



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

CONSECRATION SUNDAY
(SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST)

September 24, 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: CONSECRATION

Today is Consecration Sunday. It is the culmination of our annual discipleship campaign at First Church, "The Growing Season." Our focus for 2017 is Christian Worship, and during this Growing Season we have looked at our worship through the core visions of Christian Education, Missions and Outreach, Evangelism, and Stewardship. Today we are celebrating our five visions by dedicating ourselves to our Lord Jesus Christ. We have the opportunity to make a commitment of discipleship in each of the five areas we've focused on over the previous five weeks. In our worship, we will bring to the altar any commitments and consecrate them to God. 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 time of consecration, and grow together in love and devotion to God.

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, Tour of First Church will walk you through the historic buildings of our campus. The class cycle begins again next week with Intro to First Church. You'll be able to ask questions and learn about the history, theology, worship, and membership of this great church.

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 rose on the altar reminds us to offer prayers of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the gift of Mariana Beatrice Espinosa, born to Erika and Andres Espinosa on September 10, 2017. Proud grandmother is Wendy Holston Anderson.

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Valerie Westmark and Joseph Virgilio on September 23, 2017.



NEXT WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Join us next week here at First Church as we come together to worship God on the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost. It is also World Communion Sunday. 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 at the ICON worship service at 11:00am in Wesley Abbey. Next Sunday's readings: *Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 (UMH 799); Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32.*

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

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" *arr. Richard Huggins* Libby K. Hargrave, *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.

We have heard the stories of our God

From those who have gone before.

We will not hide them from our children

But tell them to the coming generation.

We will tell the glorious deeds of the Lord,

And the wonders God has wrought!

[Psalm 78]

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

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

No. 89

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

Rev. Brandon Bures

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

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 GOSPEL LESSON.** The reading of a passage from one of the four Gospels in Holy Scripture

Matthew 20:1-16

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

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. You can also use this time to look over and fill out any commitment cards for areas in which you'd like to serve as well as an Estimate of Giving card. We will bring these to commitments forward during Holy Communion.

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

"Like a River Glorious" *arr. Koerts*

Laura Young, Libby K. Hargrave, *piano duet*

***DOXOLOGY.** 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"

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.**

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. As you come, bring any commitments you've made with you and place them in the baskets at the front of the sanctuary.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"It Is Well With My Soul" *arr. Koerts*

GROWING SEASON: CONSECRATION

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

"And Are We Yet Alive"

No. 553

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

***GOING FORTH.** The Church goes out to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in the world and to make disciples of all nations.

POSTLUDE

"CWM Rhondda" *arr. Hal Hopson*

*Stand as you are able

HYMN NOTES

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" (words by Henry Van Dyke, 1907; music by Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr. by Edward Hodges, 1864)—Since the last movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony (The Choral) used Schiller's secular text, "Ode to Joy," the author (while visiting Williams College and admiring the Berkshire mountains) composed sacred words with the admonition, "It must be sung to the music of Beethoven's 'Hymn to Joy.'" The result is one of the most popular of American hymns.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

9:30. GREETERS – Mecy/John Wimberly. USHERS – Jamie Covan, Doug Bates & Randy Thompson. COMMUNION STEWARD – Terri Covan. COMMUNION SERVERS – Brenda Carraway & Bill Turner.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

Join us this Wednesday between 5:00 and 6:00pm in The Wright Place for a delicious meal and good fellowship. This week's menu will be **BBQ Chicken, Mac and Cheese, Baked Beans, Cornbread, Cole Slaw, and Caramel Cake.** Please make your reservations in the registration pads, by calling the church office (432-1434), or online. After dinner, join in with one of the Wednesday evening classes. The Senior Pastor's Bible Study is at 6:00pm in Wesley Abbey. Join in any class at any time. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday nights.

LIFE PLAN SERIES: FUTURE HOME PLANNING | SEPT. 25

Tomorrow night is the second installment of our Life Plan Series. The class meets at 6:00pm in Wesley Abbey. The Life Plan Series is designed for adults of any age interested in preparing and planning for the future. Topics include: What to do when you can no longer stay in your home, Assisted Living/Long Term Care, and Memory Care. Sign up online at fumcpensacola.com.

