

# AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

6th Sunday after Pentecost July 5, 2026 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Paraments – Red

\*Please stand as you are able. Please remember to turn off cell phones.

**Vision Statement of First-Centenary United Methodist Church:**  
Build a healthy and diverse community of disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Gathering Music** (10:30) Mrs. Sylvia Friedl

## Invocation

**Voluntary** Meditation on *Amazing Grace* G. Walker  
Pam Riggs- Gelasco, clarinet and Katie Jo Gelasco, cello

**\*Call to Worship** (8:30) Dr. Nicola Crisp (10:45) Mrs. Annabell Harr

**Leader:** Come all who are weary

**All:** of wealth, of poverty, of power,  
of struggle, of division.

**Leader:** Come all who are heavy-laden

**All:** with too much, with too little,  
with anxiety, with fear, with anger.

**Leader:** Come all who have hope

**All:** for liberation, for peace,  
for freedom, for the kingdom.

**Leader:** Come, it's time to worship the God  
who leads us into life,  
offering peace and sustenance for our souls.

**\*Hymn 618** *Let Us Break Bread Together*

## Prayer

**Almighty God, we gather in your presence  
with thanksgiving and praise.**

**Through Jesus Christ, your Son,  
we have come to know and love you;  
we have seen your love and mercy in action;  
we have caught a glimpse of your heart,  
and we have heard the call to follow.**

**Loving God, on our 250th anniversary as a nation,  
help us to be just, loving, merciful, grateful,  
compassionate, and above all, kind.**

**Help our nation mirror the kind of people we want to be.**

**And help us to avoid envy, cruelty, violence,  
boasting, prejudice, nationalism,  
scapegoating, and malice towards anyone.**

**Help us to be loving as you are, O God.**

**May your Holy Spirit open our minds and hearts  
to your presence here,**

**and to the word that you have for us this morning.**

**Amen.**

**Anthem** (10:45) *Holy Manna* arr. K. Lowenberg  
The Summer Choir

Christians, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God;  
Will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the Word?  
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down;  
Christians, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely, let us love each other too,  
let us love and pray for sinners, till our God makes all thing new:  
Then he'll call us home to heaven, at his table we'll sit down;  
Christ will gird himself, and serve us with sweet manna all around.  
Holy manna all around.

(Words: from Columbian Harmony, 1825)

**Ritual of Friendship** Rev. Michelle Hunter

## \*Gratitude for Tithes and Offerings

**Above the noise of conflict,  
there is a song of peace.**

**Above the world's weeping,  
there is a song of hope.**

**Above the cries of hate,  
there is a song of love.**

**Bless our tithes and offerings, O Lord,  
that we, too, might be singers of your song. Amen.**

**\*Doxology** (#95)  
(10:45 Children may leave for Children's Worship)

## Concerns and Celebrations of the Congregation

### The Pastoral Prayer

**Meditation** *Dona Nobis Pacem* arr. McMichael  
Clarinet and Cello duet

**\*Gospel Lesson** Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

**Sermon** *The Most Important Thing* Rev. Jason Gattis

## Invitation to the Sacrament of Holy Communion

### Call to Confession

**Pastor:** Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are tired,  
who are worn out from carrying heavy burdens.  
Put down the heavy load that you are carrying,  
and you will find rest for your souls."

## Prayer of Confession

**God, we confess  
that we don't always understand our own actions.**

**We clearly know what is right—what you expect of us—  
but we don't always do it.**

**We also clearly know what is wrong—  
the thoughts and actions that hurt others and offend you—  
but we do these things anyway.**

**Forgive us and set us free from the sin that controls us.**

**Teach us to be people of true holiness;  
of compassion and loving obedience,  
of hospitality and healing.**

**May we be those through whom the world  
becomes more friendly and flexible,  
more accepting and inviting,  
more caring and protective;**

**And may holiness – your whole-iness - flood the world.  
In Jesus' name, we pray.**

## Words of Assurance

**Pastor:** People of God, know this:  
Our God is merciful and compassionate,  
slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

When we stumble, God is there to catch us;  
when we are weighed down, God is there to lift us up.  
So be at peace: in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.  
**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**  
**All: Glory to God. Amen.**

## Passing the Peace of Christ

### The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

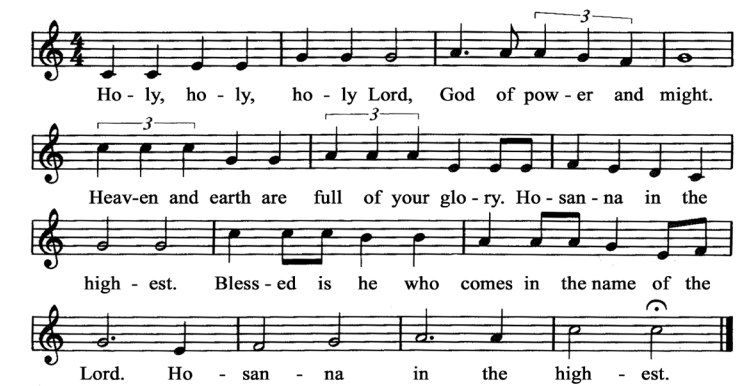
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.** (the liturgy continues....)

