



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

## STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

(Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost)

September 8, 2019 | 9:30 A.M.



“Go therefore and **make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you...”

- *Matthew 28:19-20a*

## WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us this morning. 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 this season.



## THE GROWING SEASON: STEWARDSHIP

Today is the fifth Sunday of “The Growing Season.” The Growing Season is our discipleship campaign at First Church. It is our way of teaching, learning, and practicing the Great Commission of Jesus Christ. The Great Commission has five key components that we call ‘visions’. They are Christian Education, Christian Evangelism, Christian Worship, Christian Missions & Outreach, and Christian Stewardship. Each Sunday during The Growing Season we will feature a different vision along with a story told by the people that make up our congregation. Our prayer for this season is that we are reminded of the different ways in which we are called to serve Jesus Christ and that we are moved into being a more active part of the church’s ministry.

This week we are focusing on Christian Stewardship. In our worship of God, we learn that all that we have belongs to God and that God has called us to be ‘stewards’ or ‘managers’ of all that God has given to us. Christian stewardship is quite simply our response to God for all that God has given to us. To belong to our congregation is to be a steward. Today, each of us are getting a “Christian Stewardship” pamphlet and an “Estimate of Giving” card. Read over these materials carefully, take them home, and pray about how God is calling you to serve. We ask that you bring the Estimate of Giving cards back with you next week, on Consecration Sunday.

## 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 at the entrances. Ninety

## THOSE SERVING

9:30. GREETERS – Dona Hill and Carol Ross. USHERS – Tommy Davies, John Susko and Jeff Cagle. COMMUNION STEWARDS – Amy Voeltz and Kelly Davies. COMMUNION SERVERS – Ruth Klarner and Diane Ward, Lay Persons.

# ***OUR WORSHIP OF GOD***

9:30am

Stewardship Sunday

## **WELCOME**

## **PRELUDE**

Libby K. Hargrave, *organ*

“Distress” *arr. Gilbert M. Martin*

## **\*CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Lord has searched and known us.

**God knows all our ways.**

The knowledge of God is beyond our understanding

**Let us praise the Lord our Maker.**

## **\*HYMN**

“Take Up Thy Cross”

**no. 415**

## **\*COLLECT**

Rev. Brandon Bures

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## **GROWING SEASON MINUTE:**

### **STEWARDSHIP**

Stephanie and Geoff Cook

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**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.**

## **\*GOSPEL LESSON**

Luke 14:25-33

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have failed to be an obedient church.  
We have not done your will,  
we have broken your law,  
we have rebelled against your love,  
we have not loved our neighbors,  
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for joyful obedience,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*All pray in silence.*

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were still sinners;  
that proves God's love toward us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

*Response:*

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

*All:*

**Glory to God. *Amen.***

**\*THE PEACE**

*All exchange signs and words of God's peace.*

**REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE**

*Please register your attendance on the registration pads. If you are visiting with us, we're glad you're here! Please include your address, phone number, and email so that we may welcome you in a more personal way.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

O Lord our God, send down upon us, we pray, your Holy Spirit, to cleanse our hearts, to hallow our gifts, and to perfect the offering of ourselves to you; for the glory of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## OFFERTORY

Ty LoVette, *solo*

“Thy Secret Place” *music, Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Carl Fredrickson*

## \*DOXOLOGY

**no. 95**

**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.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**no. 13**

*You are invited to come forward to the altar to receive the elements of Holy Communion.  
You may bring your Estimate of Giving commitment card with you to the altar and place it in one of the baskets at the front of the sanctuary.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

Libby K. Hargrave, *solo*

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” *arr. L. K. Hargrave*

## INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

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

## \*CLOSING HYMN

“Take My Life, and Let It Be”

**no. 399**

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*GOING FORTH

*Consider the cost of discipleship as you go out. Take your ‘Estimate of Giving’ card home with you. Pray about how God is calling you to serve. Fill out the card and bring it back next week on Consecration Sunday.*

## POSTLUDE

“O to Be Like Thee” *arr. Victor Labenske*

# TODAY'S LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE

## Proper 18

**The First Reading—Jeremiah 18:1-11**—the prophet puts forth an allegory for God's dealings with Jerusalem and Judah: it is like the hands of a potter working with clay.

**The Psalter—Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18**—With marvelous wisdom, God alone perceives the heights and depths of life.

**The Second Reading—Philemon 1-21**—the letter that Paul sent to Philemon asking that he receive back in love the runaway slave Onesimus, who was voluntarily returning to him.

**The Gospel—Luke 14:25-33**—Jesus speaks of the necessity of counting the full cost of discipleship.

## DAILY READINGS - PROPER 18

Each of us is encouraged to read scripture during the week. If you don't already have a daily devotion, the scriptures below are designed to expand the range of biblical reading in worship and personal devotion. You can find them in the bulletin each week. The Daily Readings are taken from "The Daily Office Lectionary" in The Book of Common Prayer. Make a commitment this Growing Season to read scripture each day. It will be a blessing. It can change your life.

	<u>Psalms</u>	<u>Old Test.</u>	<u>New Test.</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
MONDAY	41, 52	1 Kings 13:1-10	Phil. 1:1-11	Mark 15:40-47
TUESDAY	45	1 Kings 16:23-34	Phil. 1:12-30	Mark 16:1-8 (9-20)
WEDNESDAY	119:49-72	1 Kings 17:1-24	Phil. 2:1-11	Matt. 2:1-12
THURSDAY	50	1 Kings 18:1-19	Phil. 2:12-30	Matt. 2:13-23
FRIDAY	40, 54	1 Kings 18:20-40	Phil. 3:1-16	Matt. 3:1-12
SATURDAY	55	1 Kings 18:41-19:8	Phil. 3:17-4:7	Matt. 3:13-17

## NEXT WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Join us next week here at First Church as we come together to worship God on Consecration Sunday (also the Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost). Dr. Wachob will preach at the worship services here in the Main Sanctuary. The Rev. Brandon Bures will preach at the ICON worship service at 11:00am in Wesley Abbey. And we'll hear special testimony on Christian Stewardship. There will also be a free brunch from 9:00-11:00am in The Wright Place. The Sanctuary Choir will sing at 8:00am. Next Sunday's scriptures: *Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28* • *Psalms 14 (UMH 746)* • *1 Timothy 1:12-17* • *Luke 15:1-10*.