



**First United Methodist Church  
Andover**

3801 Polo Club Blvd.  
Lexington, KY 40509  
[andoverlex.org](http://andoverlex.org)

**Sunday, May 5, 2024**

PRELUDE

**Victory In Jesus; Bartlett, arr. Ham**

WELCOME

\* HYMN OF PRAISE

246 Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
2. Joy to the world, the Sav - ior reigns!  
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow,  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,

Let earth re - ceive her King; let  
Let all their songs em - ploy; while  
nor thorns in - fest the ground; he  
and makes the na - tions prove the

ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
comes to make his bless - ings flow  
glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness,

WORDS: Issac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 98:4-9)  
MUSIC: Arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848

ANTIOCH  
CM with Repeat

and heaven and na - ture sing, and  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -  
 far as the curse is found, far  
 and won - ders of his love, and

and heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his

heaven and na - ture sing, and  
 peat the sound - ing joy, re -  
 as the curse is found, far  
 won - ders of his love, and

sing,  
 joy,  
 found,  
 love,

and re - heaven and na - ture  
 far as the sound - ing  
 and won - ders of his

heaven, and heaven, and na - ture sing.  
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 as, far as the curse is found.  
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

sing,  
 joy,  
 found,  
 love,

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the good news—the grave is empty; Christ is risen.

**People: Hallelujah!**

Leader: This is the good news—the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

**People: Hallelujah!**

Leader: This is the good news—once we were no people; now we are God’s people.

**People: Hallelujah!**

Leader: Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

**People: Hallelujah!**

\* OPENING PRAYER

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Apostles’ Creed, Ecumenical Version*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*universal

\* GLORIA PATRI

MEINEKE

**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. Amen.**

OFFERTORY ***Blest Be The Tie That Binds Us Together; Gillman, arr. Hayes***

*There are several ways you can give financially. 1) Online at [AndoverLex.org](http://AndoverLex.org);  
2) By texting ACG to 84321; 3) In the box at the back of the sanctuary;  
4) By mail to the church office at 200 W. High Street, Lexington, KY 40507*

*We would love to know how we can pray with and for you. Prayer requests can be submitted using prayer cards in the seatbacks or by texting your request to 859-274-9471. Prayer cards will be collected during the hymn of prayer later in worship. They will be taken to our prayer chapel, where they will be prayed over by one of our Prayer Intercessors and then added to our prayer list for prayer throughout the week.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell on everyone who heard the word.

<sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.

<sup>46</sup>They heard them speaking in other languages and praising God. Peter asked,

Acts 10:44-48, CEB

<sup>47</sup>“These people have received the Holy Spirit just as we have. Surely no one can stop them from being baptized with water, can they?”

<sup>48</sup>He directed that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited Peter to stay for several days.

Leader: This is the word of God, for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**



HYMN OF PRAYER

432

Jesu, Jesu

*Refrain (Unison)*

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

*Fine*

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their  
2. Neigh-bors are rich and poor, neigh-bors are black and  
3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should  
4. Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we are  
5. Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

*D.C.*

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
white, neigh-bors are near and far a - way.  
love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.  
slaves, this is the way we should live with you.  
feet, this is the way we should live with you.

WORDS: Tom Colvin, 1969 (Jn. 13:1-17)  
MUSIC: Ghana folk song; adapt. by Tom Colvin, 1969; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1988

CHEREPONI  
Irr. with Refrain

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE 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.**

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born from God. Whoever loves someone who is a parent loves the child born to the parent.

<sup>2</sup>This is how we know that we love the children of God: when we love God and keep God's commandments.

<sup>3</sup>This is the love of God: we keep God's commandments. God's commandments are not difficult,

1 John 5:1-6, CEB

<sup>4</sup>because everyone who is born from God defeats the world. And this is the victory that has defeated the world: our faith.

<sup>5</sup>Who defeats the world? Isn't it the one who believes that Jesus is God's Son?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ. Not by water only but by water and blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

Leader: This is the word of God, for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### ANTHEM

***In This Very Room (Harris)***

### CHILDREN'S BLESSING

*At this time children up to 5<sup>th</sup> grade may go to Kid's Worship. This is a time of worship geared to our young ones. We do welcome children to remain in worship with their families. We want to support families in whatever works best for you!*

### \* GOSPEL READING

<sup>9</sup>As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love.

<sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

<sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete.

<sup>12</sup>This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you.

<sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends.

<sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you.

John 15:9-17, CEB

<sup>15</sup>I don't call you servants any longer, because servants don't know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you.

<sup>16</sup>You didn't choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you could go and produce fruit and so that your fruit could last. As a result, whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you.

<sup>17</sup>I give you these commandments so that you can love each other.