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



... all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,  
now and for ever.



## The Lord's Prayer (#895)

### Breaking the Bread and Blessing the Cup

### Sharing in Communion

Today's bread was baked by Dr. Mark Malone  
The Communion Offering is for Brown Academy Backpacks.

### Prayer after Receiving

**You have fed us, Lord, and we are grateful.**

**Allow us to respond this day, and in the days to come,  
with hearts made ready,  
eyes made open,  
hands made strong,  
and feet made willing  
to do your will in this place,  
and in all the places to which you call us. Amen.**

**\*Hymn 437** *This Is My Song*

## \*Benediction

**Voluntary** *Fanfare* A. Copland

## WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

Please register your attendance on the Ritual of Friendship pad.

 ASSISTIVE LISTENING AVAILABLE – ASK USHERS FOR ASSISTANCE.

## NURSERY & FIRST KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Check-in is in the Children's hallway.

## WORSHIP INFORMATION:

**THE VINE WORSHIP SERVICE (10:45 A.M.):** REV. DR. WILL LAUDERBACK

**SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICE (5:00 P.M.):** REV. BARRY KIDWELL

- 10:45 a.m. service telecast on Channel 12, WDEF-TV: 11:30 a.m. Sundays & 12:35 a.m. Mondays
- Visitors please stop by the Visitor Information Desk in the Narthex.

## WITHIN THE CHURCH FAMILY AS OF NOON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 1ST

**HOSPITAL:** Jessica Riddle, Emily Jackson

**CELEBRATIONS:** Birth of Rosemary Jackson, daughter of Emily and Matt Jackson born on June 30th, 2026

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

### SUNDAY, JULY 5TH

High School Mission Trip  
8:30 a.m. - Sanctuary Worship  
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:15 a.m. - Summer Choir  
10:45 a.m. - Sanctuary Worship  
10:45 a.m. - The Vine Worship  
4:30 p.m. - Sunday Night Youth  
5:00 p.m. - PCS Walk at Northgate Mall  
5:00 p.m. - Sunday Night Worship  
6:00 p.m. - Sunday Night Meal

### MONDAY, JULY 6TH

8:00 a.m. - Centenary Summer Camp  
5:30 p.m. - UWF Meeting

### TUESDAY, JULY 7TH

8:00 a.m. - Centenary Summer Camp  
10:00 a.m. - Church Staff Meeting  
10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Respite Ministry  
10:00 a.m. - Crafty Capers

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 8TH

8:00 a.m. - Centenary Summer Camp  
10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Respite Ministry  
6:30 p.m. - Creation Care Meeting

### THURSDAY, JULY 9TH

8:00 a.m. - Centenary Summer Camp  
9:00 a.m. - Garden Mission  
10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Respite Ministry

### FRIDAY, JULY 10TH

8:00 a.m. - Centenary Summer Camp

### SATURDAY, JULY 11TH

11:30 a.m. - PCS Birthday Lunch



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First-Centenary is a member of the Scenic South District of the Holston Conference  
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## SENIORS INTEREST GROUP

Are you interested in opportunities for senior adults? We'd love for you to join us for an informational meeting on **July 12th at 9:45 a.m. in the Chapel**. Whether you have suggestions or want to learn more about the program, all are welcome! **For more information, please contact Harriett Rosebrough at 704-942-8218.**

The Call to Worship is from *I Am Making All Things New*, written by Rosie Venner. Posted on the WSCF Europe website. **Gratitude for Tithes and Offerings** is from *Be Thou Present* by Peggy A. Haymes. © 1994 Smyth & Helwys Publishing, Inc. **The Prayer of Confession** is compiled from prayers by John van de Laar (Sacradise.com) and the website *Re:Worship*. **The Prayer after Receiving** is reprinted by permission from *The Worship Sourcebook*, 2004, CRC Publications.

## ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICES:

**Acolytes:** Oliver Harr, Caroline Culbertson, Eva Caroline Armstrong, and Nora Cate Armstrong

### **Pew Volunteers:**

8:30: David Hudson

10:45: Adam and Beth Fletcher

### **Welcome Desk Volunteers:**

8:30: Susan Byrd

10:45: Jennifer Fry

## NEW MEMBERS COMMENDATION

**Pastor:** Brothers and sisters, I commend to your love and care these persons whom we this day receive into the membership of this congregation. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**Congregation:** We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ's holy church, and bid you welcome to the First-Centenary congregation of The United Methodist Church. With you we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness. With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ that, surrounded by steadfast love, you may be established in the faith and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SUMMER CHOIR

You're invited to sing in the Summer Choir. We gather in the Choir Room at 10:15 a.m. to rehearse the morning anthem. Join us any or all of these Sundays: July 12th, 19th, 26th, August 2nd and 9th.



### POPSICLES IN THE PARK

Cool off with us at Popsicles in the Park on **July 12th at 2:00 p.m. at Riverview Park!** Come enjoy a sweet treat, spend time in the sun, and connect with friends. There will also be activities for the kids!



## WAYS TO GIVE:

GIVING KIOSK  
MAIL

SUNDAY OFFERING  
BANK DRAFT

ONLINE



JULY 5, 2026

8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

...and you will find  
rest for your souls.

Matt. 11:29