

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Celebration of Worship – Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost – 9.10.17

PRELUDE..... *Variations on “Amazing Grace”*..... E. Ray Peebles
Denis Bédard

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING..... Rev. Wilkinson

INTROIT..... *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*..... Ensemble (8:30)
arr. Paul Sjolund Chancel Choir (11:00)

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

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

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH..... No. 887..... Rev. Wilkinson

MUSICAL OFFERING..... *O Divine Redeemer*..... David Westbrook, baritone
Charles Gounod

† SCRIPTURE READING..... Matthew 5:10-12..... Dr. Goad
New Testament, Page 5 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.*

†

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

JOYS & CONCERNS Dr. Day

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.

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† HYMN OF PREPARATION....."Stand By Me".....No. 512

† OFFERTORY PRAYERDr. Goad

MUSICAL OFFERING.....A New Song*Ensemble (8:30)
Diane Bish 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.....Acts 9:20-31.....Dr. Day
New Testament, Page 155 in your Pew Bible

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

I. First, be prepared when persecution comes.

II. Second, **persevere** in doing what is right.

III. Third, **pardon** those who hurt you.

IV. Fourth, **persist** in trusting God.

V. Finally, **pray** for understanding and strength as you pass triumphantly through the phases.

† *HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Faith of Our Fathers”.....No. 710
(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 MEMBERSBishop William Hutchinson
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.....*God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again*.....Ensemble (8:30)
arr. Dale Wood Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Toccata on Thou Art the Rock*.....E. Ray Peebles
Henry Mulet

* *Given to the glory of God and in memory of Mrs. Jackie Peebles, mother of E. Ray Peebles.*



Acolytes: Harper Hearron (8:30), Alex Thaxton, Cade Thaxton (11:00)

Crucifer: Hutson Hearron (8:30), Catherine Thaxton (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.