

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Celebration of Worship – Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost – 9.03.17

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PRELUDE.....*Elegy*.....E. Ray Peebles  
John Ireland/Alec Rowley

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING.....Dr. Rhoads

INTROIT.....*If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
Georg Neumark Chancel Choir (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Dr. Rhoads

† HYMN OF PRAISE .....“God of Love and God of Power”.....No. 578

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 881.....Dr. Rhoads

MUSICAL OFFERING.....“Let the Bright Seraphim”.....Benjamin Wilkinson  
from *Samson* E. Ray Peebles, organ  
Georg Frideric Handel/Sue Mitchell-Wallace

† SCRIPTURE READING.....I Corinthians 4:1-5.....Rev. Wilkinson  
New Testament, Page 204 in your Pew Bible

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† 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.*

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\*\*CHILDREN’S BLESSING.....Billie Tate

JOYS & CONCERNS ..... Dr. Day

MORNING PRAYER .....Dr. Goad

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.*

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† HYMN OF PREPARATION...”If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee”....No. 142

† OFFERTORY PRAYER ..... Rev. Wilkinson

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*I Will Arise*.....Ensemble (8:30)

arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw Chancel Choir (11:00)

† DOXOLOGY .....No. 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.....I Peter 2:21-23.....Dr. Day

New Testament, Page 283 in your Pew Bible

MESSAGE.....**COURAGE TO FACE CRITICISM**.....Dr. Day

I. First, understand the difference between constructive and destructive criticism.

- a. Identify the critic.
- b. Identify the critic's motives.
- c. Identify the critic's attitude.

II. Second, don't take yourself too seriously—examine the part of you that is hurt.

III. Third, watch your attitude toward the critic:

- a. Negative attitude.
  
- b. Positive attitude.

IV. Finally, grow through your storms of criticism.

- a. Keep focused.
  
- b. Pray.
  
- c. Confide in trusted friends.
  
- d. By faith, love your critics.

† \*HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Be Still, My Soul”.....No. 534  
(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. Goad  
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 .....Dr. Goad

SENDING FORTH.....*If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
Georg Neumark Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Fanfare*.....Robert Roberge, organ  
Nicolas Jacques Lemmens



**Acolytes:** Henry Peacock (8:30), Caya Cate, Madalyn Byrd (11:00)  
**Crucifer:** William Peacock (8:30), Soren Cate (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
- K5–3RD 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.