

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

October 25, 2026 at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

CHIMES *At the sound of the chimes, we invite you into a period of quiet reflection preparing for today's service.*

OPENING VOLUNTARY "Trumpet Tune in D Major"

David Johnson

GREETING

INTROIT (11:00 a.m.) "God Made Me Wonderfully"

Ruth Elaine Schram

God made me wonderfully. I can sing, pray, share. God made me wonderfully; that is why I can sing, pray, share.

† CALL TO WORSHIP

The Pharisees asked Jesus, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

Jesus replied, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind."

This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it:

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Let us gather with joy in the spirit of this great love!

† HYMN 400 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Margaret Frasier, child of Marshall and Mazie Ortego (8:30 a.m.)

August William, child of Troy and Tyler Underwood (11:00 a.m.)

Pastor to congregation:

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this family, now before you, in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the Good News and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround this family with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in her trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *All sing:*

(Child's first and middle name), God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

We this day do all agree, a child of God you'll always be.

(Child's first and middle name), God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

Improvisation

OUR SHARED LIFE

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of John DeMarche's 85th birthday.

Today's music is underwritten in memory of Bob Rainer, by Sue Rainer.

The votive candle is in memory of Claire McVadon.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: Lord, in your mercy. People: **Hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Children are invited to come forward for the children's sermon during the last verse of the hymn.

† HYMN 111 "How Can We Name a Love"

CHILDREN'S SERMON

† PASSING OF THE PEACE *As a forgiven people, we greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

An offering is collected to support the work of First United Methodist Church sharing God's love with the world. Please take a moment and record your attendance on a card located in the blue folders in the pews. Place the card in the offering plate when passed to you. Make a secure gift by scanning the QR Code or visit fumcbr.org/give to give online.



OFFERTORY "Morning Has Broken"

Setting by Mack Wilberg

Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing, praise for the morning, praise for them, springing fresh from the Word! Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass. Mine is the sunlight; mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise every morning God's recreation of the new day!

† DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

† PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the scriptures are read and your word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

† GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 22:41-46

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

† HYMN 156 “I Love to Tell the Story”

† BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Postlude in C”

Arthur Foote

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Acolyte	Aaron Venuto (8:30 a.m.); Bowen Dykes (11:00 a.m.)
Children’s Sermon	Sheri Loy
Lay Reader	Lee Ann Lockridge (8:30 a.m.); Shannon Hyde (11:00 a.m.)
Liturgist	Chris King
Musicians	Dr. Willis Delony, <i>Piano</i> Spencer LeFebvre, <i>Baritone</i> (8:30 a.m.); The Chancel Choir (11:00 a.m.) The K-2 nd Grade Choir; Dr. Jason Bowers, <i>Director</i> ; Emily DeFoe, <i>Assistant Director</i> (11:00 a.m.) Holden Miller, <i>Associate Director of Music and Organist</i> Lamar Drummonds, <i>Director of Music and Worship</i>
Preaching	Reverend Brady Whitton, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
Soundboard	Blake Mason (8:30 a.m.); Rick Waldrop (11:00 a.m.)

Welcome to First United Methodist Church

Café 930 - Enjoy fellowship and a cup of hot coffee or tea from 8:00-11:00 a.m. (Ory Parish Hall) every Sunday morning. An assortment of teas, flavored syrups, and sweeteners are available. All are welcome.

Families with Children – Children are always welcome in worship! Should you choose, staffed nursery care is available for children ages 6 weeks through Kindergarten. FUMC also offers Sunday morning groups for children and youth from 9:45-10:45 a.m. To find a group, visit the Children’s Check-in Station in the Conference Center.

If you are new to First United Methodist and are ready to learn more, we invite you to join us for a **Newcomer Coffee** on Sunday, November 1 from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in Ory Parish Hall. Registration is helpful (scan the QR code) but not required. For more information, contact Shan Schatzle, at shan@firstmethodist.org.



Are you discerning becoming a member of FUMC or ready to join? Attend the next Believe & Belong on November 15 from 9:45–10:45 a.m. in Adult Building, Room 118. Childcare and Children’s Sunday School are available during this hour. Register by scanning the QR code. Questions? Email Dr. Chelsey Geeting, *Director of Senior Adults and Hospitality*, at welcome@firstmethodist.org.



Resource Table - Looking to grow your love for God, self, and others? Stop by the Resource Table located in the narthex off the back of the sanctuary and help yourself to books we highly recommend and a Bible.

Announcements

Plan to bring the family to **Fall Fest today** from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Bring your friends and neighbors to this free event for an evening of games, food, and fun! Make sure to visit the Chili Cook-Off in the Conference Center and place your vote!

FUMC will participate in **Habitat for Humanity of Greater Baton Rouge's Interfaith Build** on Saturday, October 31, from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 1648 N. 29th St., Baton Rouge. We need approximately 9 volunteers. A Sunday School class is also needed to sponsor and deliver lunch to the worksite. To volunteer or learn more, contact Joshua Glass at j.glass1217@gmail.com or (225) 572-0359.

The **Fall Senior Luncheon** will be held on Wednesday, October 28 at 11:00 a.m. in the Conference Center, featuring the Florida Street Blowhards jazz and second line band. Join in the festivities in your Halloween costume or best fall colors - there will be a prize for best autumn outfit! Registration for the luncheon is \$20 per person. To register, for more information, or to volunteer, email Dr. Chelsey Geeting at cgeeting@firstmethodist.org, or call (225) 383-4777.

As part of the opening processional on **All Saints' Sunday**, November 1, you have an opportunity to honor a life on the All Saints' Banner that incorporates names of past lives. A ribbon and bell will be attached to the banner for each name submitted. Email the name you want to memorialize to Lamar Drummonds at lamar@firstmethodist.org. Deadline for submittal is Wednesday, October 28.

Kairos Angola Needs Your Support

"I was in prison and you visited me." — Matthew 25:36

About 10 men from First United Methodist Church of Baton Rouge will be serving on the Kairos Prison Ministry team at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola, November 5–8.

The team and retreat participants invite your support in several ways:

- Prayer: Please pray for the team, the residents, and all who will participate in the November 5–8 retreat.
- Cookies: Homemade cookies are an important part of showing love to the residents. Instructions are available at listenlistenlovelove.com/cookies.
- Children's Agape: Artwork and notes from children are a special blessing to the residents. Please include only the child's first name and age on anything submitted.

Cookies, letters, artwork, and other items should be delivered to the church office by November 4. For questions, contact Brian Snyder at snyder.brian.f@gmail.com. To learn more about Kairos Prison Ministry, visit www.kairosprisonministry.org.

The **Love Your Neighbor Van** connects caring community members with unhoused neighbors by delivering food, essential supplies, and compassion directly to the streets of Baton Rouge. The van currently needs fruit cups, soft-baked fruit and grain bars, crew socks, and long-sleeve T-shirts (L and XL) in dark colors. Please place your donations in the box near the America Street entrance. Visit the Love Your Neighbor Van Amazon Registry by scanning the QR code.



Our Ministries Require Your Support: Your contributions help underwrite the important ministries of FUMC. Recurring gifts provide stability for our church, helping us know how much income to expect and to manage cash flow throughout the year. To establish a recurring gift via ACH bank draft, contact Destiny Muse, *Contributions Coordinator*, at dmuse@firstmethodist.org, or at (225) 383-2777, extension 218. For instructions on setting up an online recurring gift, visit <http://www.fumcbr.org/give>.