

WELCOME

WE'RE SO GLAD YOU ARE JOINING US FOR WORSHIP TODAY! If you would like more information about how you can be involved in the life of First Methodist Church, Shreveport:

- Ask one of our wonderful servants in the Welcome Center, located on the ground floor of the Education & Administration (E&A) Building. They'd be glad to help!
- Call the church office at 318.424.7771. We're open 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Thursday and 8:30am - 4:00pm on Friday.

OFFERTORY ANNOUNCEMENT:

When giving to the church, please make your checks payable to First Methodist Church {of Shreveport, Louisiana}. We remain a tax-exempt church through section 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Thank you for your continued financial support of the church.

MINISTRY MOMENT

What a special day at First Methodist Church Shreveport! Palm Sunday Processions, Children's Choir singing, Easter Eggstravaganza lunch, egg hunts, bouncing like crazy, and most of all a spirit of joy and celebration filled the campus. What a wonderful way to celebrate the King of Kings. Alleluia! HE IS ALIVE!



HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

We'd love to stand alongside you in prayer! Please share your prayer request with us by placing this form in either prayer box at the Sanctuary entrance.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Prayer Request: _____

Would you like our Director of Prayer Ministry to reach out to you about this request? Yes No

Connect With FMC Shreveport

Visitor Information • Request Prayer • Give Online



JOYS & CONCERNS

HOSPICE: Dickie Erwin

HOSPITAL: Evelyn Quinn, Robert Touchstone

RECOVERING: Charlie Henington, Wilna Sepulvado

CONGRATULATIONS to Kurt and Karina Vardeman on the birth of their baby girl, *Amelia Mariel Vardeman*, born March 20, 2026. Proud grandparents are Rhonda and Rob Vardeman, and uncle is Eric Vardeman.

SYMPATHY is extended to Tricia Jowell in the death of her dad, *Terrell Hawkins*.

THE LITURGICAL BANNER for Easter has been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Joseph C. "Jody" Ferguson, Jr. and Linda Chase Ferguson by the Ferguson Family.

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in loving of Mr. and Mrs. John William Peacock, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Peacock and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Barrow from the family.

If you would like to give flowers, for use during the worship service, in memory or in honor of a loved one, please email Katie Weir at kcwerie@gmail.com. After worship services, flowers from the altar are arranged into small bouquets and delivered to members who are hospitalized.

THE RED ROSE near the altar honors those serving in the armed forces at home and abroad.

MEMORIALS

Gayle Wren

from Nadine and Terry Siegle

James Cox

from Sally Cox

NEW MEMBERS OF FMC-S (MARCH)

Rev. Scott and Nancy Adams

Henry and Katie Bethard

Frank and Tammy Flowers

WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL FAITH FAMILY!

VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Week Ending 03.29.26	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Goal	\$52,960	\$264,800	\$862,688
Received	\$57,157	\$338,680	\$867,756
Over/(Under)	\$4,197	\$73,880	\$5,068

ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF MARCH 29, 2026

Traditional worship, 8:30	188
Traditional worship, 11:00	494
Faithlink worship	289
Palabra Viva Combined Services	181
On-line Viewers	76
Total worship attendance	1228
Total Sunday School attendance, all ages	361
Weekly Discipleship Activities	897
TOTAL Discipleship	1258



WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRIES CARING CONGREGATION. A Stephen Minister will be to the left of the altar at the end of each service to listen and pray with you. If you are in need of a confidential Stephen Minister, call Ann Shocklee at 424-7771.

Senior Pastor: Dr. Steven Bell • Executive Pastor: Rev. Matthew Hulbert

Associate Pastor: Rev. Kathy Wafer • Associate Pastor: Rev. Stephanie Kidd • Associate Pastor: Rev. Emily Blair

Minister of Music: Dr. David Hobson • Associate Director of Music: Alison Beck • Organist: E. Ray Peebles

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:30 & 11:00am, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC at 11:00am
 FAITHLINK CONTEMPORARY SERVICE: 11:00am • SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45am
 COMMUNION SERVICES: First Sunday of each month at 8:30 & 11:00am in the Sanctuary during services;
 Each additional Sunday at 9:30am in the Sanctuary & 12:00pm in Couch Chapel.
 318.424.7771 office • 318.429.6888 fax • PRAYER LINE: 318.429.6898
www.firstshreveport.com

FIRST

METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

APRIL 5, 2026 • EASTER SUNDAY



WORSHIP PASSIONATELY.
 LOVE EXTRAVAGANTLY.
 WITNESS BOLDLY.

Celebration of Worship

Easter Sunday - April 5, 2026

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:30 & 11:00 AM, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC AT 11:00 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Dr. Will Address

PRELUDE.....*O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing*.....Brass Ensemble
[...the King of heaven o'er death E. Ray Peebles, organ
and hell rose triumphing.]
arr. Stephen Walters

CALL TO WORSHIP.....Dr. David Hobson

The Lord is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By His great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

We have an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled and unfading.

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously!

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; for the Lord has comforted his people.

Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever, King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah!

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory.

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”No. 251
Stanzas 1-4
Setting by Paul Sjolund

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 691.....Rev. Emily Blair

MUSICAL OFFERING.....“Easter”Steve Valenzuela, bass
from *Five Mystical Songs*
Ralph Vaughan Williams

† SCRIPTURE READING.....John 20:11-18.....Lee DuCote

† GLORIA PATRI.....No.33

*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.*

CHILDREN’S BLESSING.....Mitzi Nix

MORNING & OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Rev. Kathy Wafer

THE LORD'S PRAYER.....Congregation (speaks in unison)

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.

‡

PRAYER RESPONSE.....No. 441 [Excerpt]

*For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power,
and the Glory forever - Amen.*

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Resurrection Hymn*.....Chancel Choir
[See No. 260 for text] Brass Ensemble
arr. Steven Strite

† DOXOLOGYTraditional

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

MESSAGE.....**TRANSFORMATIONAL QUESTION OF EASTER:**.....Dr. Steven Bell
WHY ARE YOU WEeping?

† HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Thine Is the Glory”No. 255
Setting by Robert Hobby

*(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family
are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS.....Dr. Steven Bell

*We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ’s holy church, and bid you welcome
to the congregation of First Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to
uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.*

† BENEDICTIONDr. Steven Bell

† SENDING FORTH.....“Hallelujah”Chancel Choir
from *Messiah* Brass Ensemble
George Frideric Handel

POSTLUDE.....“Toccata”E. Ray Peebles, organ
from *Symphony #5*
Charles-Marie Widor



8:30: Banner Carrier – Lorynn Farrington • Crucifer – Sadie Farrington
Acolytes – Lila and Evie Holley-Lerchie

11:00: Banner Carrier – Grayson Magill • Crucifer – Leeda Bradley
Acolytes – Genna Bradley and Landon Magill

† *Those who are able may stand. ‡ Latecomers may be seated at these times.*

* **IF YOU WISH TO JOIN** the First Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.

***Children leaving the service for Children’s Chapel may be picked up after the service.*

• 3–4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children’s Ministry Center

• K5–3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary

Childcare for infants through 4 years is available from 8:15 to 12:15 in the Children’s Ministry Center.

From the sanctuary, follow the sign located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the Dawson

Building. Outdoor access is located on the corner of Douglas and Milam Streets

Sermon Notes

TRANSFORMATIONAL QUESTION OF EASTER:

WHY ARE YOU WEeping?

JOHN 20:11-18

Why Are You Weeping?

Responding to the Risen Lord.

Scripture Memory Verse

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

— John 20:30 and 31