

Sunday, May 24, 2026

Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

601 North Cedar, Abilene, Kansas 67410

785-263-2623 — www.abilenefirstumc.org

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME, GOD SIGHTINGS, AND JOYS

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

OPENING PRAYER

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

Family of God, the Spirit is moving—not just in the sanctuary, but in the world!

Because the Spirit moves, we can love boldly.

God is with us, and God's Breath joins us together as the Body of Christ.

Because the Spirit draws us together, we can serve joyfully.

Through the Spirit, we work for the flourishing of every neighbor.

Because the Spirit holds us together, we can lead courageously.

Family of God, the Wind is blowing—God is with us!

We come to worship God by boldly loving, joyfully serving, and courageously leading. Amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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

GATHERING HYMN

O Spirit of the Living God

UMH 539

FAMILY TIME (children of all ages are invited to come forward)

SPECIAL MUSIC*Battle Hymn of the Republic*

Anna Gugler, piano solo

SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 11:24-30 (NRSVA)

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. ²⁶ Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' ²⁸ And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!' ²⁹ But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!' ³⁰ And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God

***GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 70

SERMON

Unauthorized Grace

Rev. Richard Fitzgerald

RESPONSIVE HYMN

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

FWS 2120

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we admit that we prefer a Spirit we can control. We have built fences where you have built bridges. We have tried to silence the voices "in the camp" because they didn't align with ours. Change our hearts and minds. Show us again how to love without boundaries, and give us the power and courage to do your will. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Spirit blows where it will, and it blows toward mercy.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

There's a Spirit of Love in This Place

vs. 1 WS 3148

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***SENDING HYMN**

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

FWS 2241

***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:

Pastor Libby Themis

Gisela Pauley & Bruce Pauley (mother & husband of Kathy, prayers of healing)

Marilyn Jordan (prayers of strength & comfort)

Pam Jackson (prayers of strength & comfort)

Connie YBarra (Friend Wendy R., multiple amputations)

Amy Peterson's Family, grandmother isn't doing well

Richard Blanchard (Father of Leslie H., prayers for peace, comfort, & healing)

Steven & Mary Cairns (medical tests, procedures, & consults with new Dr.)

Leonard Schmitz (friend of Kent & Diane W., treatment for Acute Myeloid Leukemia)

Scot Budden (Pastor Libby's brother)

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS:

The Family of James Bottorff, Betty Cox, McKenna McGivney, Bob Dishman, Rachel Prichard, Tom Litke, Kathy Ducker, Barbara Webster-Haynes, Nathan Robbins, Deb Daniel, Jamye Comp, Kim Decker, Jacque Havice, Macie Heller.

THOSE WORSHIPPING FROM HOME: Norris Marshall, Karen & Steve Crump, Dorothy Veach, Dorothy Snider, Linda Chase, Charles Spidell, Hope Higgins, Jim Leyerzapf, Evelyn Carter, Barb and Carl Funston, Al Jones, Glen & Joan Dawson, Don & Mary Rickley, Phyllis Welton, Pam Jackson, Myckie Spencer.

THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:

If you have someone to add to this list, please include their name to the back of the attendance sheet.

Cory Donley, Colby Miller, Evan Middleton, Kayla Lee, Derek Lipson,

Daelan McKnight, Patrick Senart

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY MAY 25 IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY

PASTOR LIBBY IS OUT OF THE OFFICE

Please phone the office or reach out to a member of the Staff Parish Relations Committee if you have any questions or are in need of pastoral care.

CHRIS WILL BE OUT OF THE OFFICE MAY 25 - JUNE 4

Cecilia will be covering the office, but office hours may change a little. You can always email the office or leave a voice mail message if you find the office closed.

office@abilenefirstumc.org 785-263-2623

SET OF CHURCH DOOR KEYS FOUND

If you are missing your set of keys for the outside doors of the church, we may have them in the office. Please describe the keyring to claim.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join Wendy and her crew every Wednesday in June for Vacation Bible School!

This summer we invite youth K-5 to take part in the SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE. More information will be available in the coming weeks. If you know a child that would like to participate, please visit with Wendy.

THE DISCIPLE NEWSLETTER

Do you have a unique hobby or collection that you would like to share with the congregation? We are looking for ideas for upcoming issues!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

May continues our collection of items for the 2026 Operation Christmas Child Boxes! This month is Personal Hygiene items: fun bandaids, brushes, combs, toothbrushes, socks, nail clippers, files. **Please, no toothpaste or liquids.**

COMMUNITY MEAL

The May 11 Community Meal served 330 people. Our next time to host is August 10. The Community Meal is served the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, at 5:00 p.m., Sterl Hall, 619 N. Rogers. Please contact Jacque Saffell, 785-342-6223 or Toni Schwarting, 785-479-6353 with questions or to volunteer.

AUBURN MEDICINE LIDS AND BEST CHOICE LABELS

The Questors Sunday School class continues to collect Best Choice labels and Auburn Medicine lids to raise money. You can bring your donations to the office any time during regular hours or on Sunday mornings.

COOKIES/BREAD FOR SUNDAY MORNING

We are always in need of cookie/treat donations for Sunday mornings and bread for our visitors. Please bring donations to the office on Sunday mornings or during office hours M-Th 8-12. Thank you for your generosity!

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 - \$ 2794.00
May EFT - \$3285.00

SPONSOR OUR RADIO BROADCAST

One way we are able to reach out to those who are homebound or unable to attend worship in person is through our weekly radio broadcast of our 10:30 worship service. To do this costs approximately \$70 every Sunday. We welcome any individual or family who might be willing to sponsor a Sunday Service for \$70. You will be recognized both in the worship bulletin and over the air on the radio for your sponsorship. You may dedicate your sponsorship in honor or memory of a loved one. Please contact the church office to pick a Sunday to sponsor.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MAY 24

8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service

9:20 a.m. Small Groups & Sunday School Class

10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / KABI 1560 AM or 95.9 FM

MONDAY, MAY 25 OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY

6:30 p.m. Women's AA/NA Meeting - B9

TUESDAY, MAY 26 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

Happy Birthday Pastor Libby Themis!

10:00 a.m. Exercise Group - Narthex

7:00 p.m. EOTT Quilt Guild - Wright Hall

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 OFFICE HOURS 8-11:30

6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Planting Pumpkins

THURSDAY, MAY 28 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

Happy Birthday Anna Gugler!

FRIDAY, MAY 29 OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, MAY 30

SUNDAY, MAY 31

8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service

9:20 a.m. Small Groups & Sunday School Class

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: Heather Heger & Bette Engelhaupt

Slides/Sound/Livestream: Linda Kolacny & Leslie Hoffman

Gospeltality Greeters 8:15: Kevin & Ann Bailey

10:30: Will & Molly Burton

FIRST UMC STAFF

Libby Themis, Pastor

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Chris Seets, Administrative Assistant

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Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

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Darrol Dunham, Director of Maintaining the Church

Cecilia Clemence, Treasurer

treasurer@abilenefirstumc.org

Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor Emeritus