



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MAY 3, 2026
PASTOR ~ THE REV. DR. PETER VERMEULEN
912.663.0734



*At Christ UMC our Faith moves, God's Love transforms,
so WE can make a Difference.*

Sunday School ~ 9:00 AM

Worship ~ 10:00 AM

* We are so glad you chose to worship with us this morning! We pray you find a warm welcome and a moving worship experience.

- * Please register your attendance on the *Connection Card* found in the pew book holder.
- * Nursery for **children ages 5 and under** is located across the courtyard in the Fellowship Hall. Please see an usher for assistance in locating.
- * Children **Kindergarten thru Fifth grade** will return to their parents following the Children's Moment to participate in the life of the church and receive communion. If you prefer your child not receive communion, they may remain in their seat or go to the kneeling rail with their arms crossed over their chest to receive a blessing. Children's bulletins and crayons are available in the Narthex.
- * Williams Hearing Assist listening devices are available at the sound booth.

Office: 478.922.0211 / admin@christunited.net

<https://www.ChristUnited.net> / Office Hours: M-Th 9am-4pm, Fri 9-11 am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE Glad Tidings CHESTERTON

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER The Rev. Dr. Peter Vermeulen

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Family of God, we gather to join our voices with all creation:

R ~ People: Make a joyful noise, all the earth! Serve God with gladness!

Leader: God is our Creator who loves us and cares for us. R

Leader: God is our Savior who redeems us and teaches us to boldly love one another as God loves us. R

Leader: God is our Advocate who sustains us and empowers us to live as disciples of Jesus Christ. R

Leader: Family of God, on this journey of faith, we are not alone—God is with us!

All: We come to worship God by boldly loving and joyfully serving, that we may be disciples of Jesus Christ who transform the world. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, January 2026.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT The Rev. Dr. Peter Vermeulen

* HYMN OF PRAISE ~ UMH # 89 (all vs) Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee HYMN TO JOY

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION Rev. Dr. Peter Vermeulen

Loving God, too often, we overlook the needs of people around us while we proclaim our devotion to you.

We could do so much more to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, to welcome the stranger, and heal the sick.

We fail to recognize how our prison system diminishes the humanity of all of us, how our medical system denies healing to the poor, how poverty leaves children without coats, how legal obstacles keep strangers at a distance.

Open our hearts to recognize your presence in every person, and to respond to their needs so that we may be rightly called by your name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Though we wander, God searches us out. God reaches out to us, longing to bring us ever closer.

Receive this good news:

God pardons our sin and frees us to boldly love and joyfully serve God and neighbor.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

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

Adapted from Rev. Ruth Garwood on Worship Ways https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/reign-of-christ-year-a-november-22- united-church-of-christ.

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~ UMH #881 Lay Reader & Congregation

* GLORIA PATRI ~ UMH # 70 MEINEKE

MORNING PRAYER Lay Reader

* HYMN OF PREPARATION ~ UMH # 75 (all vs) All People That on Earth Do Dwell OLD 100TH

OFFERTORY PRAYER Lay Reader

OFFERTORY MUSIC How Firm a Foundation / I’ve Got the Joy Arr. KYZER

* DOXOLOGY ~ UMH # 95 OLD 100TH

SPECIAL MUSIC Firm Foundation (He Won’t) Chancel Choir / Arr. DUREN

* SCRIPTURE John 14:1-14

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Praise be to God!

VIDEO
 SERMON "Serve Joyfully" The Rev. Dr. Peter Vermeulen
 GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH # 9
 COMMUNION FOR OUR AT HOME FRIENDS
 * HYMN OF RESPONSE ~ UMH # 160 (vs 1, 3, 5) *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* MARION
 * BENEDICTION
 POSTLUDE *Rigaudon* YOUNG
 * Please rise in body or in spirit as you are able.

IN OUR HEARTS & PRAYERS

Shirley Hall, Fred Thompson, Denise Vermeulen, Jerry Jennings (Karen Cody's brother).



The flowers in the Altar area are given by Wayne Davidson **to the Glory of God in Memory of Elaine Davidson and in Honor of Jennifer Davidson & Linda Hughes.**



SUNDAYS, 4pm, SANCTUARY

Pray how you feel led ~ out loud or quietly. Printed prayers will be available.
 Come spend time with God!

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- > Proverbs 4:10-18
- > Psalm 119:9-20 / Psalm 100
- > 1 Peter 2:2-10 / 1 Peter 4:8-11
- > John 14:1-14

SERVING TODAY

Acolytes: Zoe Wilcher
Counter: Margo Whitaker
Lay Reader: Vicki Coulter
Live Stream: Tyler Davidson
Media: Mike Crocker
Sound: Joe Galipo
Ushers: Nikki Massey * & Anthony Dunn
* help with offering



7: Steven Balderas
11: Joe Galipo

BLESSING BOX MOST NEEDED
Bottled water



THURSDAY, MAY 7
12:00 PM - 1:15 PM
WARNER ROBINS CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
700 WATSON BLVD

Join in public unified prayer for America to *“Glorify God among the nations, seeking Him in all generations.”*
1 Chronicles 16:24 NASB

All are invited to attend this free event open across generations, denominations, and races to pray for our Nation as we celebrate its 250th year!

Between the Sundays:

These questions and activities are designed to help your family talk, play, and pray together during the week. They help reinforce faith learning at home. Use them at the dinner table, in the car, at bedtime — anytime your family is together.

They are simple, short, and open-ended, so children can respond in their own ways.



May 19th

If you are, or your child is, graduating from school this May, please email the office 10 pictures, baby thru graduation, and the

following applicable information:

Student's Name / School Name

Honors or Awards / Degree

We will have a church-wide luncheon immediately following worship that day. Meat, dessert, and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share.



Mother's Day is just around the corner – a meaningful time to honor and celebrate the mothers and mother figures who have touched our lives in so many ways. Each year, Magnolia Manor hosts the annual Mother's Day Church Offering in local congregations. All gifts go directly to the League of the Good Samaritan, the benevolent arm of Magnolia Manor, which assists residents who are no longer able to afford their care. Mother's Day is next Sunday...prayerfully consider your donation!

APRIL 26 ATTENDANCE:

48 in-person / 8 on-line / 128 FB views

Immediately following worship, all **members** are asked to stay for a brief state of the Church meeting.

These conversations help grow faith in everyday moments and remind families that following Jesus happens all week long — not just on Sundays.

Theme: We help others with glad and happy hearts. **Adverb:** *Joyfully*

Conversation Starters:

- What is one way you served someone today?
- What makes serving others a joyful activity?
- How has someone served you joyfully today?
- What special gifts has God given you to serve others?
- What special gifts do you see in another person in your family?

Family Activities:

1. Joyful Service Surprise

- Choose a family member (or neighbor) and secretly plan a joyful act of service — like drawing a picture, cleaning up toys, or leaving a kind note. Reveal the surprise at the end of the day!

2. Joyful Music Helper Time

- Turn on a fun song and clean something together — joyfully!
- Talk about how helping with a happy heart feels different.

3. Joy Hand

- Trace your child's hand on paper. On each finger, write or draw one way they can serve joyfully: helping, sharing, smiling, caring, and comforting. Hang the paper hand somewhere visible.

Prayer for the Week:

God, thank you for giving us joyful hearts. Help us serve others with smiles, kindness, and gladness. Amen.
