

Our Christian Worship of God
May 17, 2026
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

Ascension Sunday

Liturgical Color: White

The Prelude "Pastorale: Aria, BWV 590" -J. S. Bach
The Chiming of the Hour
The Call to Worship "Surely the Presence of the Lord"
The Welcome and Announcements

Graduate Recognition and Billy Gallien Scholarship Recipients
High School Graduates: Jacob Allen, AJ Dover, Clara Dover, Carter Farris, Wade Ward
College Graduates: Lawrence Bartee, Alexis Bono, Sarah Keller, David King

*The Hymn UMH 312 "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"

*The Invocation

Leader: Risen and Ascended Christ, You opened the minds of Your disciples to understand the Scriptures, and You still open our hearts to receive Your truth today.

People: Open us again, Lord Jesus. Teach us to see Your blessing, trust Your promise, and live as Your witnesses.

Leader: You lifted Your hands and blessed Your followers, not as a farewell of abandonment, but as a promise of presence, power, and purpose.

People: Bless us again, Lord Jesus. Remind us that we are not left behind, but sent forth in Your name.

All: Come, Holy Spirit. Fill this place with worship, fill our hearts with joy, and send us into the world as faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ, our risen, ascended, and reigning Lord. Amen.

The Anthem "Breastplate" Chancel Choir
Soloists: Bob Dowd, Jay Oden

*The Affirmation of Christian Faith The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And 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, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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. *universal

*The 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. Amen.**"

The Offering

Offertory "Now, Holy Spirit, We Pray to Thee" -Buxtehude

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

"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

*Offertory Prayer

*The Hymn UMH 327 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

The Pastoral Prayer and 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

*The Scripture Lesson Luke 24: 44-53 see insert

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God. Amen

The Sermon "Blessed, But Not Left Behind" Rev. Scott Gilmer

Prayer of Christian Discipleship

*The Hymn UMH 664 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

*The Benediction

*The Choral Response and Recessional

**May the road rise to meet you; May the wind blow at your back.
May the sun shine warmly on your face;
May the rain fall softly on your field,
And until we meet again, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen**

*The Chiming of the Trinity

*The Postlude "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" -Wright

*indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able

**We welcome our guest organist, Ms. Ginger Wyrick, to First UMC this morning.
Thank you for sharing your talents with us.**

Congratulations: We wish to congratulate Jacob Allen, AJ Dover, Carter Farris, Wade Ward and Nate Woolard on achieving their Boy Scout Eagle Rank. All 5 young men started Scouts in either 1st or 2nd grade have been together since 4th grade in Pack 1280 and then Troop 1280 here at the church. Over the years they have been active in FUMC in various activities as well. Everyone is invited to stop by to congratulate them right after the service on **TODAY** in the Lobby with light refreshments. If you'd like to attend their Pinning Ceremony, please join us in the Missions & Fellowship Center afterwards at 11:30.

This Week

Budget Receipts	\$ 6,658.00	Week	20
Other	\$ 1,362.00	% of Budget receive	39
Total Budget for 2026...	\$ 484,517	Church School	25
Amount needed weekly...	\$ 9,318	Morning Worship.....	81
		Youth.....	

1/1/26 Bank Balance	\$ 57,059.69
Total giving to date	\$ 196,704.42
Total spending to date	\$ <u>184,732.44</u>
Current Bank Balance	\$ 69,031.67

5/14/26 Local Operating Balance \$ 44,194.68

If you want your offering to go to the new Local Operating Fund, please be sure to mark your check clearly.

Stewardship ~ Ways to Give

Regular Tithes and Offerings through the **Sunday Morning Offering.**

Giving On-Line: Giving to FUMC is available online through our website:

www.firstumcclover.org **Thanks for your support of the mission and ministry of FUMC.**

If you decide to give electronically, please feel free to drop an "Electronic Giver" card in the offering plate on Sundays as an act of worship.

Please Save the Date to Celebrate Louise Jackson's 90th Birthday!

On June 29, 2026 at 12:00 noon in the fellowship center, there will be a covered dish lunch honoring Louise's special day. Please plan to join us.

Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴ And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. ⁴⁵ Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: ⁴⁷ And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ And ye are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. ⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. ⁵¹ And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: ⁵³ And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

Wonderful Wednesday Meal, May 20 hosted by Moped to Memphis
Menu: Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, homemade chili, homemade slaw & dessert

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