Education in our worship each Sunday. As part of the focus we are also signing up for fall classes which begin this week. Course catalogs are available at the entrances and sign up sheets can be brought forward during communion. More on Christian Education and worship can be found on the back panel of this bulletin. Let us worship the Lord in spirit and in truth and hear what God has to teach us today.

VISITOR/NEW MEMBER CLASS

We welcome all visitors and new members that are interested in learning more about First Church to an introductory class that consists of four parts. The class assembles at 9:30am in room PH101 next door in the Perry Home. Today's class, Ministries of First Church, is about all the programs and ministries of the church. Next week, Serving at First Church will help you find a place to use your gifts and talents in service in the church and community. We hope you join us each week.

NURSERY & CHILDREN'S BULLETINS

Nursery is available this morning for children up to five years old. If you need help locating the nursery, please see an usher or greeter for assistance. Also, children's worship bulletins and crayons are available in the narthex.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Martin Thompson by his family.



NEXT WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Join us next week here at First Church as we come together to worship God on the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost. We're in The Growing Season in the Year of Worship and we'll talk about Missions and Outreach. Dr. Wachob will preach for the 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00am worship services here in the Main Sanctuary. The Rev. Brandon Bures will preach for the ICON worship service at 11:00am in Wesley Abbey. Next Sunday's readings: *Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133 (UMH 850); Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28.*

OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

9:30 A.M.

The glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead occurred on Sunday, the first day of the week. On Sunday we Christians gather together and unite ourselves to acknowledge the holiness of God, to hear God's Word, to offer prayers, and to celebrate the sacraments of the Church.

The basic pattern of our worship consists of four parts: (1) the Entrance, (2) the Proclamation and Response, (3) the Thanksgiving and Communion, and (4) the Sending Forth.



ENTRANCE

"Enter into God's gates with thanksgiving, come into his courts with hymns: give him thanks, praise his name" (Psalm 100:4).

The people come together in the Lord's name. There may be greetings, music and song, prayer and praise.

WELCOME

THE PRELUDE. Music glorifying God and calling us to holy reverence and the preparation of our hearts and minds, so that we may offer genuine praise and thanks to God

"Voluntary No. 1 in D major" *William Boyce*

Dr. Rick Branch, *organ*

***CHIMING OF THE HOUR.** The hour of worship is chimed, calling all the people to join the holy catholic church throughout the world in worshipping the Triune God.

***CALL TO WORSHIP.** The leader faces the congregation and greets us in the Lord's Name. Scripture sentences or responsive acts between the leader and the people declare that the Lord is present and empowers our worship.

O give thanks to the Lord,

Call on God's Name,

Sing to the Lord, sing praises!

Tell of all God's wonderful works!

[Psalm 105]

***HYMN OF PRAISE TO GOD.** The congregation praises God in song.

"I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

No. 152

***COLLECT.** A distinctive prayer that collects all the people and offers their supplication to God

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (No. 39). Incorporation into the church. God's word to us, proclaiming our adoption by grace, and our word to God, promising our response of faith and love

Graham David Norton, *son of Naomi and Matthew Norton*

HYMN

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

No. 611

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

The Scriptures are opened to the people through the reading of lessons, preaching, witnessing, music, or other arts and media. Interspersed may be psalms, anthems, and hymns. Responses to God’s Word include acts of commitment and faith with offerings of concerns, prayers, gifts, and service for the world and for one another.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION. A prayer invoking the blessing of the Holy Spirit upon the reading, preaching, hearing, and doing of the Word

**Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.**

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.


 **THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS.** The reading of passages from one or more of the books in Holy Scripture

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Rev. Ken Autrey

Romans 10:5-15

*Matthew 14:22-33

 **SERMON.** A word of Christian witness to the congregation explaining the meaning of the lesson from Holy Scripture and applying it to the common life of the Church, the Body of Christ, in the world

“Finding God’s Hand”

Dr. Wesley H. Wachob

PASTORAL PRAYER. A prayer to God on behalf of the congregation and for the Church and all the peoples in the world

CONFESSION, PARDON, & PEACE (No. 12). Prayers confessing our sins and asking for God’s forgiveness; declarations of pardon based on Holy Scripture; and expression of reconciliation and pardon to one another

REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE. An act of stewardship

Please register your attendance on the registration pad. If you are visiting with us, include your address, telephone number, and email address so that we may welcome you in a more personal way. We also invite you to take this time to sign up for a Christian Education class using the sign up sheet inside the Fall Classes Course Catalog you received this morning.

OFFERTORY. An act of thanksgiving to God and the Christian stewardship of our possessions

“To God Be the Glory” *arr. Hermon Warford*

Heidi & Rick Branch, *piano*

***DOXOLOGY (No. 95).** The people stand in honor of God for a hymn of glory/praise and thanksgiving to the Triune God.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav’nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION

The actions of Jesus in the Upper Room are reenacted: taking the bread and cup, giving thanks over the bread and cup, breaking the bread, and giving the bread and cup.

THE LORD'S SUPPER. The sacrament of Holy Communion

You are invited to come forward to the altar to receive the elements of Holy Communion. When you come forward, bring your Fall Classes sign up sheet with you and place it in the baskets at the front of the sanctuary.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP. An offering of salvation in a life of discipleship to Jesus Christ

Anyone who wishes to join the church today, please come forward during the last stanza of the closing hymn.

SENDING FORTH

The people are sent into ministry with the Lord's blessing.

