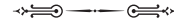


WELCOME

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.
- ♦ Firstdiscipleship.org is Now Live! Find out where you are in your discipleship journey and steps you can take to go deeper. Sign in today at firstdiscipleship.org. Email Lisa Turnbull at lturnbull@fumcshreveport.org or call the church office at 424.7771 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

*On the road to Emmaus—"He being dead yet speaketh" Hebrews 11:4
The third window on the left, directly opposite of the beautiful Easter window, depicts Christ on the Road to Emmaus walking with two companions after His Resurrection. This journey when Christ was not recognized until they reached the village and were at supper is found in Luke 24. The window was installed in memory of Gus Palmer, a steward of this church. "Mr. Gus," a successful cotton broker and a beloved member of First Church takes us Easter People to Pentecost.*

JOYS & CONCERNS

HOSPITALIZED: Jack Daniel, Eleanor Higgs

DISCHARGED: Jere Saur

CONGRATULATIONS to to Emily & Mikel Husted, Jr. on the birth of their son, Mikel Douglas Husted, III on May 22, 2017.

SYMPATHY is extended to Debby Williams & family in the death of her father, Gene Ash; to Winnie Middleton and Jann Connell & family in the death of their daughter & sister, Marsha M. Cummings and to Ken A. Rogers & family in the death of his father, Joe W. Rogers.

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

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

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

John David Matlock

from Stewart Madison

Allen Millwork, Inc.

Robbie Peterson

William T. Herring

Silvia and James Blewett

Don G. Easterwood, Jr.

from Margaret and Bob Anderson

Fred W. Bailey

from Margaret and Bob Anderson

Robert "Bobby" Cochran, Sr.

from Diane and Chuck Chesley

Joseph Laird

from his family

Charles H. Kirkland, Jr.

from Dr. and Mrs. A. Edward Dean

Dr. Taylor A. Lewis

from Tom Larance

Leslie Jones

from Mrs. David L. Jones

Booker Shillcutt

from Mary and Larry Cobb

Bonnie Jean Chesley

from Velda McCormick

Jean N. Murphy

from Kathy and Dayne Hassell

Patsy Payne

from Friendship Sunday School Class

VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Week Ending 05.21.17	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$74,932	\$224,796	\$1,465,920
Received	\$63,210	\$238,760	\$1,610,270
Over/(Under)	(\$11,722)	\$13,964	\$144,350

ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF MAY 21, 2017	
Traditional worship (8:30)215
Traditional worship (11:00)318
FaithLink worship148
Wesleyan CommunionN/A
Total worship attendance681
Total Sunday School attendance, all ages445



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

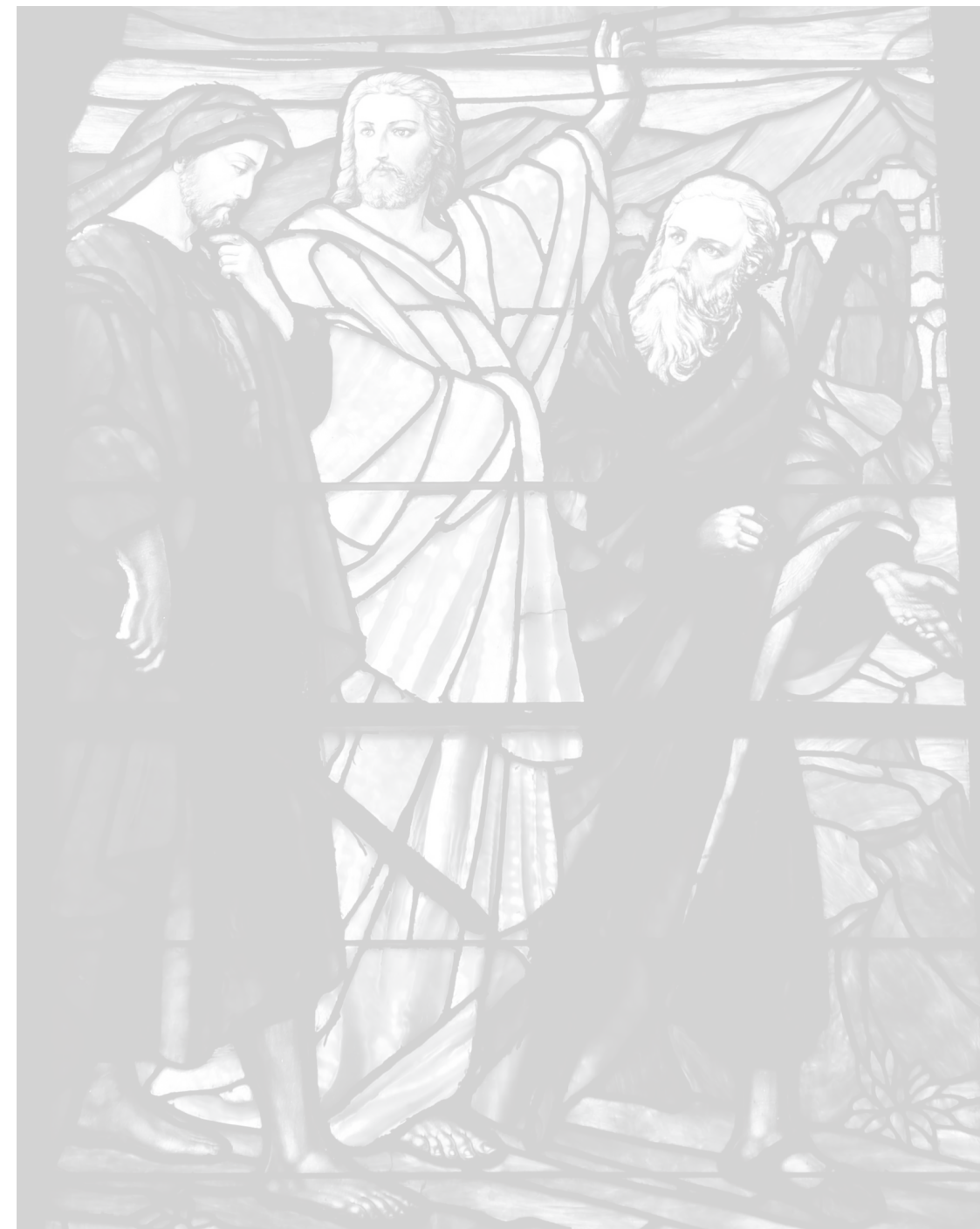
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:30am & 11:00am, **LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC** at 11:00am
FAITHLINK CONTEMPORARY SERVICE: 11:00am • **SUNDAY SCHOOL:** 9:45am
WESLEYAN COMMUNION SERVICE: 9:45 – 10:30am, **FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH IN COUCH CHAPEL**