SILVER AND GOLD LUNCHEON | SEPTEMBER 28

Join us for this year's annual church-wide retreat at Blue Lake Methodist Camp in Andalusia, Alabama. Each year we come together as a church family to worship, learn, and fellowship. There are activities for all ages. Activities include pumpkin carving, canoeing, hayrides, roasting marshmallows, and much more. Registration forms can be found in the Church Office; you can also print them from the church's website. We hope to see you there.

BLESSING OF THE BEASTS | OCTOBER 1

Next Sunday, October 1, we are inviting everyone to bring their pets to be blessed at our Blessing of the Beasts service at 4:00pm by the fountain. This is a special service we have each year commemorating the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. The Rev. Brandon Bures will lead us in a short worship service and then the pets will line up to be blessed. As always, attendees are also encouraged to bring donations for the Humane Society including: Purina Kitten Chow, Canned Pedigree/Alpo Dog Food, Laundry Detergent (liquid or powder), and Bleach.

HEALING SERVICE | OCTOBER 8

All are invited to a Healing Service on Sunday, October 8 at 6:00pm in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. If you or someone you know is in need of spiritual and/or physical healing we invite you to come be a part of this time of worship and prayer. If you have any questions regarding this service, contact the Church Office at 432-1434. See the article in the most recent edition of our newsletter for an explanation of what Healing Services are and what we believe about them.

BLUE LAKE FAMILY RETREAT | OCTOBER 13-15

Join us for this year's annual church-wide retreat at Blue Lake Methodist Assembly in Andalusia, Alabama. Each October we come together as a church family to worship, learn, and fellowship in the woods. This year we are focusing on the theme of worship. Special guests will be Mark Miller, minister of music at Christ Church in Summit, New Jersey, and the Rev. Sam Parks, pastor at Cloverdale United Methodist Church in Dothan. Miller will lead worship during the retreat and breakout sessions for tweens and youth while Parks will lead the adult sessions. There will be activities for all ages including pumpkin carving, canoeing, hayrides, roasting marshmallows, and much more. Registration forms can be found in the Church Office; you can also register online through the church's website. We hope to see you all there.



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WORSHIP & DISCIPLESHIP

Worship is not about us. Worship is about God. When God is at the center of our worship, we hear the call of discipleship. Discipleship grows out of love and requires sacrifice and service. In our worship of God, and through the liturgy of the church, we learn how we are to live as followers of Christ and are introduced to areas of Christian service in Christian Education, Missions and Outreach, Evangelism, and Stewardship. These areas of service are all part of being a disciple, but they all begin in worship. It all begins with worship.

 **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:** In the gospels Jesus reminds us that we are to love God with all our mind. 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. As we worship, we learn more about God through the proclamation of the word, reading of scripture, and reciting of the creeds. 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.

 **MISSIONS & OUTREACH:** Our worship of God never really ends. Though our services may only last an hour, the words “Going Forth” remind us that our worship continues even as we depart the sanctuary doors. Christian worship does not end on Sunday morning but continues throughout the week in the way we treat those around us. Whenever we show love to our neighbor by acts of service we in turn are worshipping God. At First Church we understand that Mission and Outreach is an act of worship and we strive to be the hands and feet of Christ through acts of compassion, volunteering, and missional giving.

 **EVANGELISM:** Because we believe that worship is the primary purpose of every human being, we understand that inviting everyone into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ and empowering them to worship the living God is what we are called to do as disciples. We believe that God’s evangelistic message of love and redeeming grace is best shared through showing hospitality, being invitational, being inclusive, being an example, and sharing with others personal testimonies of God’s transformational story. As a church we strive to invite, welcome, and care for others so that all may find a spiritual home and discover for themselves a life in Christ found through worship.

 **STEWARDSHIP:** In Christ, God offered God’s self to us freely, showing us the example of how we are to live as Christian stewards. Stewardship is our response to God as disciples. In worship we respond to God through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. When we worship God with acts of stewardship and giving we are responding to God’s radical love towards us. Christian stewardship is a realization that our life is a gift from God and our talents, time, and financial resources are to be used to express our gratitude for that gift.



6 E. Wright St. • Pensacola, FL 32501 • 850.432.1434 • fumcpensacola.com

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

Ken Autrey 850.333.3073 or Ginger Raines 850.259.3177