

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday April 13, 2025

Palm/Passion Sunday

601 North Cedar, Abilene, Kansas 67410

785-263-2623 — www.abilenefirstumc.org

Gathering Time Music

Welcome & Announcements

Please fill out the insert in today's bulletin to register your attendance and place in the offering plate when it is passed.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP *(as the music begins, please be seated, set all cell phones to silent and use this time to quietly transition into worship)*

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP** (congregation response in **bold**)

Today, we join Jesus in the final ascent to Jerusalem, knowing the depths we will descend on our journey through Holy Week.

Open the gates of righteousness, that we may come worship God!

We join the disciples in declaring that Jesus, riding on a donkey, is our Ruler, the One who will bring peace and salvation for all.

Open the gates of peace, that we may come worship God!

We join with the bystanders who questioned and wondered who this Jesus really is, who feared the consequences of angering the powers that be.

Open the gates of truth, that we may come worship God!

The journey through Holy Week brings us face-to-face with the stark reality of sin and God's faithfulness to save.

Open the gates of salvation, that we may come to worship God whose steadfast love never fails!

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* UMH 278

CHILDREN'S TIME (children of all ages are invited to come forward)

SPECIAL MUSIC (8:15) *All Glory Laud and Honor*
Anna Gugler, piano solo

CHOIR ANTHEM (10:30) *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*
Chancel Choir
Rev. Tony Serbousek, organist

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

....*Lord in your mercy.* **Hear our prayer.**

PRAYER RESPONSE *I Need Thee Every Hour* vs. 2 UMH 397

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***THE DOXOLOGY** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings* UMH 95

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

God of Peace, who reigns in unexpected ways, we gather before you in this season of Lent, bringing our gifts as an offering of our hearts. Just as the crowd welcomed Jesus with shouts of praise, we offer our lives in service to your kingdom. Use these gifts to bring hope, healing, and love to a world longing for your peace. Guide us to give generously with joyful hearts, knowing that in our giving, we proclaim your reign of grace. Bless these offerings and all who give in the name of Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 19:28-40 (NRSV)

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God

***HYMN** *O How He Loves You and Me* FWS 2108

THE APOSTLES' CREED (Traditional Version)

UMH 881

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, died, 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. Amen.

HYMNO Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done*

UMH 287

THE BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayer concerns will be listed in the bulletin for 4 weeks unless the church office is notified otherwise.

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Lavetra Brown (prayers of comfort, in hospice care)
Eugene Prosch (Son of Norma, had heart surgery, is out of hospital)
Cheryl Dunham (Stage 2 breast cancer diagnosis, prayers of healing)
The Family of Marie Thornton
Pam Jackson (continued prayers of strength, moved to assisted living)
The Family of Merrie Bruns (Daughter of Betty Eckman)
The Family of Margie Miller
The Family of Marlene Russell (Mother of Pastor Tony)
Tim Birzer (BIL Kent & Diane Wyatt, prayers of comfort)
The Family of Nadine Griffin
Barb Funston (prayers of continued healing, is now home)
Norris Marshall (continued prayers for strength)
Alfred and Delores Schmidt (parents of Velda B., prayers of comfort)
Diedre Dunham & Family (prayers of healing, comfort, and strength)

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS:

The Family of Ileta Ward (Sister of Dwight Hoffman and SIL of Janice)
The Family of Evelyn Johnson (Aunt of Jason Vinduska & family)
Roger Viola (Brother of Pat Cormack)
The Family of John (Jed) Dobkins II
Chris Eckert
Kim Decker (prayers of healing and comfort after car accident)
Mike Jantz (friend of Anna Gugler and many more)
Jacque Havice (friend of Barb L. Prayers of healing)
Macie Heller (daughter of Ethan & Emily Heller, 2 y/o diagnosed with leukemia)
Elaine (sister of Kathy Pauley, cancer treatments)
Prayers for peace in the Middle East.

THOSE WORSHIPPING FROM HOME: Pam Jackson, Norris Marshall, Bonnie Byers, Evelyn York, Karen & Steve Crump, Donna Smith, Donna Richards, Dorothy Veach, Dorothy Snider, Linda Chase, Carl Hansen, Myckie Spencer, Lois Ledy, Lavetra Brown.

THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:

Cory Donley, Colby Miller, Evan Middleton, Kayla Berven, Derek Lipson, Daelan McKnight

THOSE IN AUTHORITY: The President, the Governor, the Mayor, County Commissioners, the County Attorney, and other elected officials and the judiciary (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S RADIO BROADCAST IS SPONSORED BY

Anonymous Sponsor

COOKIE DONATIONS NEEDED

We are once again needing donations of cookies/treats for after services on Sunday. We are able to freeze the cookies to use at a later date if you would like to make a large batch of something.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Registration for summer camp is open. Scholarships are available for kids from Abilene FUMC. Look for information on the kiosk or ask Wendy Robinson for more information. Don't miss out on this FUN opportunity!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

April suggested items: Craft activities, Puzzles, Binoculars, Compasses, Jump Ropes, Dry Water Colors, Play Dough, Stickers, Craft kits, Books or Picture Books.