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

MAY 28, 2017 • 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



CONNECT. GROW. SERVE. LEAD.

Celebration of Worship

Seventh Sunday of Easter - May 28, 2017

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

PRELUDE*Aria con variazioni*.....E. Ray Peebles
Giovanni Battista Martini

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING Rev. Wilkinson

INTROIT.....*Blest Are They*.....Ensemble (8:30)
arr. David Haas Chancel Choir (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION Rev. Wilkinson

† HYMN OF PRAISE“Now Thank We All Our God”..... No. 102

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 888Dr. Rhoads

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Forward into Light*.....David Westbrook, baritone
Charles Ives

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Philippians 4:10-13..... Rev. Wilkinson
New Testament, Page 243 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 & CONCERNSRev. Derek Joyce

MORNING PRAYER Bishop William Hutchinson

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.....“When the Poor Ones” No. 434
Stanza 1- Solo, Stanza 2 - Choir, Stanza 3 - Congregation

OFFERTORY PRAYERDr. Rhoads

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*.....Ensemble (8:30)
arr. Gilbert Martin 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.....Matthew 5:1-12.....Rev. Derek Joyce
New Testament, Page 4 in your Pew Bible

MESSAGE **ARE YOU BLESSED?** Rev. Derek Joyce

† *HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Blessed Assurance”No. 369
*(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.)*

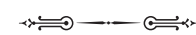
RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS Rev. Wilkinson
*We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ’s holy church, and bid you welcome
to the congregation of First United Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows
to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.*

BENEDICTION Bishop William Hutchinson

SENDING FORTH.....*Blest Are They*Ensemble (8:30)
arr. David Haas Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....“Litanies” from *L’Oeuvre d’Orgue*..... E. Ray Peebles
Jehan Alain

[Litanies: When the Christian soul finds no words when in distress to implore
the mercy of God, he repeats without ceasing the same prayer over and over again.]



Acolytes: Grayson Hargon (8:30), Sarah Margaret Foreman, Kate Foreman(11:00)

Crucifer: Kace Sweatman (8:30), Benjamin Foreman (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.**

* **IF YOU WISH TO JOIN** the First United Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.

***Children leaving the service for Children’s Chapel may be picked up after the service:*

- 3–4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children’s Ministry Center
- K5–1ST graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 207, behind the Sanctuary
- 2ND–3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary

Childcare for infants through 4 years is available from 8:15 to 12:15 in the Children’s Ministry Center. From the sanctuary, follow the sign located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the Dawson Building. Outdoor access is located on the corner of Douglas and Milam Streets.

Sermon Notes

ARE YOU BLESSED?

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

- Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Do you believe you are living a blessed life? How do you even begin to measure blessing? The culture of the world says money, power, prestige, health and success are the identifying measures of blessing. But is that the complete truth? Let’s see what Jesus has to say about being blessed. Hopefully, we will leave Sunday with our hearts encouraged about what truly constitutes living a blessed life, with a desire to pursue the most important thing.