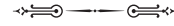


WELCOME

We are glad you're here. Please sign our register to let us know that you're visiting, so our members can make you feel at home.



WE'RE SO GLAD YOU ARE JOINING US FOR WORSHIP TODAY! If you have any questions about Sunday morning activities & Worship or you would like more information about how you can be involved in the life of First United Methodist Church, Shreveport:

- Ask one of our wonderful ushers or volunteers in the Welcome Center. They'd be glad to help!
- Call the church office at 318.424.7771. We're open 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Thursday and 8:30am - 4:00pm on Friday.
- Visit www.firstshreveport.org/getconnected

WANT A TOUR OF THE CAMPUS?

Starting Point tours happen the second Sunday of each month at 9:45am beginning in the Welcome Center located in the Education & Administration Building. Whether you're joining us for the first time or have been considering making this your church home, join us as we explore our church campus.

READY TO JOIN OUR FIRST SHREVEPORT FAMILY?

If you're curious about what membership means and want to meet our pastors before deciding, join us for our next Starting Point Luncheon. Contact our New Member Pastor, Rev. Caroline Wilkinson at 424-7771, ext. 135 or cwilkinson@fumcshreveport.org for more information.

You may join the church today by profession of faith, transfer of membership or reaffirmation of your baptismal vows. Our church receives persons from other traditions by transfer. If you have been baptized in another denomination, re-baptism is not necessary. To join, simply come to the front of the church and meet the pastors during the singing of the last hymn.

NEXT STEPS:

- Join a small group! Contact Erik Rasmussen at erasmussen@fumcshreveport.org or call the church office for more info.
- Serve with us! For Local and Global service opportunities visit www.firstserves.org or email Ashley Goad (Global) at agoad@fumcshreveport.org or Michelle Osborn (Local) at mosborn@fumcshreveport.org.

FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Grab a copy of the *First Weekly* or *The Columns* located at any of the entryways or visit firstshreveport.org.

Our Heritage in Stained Glass

The Welcoming Christ—"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life" John 14:6
The fourth window on the left is a memorial to the Fullilove family. This is one of two windows reserved for families whose members have long records of service to First Methodist dating from the 1800's. The stained glass window's center panel depicts Christ with outstretched arms proclaiming, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life," words taken from his discourse with his disciples following the Last Supper. So, through the 40 days of Lent He welcomes and encourages us to follow.

JOYS & CONCERNS

HOSPITALIZED: Katheryn DeGeneres

DISCHARGED: Eleanor Higgs, John Pleasant, Patricia Lonnecker

SYMPATHY is extended to Erik Rasmussen & family in the death of his grandfather, Lewis

Driewer and to Jo Ann Golden & family in the death of her mother, Marye Jane Joly.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God from the Altar Flower Fund.

THE RED ROSE NEAR THE ALTAR honors those serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, at home & abroad.

MEMORIALS

Marion Ewing

From Sidney Peacock
 Melanie and Barrow Peacock
 Becky and David Cooksey
 Silvia and James Blewett
 Dr. and Mrs. Dean Griffen

Timothy Dulany

from Mr. and Mrs. George Nelson, Jr.

Sara Burroughs

from Mr. and Mrs. Grady C. Golden

VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Week Ending 04.15.18	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$71,414	\$214,242	\$1,184,542
Received	\$89,032	\$276,093	\$1,211,007
Over/(Under)	\$17,618	\$61,851	\$26,465

ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF APRIL 15, 2018

Traditional worship (8:30)	256
Traditional worship (11:00)	357
FaithLink worship	210
Wesleyan Communion	n/a
Total worship attendance	823
Total Sunday School attendance, all ages	546



WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRIES CARING CONGREGATION. *If you are in need of personal prayer, we have Stephen Ministers available to listen and pray with you. A Stephen Minister will be at the altar by the left door at the end of each service.*