EASTER LILIES

The office is sold out of lilies, but you are welcome to bring your own before the Easter Service April 20. Please let the office know if you would like to have it in Honor or Memory of someone. The information needs to be to the church office by April 14 to be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The children's Easter egg hunt will be Sunday, April 20 at 10:15 a.m. on the 3rd floor.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships for high school and post secondary students are available on the church website. Deadline is April 14, 2025. abilenefirstumc.org

COMMUNITY MEAL

Monday, April 7 there were 350 meals served. All contributing churches will host an Easter meal on Monday, April 14. Contact Jacquie Saffell with questions or to volunteer. 785-342-6223

POSITION OPENING: FUMC-Abilene is looking to hire a new Director of Parish Visitations. This position includes up to 20 hrs per week including spending one morning in the office answering phones and greeting walk-in guests Starting wage is \$14 /hr with possible increase after a 90 day probation period. See the bulletin board in the Narthex for a complete job description or pick one up in the office. This position reports directly to the Pastor and Staff Parish Relations Comm. (SPRC) Job applications can be picked up at the church office. Position opened until filled.

OFFICE ON THE MOVE!

The next time is Tuesday, April 15, come meet and have an informal conversation with Pastor Tony from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM at Amanda's Bakery, 302 N Broadway in downtown Abilene. This week's question is: What aroma or odor, when you smell it, reminds you of someone or some place in the past?

1st UMC POWER & LIGHT

3:30 p.m. every Wednesday following the school calendar. This is designed for Kindergarten-5th grade kids. Wendy and her crew will make sure fun is had by all with Bible stories, crafts, snacks, and games.

YOUTH GROUP

Designed for grades 6-12. Meets every Wednesday (following the school calendar) at 6:00 p.m. In Peatling Hall. We have dinner, games and Bible discussion. Bring a friend or two!

WE ARE ON THE RADIO AND STREAMING ONLINE

If you can't make it to church, but would like to listen to our service live, simply tune into KABI 1560 AM or 95.9 FM at 10:30 a.m. You can also stream the worship service at abilenefirstumc.org.

OFFERING

Needed each Sunday - \$ 5870.81 Last Sunday - \$ 3817.00

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

- 8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 9:20 a.m. Small Groups & Sunday School Classes
- 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class - Wendy's Office
- 10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / KABI 1560 AM or 95.9 FM
- 5:00 p.m. Sand Spring Rustlers 4-H Club - Peatling Hall

MONDAY, APRIL 14 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

- 12:00 p.m. Scholarship Applications Due
- 5:00 p.m. Serving Community Meal - 1400 N. Cedar
- 5:30 p.m. CORE Meeting - 2046
- 6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting

TUESDAY, APRIL 15 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

- 9:30 a.m. Coffee Group - 302 N. Broadway
- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 7:00 p.m. EOTT Quilt Guild Board Meeting - 200

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting - Office
- 12:05 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship - Chapel
- 12:45 p.m. United Women in Faith Meeting - 200
- 3:00 p.m. Power & Light - Peatling Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Peatling Hall
- 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice - Sanctuary

THURSDAY, APRIL 17 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

- 5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil Begins
- 9:00 a.m. Card Ministry - 208
- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex
- 12:00 a.m. Maundy Thursday Worship - Sanctuary

FRIDAY, APRIL 18 OFFICE CLOSED

- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae - Sanctuary

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

SUNDAY, APRIL 20 EASTER SUNDAY

- 8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. Small Groups & Sunday School Classes
- 10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / KABI 1560 AM or 95.9 FM

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please note that **bold type** indicates congregational participation. An asterisk (*) indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able. "UMH" stands for *The United Methodist Hymnal* (blue book); "FWS" stands for *The Faith We Sing* (black book); and "WS" stands for *Worship and Song* (green book).

OUR MISSION AND VISION

Mission: to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Vision: a church of open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Piano: Anna Gugler & Angie Hoerner

Liturgists: Amanda Cormack & Toni Schwarting

Slides/Sound/Livestream: Chantay Porter & Luke and Alex Hunter

Gospeltality Greeters 8:15: Ellen Jones & Mary Jane Oard

10:30: Janice Hoffman & Bette Engelhaupt

FIRST UMC STAFF

Tony Serbousek, Pastor

Cell-785-332-4308- tserbousek@greatplainsumc.org

Chris Seets, Administrative Assistant

Phone: 785-263-2623 — office@abilenefirstumc.org

Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

wendy@abilenefirstumc.org

Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries

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Darrol Dunham, Director of Maintaining the Church

Cecilia Clemence, Treasurer

treasurer@abilenefirstumc.org

Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor Emeritus