Leader: This is the word of God, for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

### INVITATION

Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

### CONFESSON AND PARDON

**People: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**All: Glory to God. Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR EASTER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

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

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ,

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

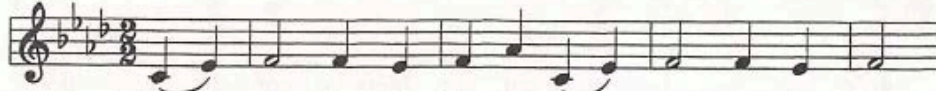
**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Leader: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

HYMN OF RESPONSE

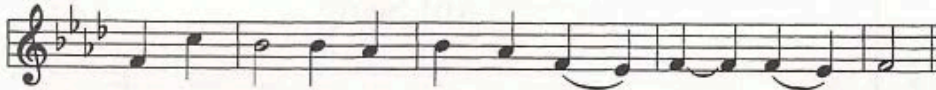
2223 They'll Know We Are Christians  
by Our Love



1. We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,  
2. We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,  
3. We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,  
4. All praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come,

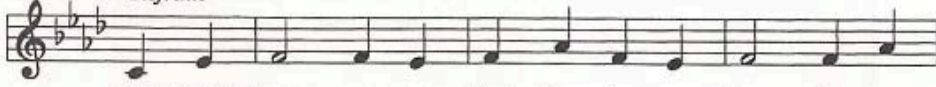


we are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,  
we will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,  
we will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,  
and all praise to Christ Je-sus, God's on-ly Son,



and we pray that all u-ni-ty may one day be re-stored:  
and to- geth-er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
and we'll guard hu-man dig-ni-ty and save hu-man pride:  
and all praise to the Spir-it, who makes us one:

*Refrain*



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love. —

WORDS: Peter Scholtes (John 13:34-35; Eph. 4:4-6)

MUSIC: Peter Scholtes

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ST. BRENDAN'S  
76.76.86 with Refrain

\* BENEDICTION

\* 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.**

POSTLUDE

***God Is My Strong Salvation; Smith***

\* Please stand as you are able.

## WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preacher: Rev. Chad Foster  
Liturgists: Darren Wallace, Jake Tecau  
Acolyte: Josiah Foster  
Crucifer: TBD  
Bible Bearer: TBD  
Children's Moment: Kathy Edwards  
Kids Worship: Audra Davidson  
Minister of Music: Janell Hamilton  
Accompanist: Susan Jones

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## **Our Shared Ministry**

Chad:

As a part of Lexington First UMC, we are a part of something bigger than ourselves. Andover is fortunate to be in a ministry that is closely shared with the Downtown and Offerings Communities. We are able to maintain the feel of a smaller church, while reaping the benefits of being a larger church. We see this in both our programming and administration. 50% of our budget giving goes beyond the direct ministry at Andover.

Jennifer:

The first 10% goes to our serve team and common mission partners. First Church has supported the operation of the High Street Neighborhood Center for decades, providing an affordable childcare option for families that need it the most.

Beyond that, our serve teams invest in ministries close to their community. At Andover, this looks like investment in the Garret Morgan backpack program, Nathaniel Mission, the United Methodist Homes for Children and Youth, Common Good, Embrace UMC, and more.

25% goes towards our shared administration. This includes support for our Sr. Pastor, Church Administrator, Office Manager, Administrative Assistants, and property manager. Beyond this shared staffing, it goes towards our insurance, vehicles, office supplies, printers and copiers, software costs, and much more.

11% goes towards supporting the United Methodist Church in KY and beyond through our apportionment giving. This provides for our district, conference, and general church operations.

4% of giving is set aside for Community and Leadership development.

Chad:

We were able to launch Andover because we were part of something bigger. Through our shared ministry, we had the people and funds to launch 16 years ago. It is through our shared ministry that we have been able to navigate hard times. And it is through our shared ministry that we can do ministry contextually.

Each Sunday, someone will be at the Welcome Center in the Gathering Hall after worship, ready to answer any questions you might have. Thank you for your support of Andover, and our common ministry at First Church.



## **Embrace Bags**

Today is the first Sunday of the month, so please return the purple Andover bags if you brought them with you. If you did not bring anything, but would like to help, here is more information. We can receive supplies any day!

Embrace serves the communities of Northeast Lexington, and your donations go a long way in helping feed hungry people. Jan Colbert will have her white Honda CRV parked near the offices. You can drop your donations right there or in the gathering hall. Items needed are:

Food Bags: Peanut Butter/Canned Chicken or Beef/Canned Tuna or Salmon, Soups, Mac and Cheese, Beans, Pasta, or Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables. Snack Bags: Juice Box, Bags of Chips or Granola Bars, Sleeve of Tuna, Peanut Butter Snack or Vienna Sausages, Fruit or Pudding Cups

### **Special Worship - Youth Sunday with Senior Recognition and Next Steps – May 19**

Make sure to be in worship on Sunday, May 19. We will have a lot going on. Our youth will be helping lead us in prayer, we will recognize our high school seniors, we will celebrate our Next Steps, including collecting pledges, and we will acknowledge the beauty of being part of a church that is 235 years old! Please make an effort to join us in person!