Senior Pastor: Dr. R. Pat Day • Executive Pastor: Rev. Derek Joyce • Associate Pastor: Rev. Caroline Wilkinson
 Associate Pastor, Global Missions & Women's Ministry: Dr. Ashley Goad • Pastor of Senior Adult Ministry: Dr. Carl E. Rhoads
 Director of Music: Dr. David Hobson • Director of Fine Arts: Dr. Will K. Andress • Principal Organist: E. Ray Peebles
 Bishop-in-Residence: William W. Hutchinson

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:30am & 11:00am, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC at 11:00am
 FAITHLINK CONTEMPORARY SERVICE: 11:00am • SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45am
 WESLEYAN COMMUNION SERVICE: 9:45 - 10:30am, FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH IN COUCH CHAPEL

318.424.7771 office • 318.429.6888 fax • PRAYER LINE: 318.429.6898 TOLL FREE: 1.888.393.PRAY
www.firstshreveport.org • fumc@fumcshreveport.org

FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

APRIL 22, 2018 › FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



CONNECT. GROW. SERVE. LEAD.

Celebration of Worship

Fourth Sunday of Easter - April 22, 2018

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC at 11:00 AM

PRELUDE..... *KINGSFOLD*.....E. Ray Peebles
arr. Robert Lind

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING Rev. Wilkinson

INTROIT.....*Come, Join Our Cheerful Song*.....Ensemble (8:30)
arr. Dale Wood Chancel Choir (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Rev. Wilkinson

† HYMN OF PRAISE“Soldiers of Christ Arise”.....No. 513

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 881.....Rev. Wilkinson

MUSICAL OFFERING.....“Romans 8” from *Pilgrimage*.....David Westbrook, baritone
Carlisle Floyd

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Isaiah 52:10-12.....Dr. Goad
Old Testament, Page 835 in your Pew Bible

‡

† GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

‡

**CHILDREN’S BLESSING..... Staci Zeagler

JOYS & CONCERNS Dr. Day

MORNING PRAYER Dr. Rhoads

THE LORD’S PRAYER Congregation (speaks in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. ✠ Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. ✠ Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. ✠ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. ✠ For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

‡

† HYMN OF PREPARATION.....“Be Thou My Vision”.....Congregation
*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.*

*Be Thou my Breastplate, my Sword for the fight;
Thou my whole Armor, be Thou my true Might;
Thou my soul’s Shelter, be Thou my strong Tower,
Raise Thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.*

† OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Dr. Goad

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*God So Loved the World*.....Ensemble(8:30)
John Stainer Chancel Choir (11:00)

† DOXOLOGYNo. 94

*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!*

SCRIPTURE READING.....Ephesians 6:13-18.....Dr. Day
New Testament, Page 239 in your Pew Bible

MESSAGE.....**THE LORD WHO GOES BEHIND YOU**.....Dr. Day

† *HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Standing on the Promises”.....No. 374

(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS.....Dr. Rhoads

We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ’s holy church, and bid you welcome to the congregation of First United Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

BENEDICTIONDr. Rhoads

SENDING FORTH.....*May the Grace of Christ Be with You*.....Ensemble(8:30)
arr. Dale Wood Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Grand Choeur in D Major*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ
(à la Handel)
Alexandre Guilmant

Acolytes: Henry Peacock (8:30), Kate Bell, Sophie Lee (11:00)

Crucifer: Kace Sweatman (8:30), Charlie Bell (11:00)

† *Those who are able may stand. ‡ Latecomers may be seated at these times.*

♦ COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED AT 9:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY AND NOON IN COUCH CHAPEL.

Sermon Notes

THE LORD WHO GOES BEHIND YOU

Ephesians 6:13-18

I. The first part of your equipment for battle is the **belt of truth.** (vs. 14)

II. The second part of your equipment for battle is the **breastplate of righteousness.** (vs. 14b)

III. The third part of your equipment for battle is your **shoes.** (vs. 15)

IV. The fourth part of your equipment for battle is your **shield and helmet.** (vs. 16,17a)

V. The final part of your equipment for battle is the sword of the **Spirit.** (v. 17b)