

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Celebration of Worship – Seventh Sunday of Easter – 5.28.17

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. 888.....Dr. 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 PRAYERBishop 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 PRAYER Dr. 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

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.

† *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 MEMBERSRev. 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.

BENEDICTIONBishop 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.