### **Lunch on the Grounds After Worship on May 19**

Afterward, stay around for lunch on the grounds. We will have hotdogs, hamburgers, drinks, and paper products provided by the church. Feel free to bring a side or desert to share. There will be much to celebrate that day and a great chance to fellowship together.

### **Vacation Bible School**

July 21-24, all three First Church communities will dive deep to experience the never-ending love of God. Would you please help us prepare by:

1. Registering! It will be more fun with you here! Both Children and Volunteers can sign up using the QR code below. Please register by June 16 to be sure you get a t-shirt. Questions? Darren would love to talk with you.



2. Donating a gift card to a store where we buy supplies or any amount to the VBS fund to pay for other items like t-shirts. Look for the fish in the Gathering Hall this Sunday. For the store tags, please sign up for that number tag so we know who to thank and return the gift card to Darren by June 2 so our leaders can use them to purchase supplies.



3. Keeping an eye out for upcoming opportunities to help with a decorations day.

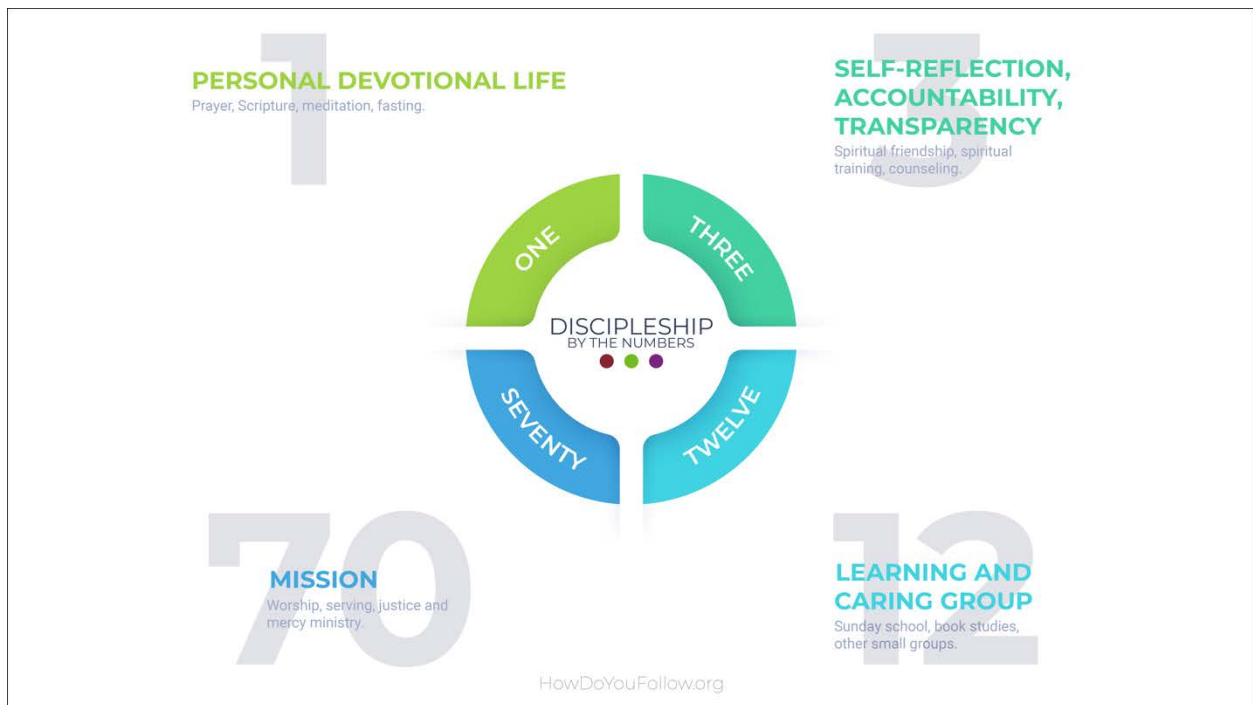
Thanks for making this a great week for our First Church family!

### Three Ways to Find More Information

1) If you have an Apple or Android phone or tablet, we have an app. Search your app store for "Church Center." Once you have it installed it will ask you to find your church. Look for "First United" in the "40509" and it will be the first church that comes up!

2) From a web-browser visit <https://1stumc.churchcenter.com/>

3) We have updated our website itself to link directly to everything we are doing. Visit us at [AndoverLex.org](http://AndoverLex.org).



At First United Methodist Church, we have structured our approach to discipleship based on how Jesus practiced it. Jesus had a "1" - a personal relationship with God the Father. He also had a "3" - Peter, James, and John, who were his closest disciples and with whom he shared his deepest thoughts and feelings. Additionally, Jesus had the "12" who learned from him and cared for each other. Finally, Jesus united the "70" in a common worship and mission. For more information scan the code below.