***CLOSING HYMN.** A hymn of praise and dedication to God

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing"

No. 671

***BENEDICTION.** A blessing and charge to the Church of Jesus Christ

***GOING FORTH.** The Church goes into the world to make disciples of Jesus Christ

***POSTLUDE**

"God Is Here!" *arr. David M. Cherwien*

*Stand as you are able

HYMN NOTES

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing" (Words attr. to John Fawcett, 1773; Music is from *The European Magazine and Review*, 1792)—Fawcett, best known for "Blest be the tie that binds," probably intended this hymn for the last Sunday of the year, asking God's blessing on the new year. However, it is generally sung at the conclusion of worship as a choral benediction. The author was an English Baptist minister who wrote over 160 hymns, mostly to be sung after his sermons.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

9:30. GREETERS—Dona Hill & Carol Ross; **USHERS**—John Susko, Miller Caldwell & Wayne Sumlin; **COMMUNION STEWARDS**—Amy Voeltz & Kelly Davies; **COMMUNION SERVERS**—Ruth Klarner & Diane Ward.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

Wednesday activities for the Fall Session begin this week! Join us this Wednesday evening between 5:00 and 6:00pm in The Wright Place for a delicious meal and good fellowship. This week's menu will be **Meatloaf, Roasted Potatoes, Field Peas, Cornbread, Salad, & Pineapple Upside Down Cake**. Please make your reservations in the registration pads, by calling the church office (432-1434), or online. After dinner, at 6:00pm, our Fall Session of classes begins. This week you can join Bible Talk (led by Bill Bond) or Simply Christian (led by Rev. Bures). Please note that the Senior Pastor's Bible Study does not start until September 6. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday nights.

THE GROWING SEASON | NOW - SEPTEMBER 10

Make plans to attend all Sundays of The Growing Season in the Year of Worship, The Growing Season is our annual discipleship program at First Church. Each week we will look at our worship through one of the core visions that guide our ministry (Christian Education, Missions & Outreach, Evangelism, and Stewardship) and have an opportunity to respond. Join us during this special time as we focus on what it is to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Whether you are a life-long member of First Church, or a first-time visitor, we are all called to Christian discipleship. As a family of faith, let us embrace this season, and grow together in love and devotion to God each and every day.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: PROMOTION SUNDAY | TODAY

Today is Promotion Sunday. All children will move to their new Sunday School classes and meet their new teachers.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FALL SESSION | STARTS AUGUST 16

Our Fall Classes course catalog is available today, and the Fall Session of Christian Education classes begins Wednesday, August 16. Today we have an opportunity to respond in worship by signing up for classes and bringing it forward to the altar during communion. Check out the course catalog and be a part of one of the many offerings this fall.

DESIGNING WOMEN'S LUNCHEON | AUGUST 26

Tickets are available today for the 13th annual Designing Women's Luncheon sponsored by the United Methodist Women. We'll enjoy an inspiring presentation from guest speaker Kim Gravel, a silent auction, and a delicious meal served at elaborately decorated tables. Proceeds benefit Pathways for Change Female Veterans Program & Martha's Vineyard. Learn more at FUMCPensacola.com or at facebook.com/DesigningWomensLuncheonFUMC.

PERRY HOME COFFEE HOUSE CLOSED TODAY

The Perry Home Coffee House is closed for repairs. If you would like coffee, please stop by The Wright Place for refreshments and fellowship.

BLOOD DRIVE | AUGUST 20

Next Sunday, August 20, OneBlood's Big Red Bus will be on campus to take donations from 8:00am-12:30pm. Share your story. Share your power. Save lives. All those that are able are encouraged to donate. An ID is required. You can visit OneBlood.org to schedule an appointment.

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THE WAY WE WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

In the gospels Jesus reminds us that we are to love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind. Christian Education is an exercise in loving God with our minds. As we study scripture, theology, and the human condition we find that Christian Education is an act of worship and that to know God is to love God. While much of the service of holy worship is directed to God by the people of God, “The Proclamation” is that other section when God speaks to us through the reading of Holy Scriptures, the preaching, the reciting of creeds, and even children’s sermons. As we worship, this is where we learn about God. But our education should not stop when we leave the sanctuary.

At First Church we believe that Christian Education is a lifelong process and it comes through worship, continued study, and learning together. Yale church historian Jaroslav Pelikan reminds us that “The church is always more than a school. . . But the church cannot be less than a school.” In order for us to be challenged in faith, grow in our understanding of the Bible, and become followers of Christ, all ages are invited and encouraged to become active learners of the faith through Christian Education.

GOING FORTH

Our education should not stop when we leave the sanctuary.

DAILY DEVOTION: THE DAILY READINGS

Personal devotion, a time when one can read and meditate on God’s word in solitude, is an important part of our lives as Christians. If you don’t already have a daily devotion time, the Daily Readings are a great tool to get you started. In our bulletins we provide a list of scriptures to be read each day of the coming week. You can read them all in the morning when you wake up or spread them out throughout the day. These scriptures relate to the lessons from the previous Sunday and prepare the reader for the Sunday ahead. This is a great way to expand our worship. See the Daily Readings section for more information.

FALL CLASSES SIGN UP

We want everyone to be a part of Christian Education at First Church. Starting this week, we will launch our fall classes, and there will be opportunities to grow in knowledge and fellowship with others on almost every day of the week. We would love for everyone to think about joining a class (or two, if you like) and be a part of this Growing Season we are going through. Course catalogs are available this morning, on the church’s website, and they were mailed out last week. Take a look and find something that interests you. After the sign-up period is over, don’t feel like you’ve missed out; you can join any class at any time without registering. Come learn with us!



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For pastoral emergencies, in addition to the church office, contact:

Ken Autrey 850.333.3073 or Ginger Raines 850.259.3177