

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost - September 14, 2025

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Rev. Emily Blair

PRELUDE.....*Adagio cantabile*.....Alison Beck, piano
Ludwig van Beethoven

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Dr. David Hobson

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”.....No. 5

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 691.....Dr. Will Address

CELEBRATION OF LIFE.....Stewardship.....Michelle Osborn

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Shadrak*.....Virgilio Davis, bass
[Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego]
Robert MacGimsey

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Exodus 32:1-6.....Dr. Emily Hobson

† 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. 341

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.
Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek and ye shall find;*

Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*The Lord is My Light*.....Ensemble (8:30)
[Psalm 27] Chancel Choir (11:00)
Eugene Butler

† 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.....FIRST FRUITS:.....Dr. Steven Bell
THE COMPETITION

Recognize the Competition.

Refuse the Competition.

Run to the Christ.

Scripture Memory Verse

“For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

Romans 1:21

† HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Jesus Calls Us”.....No. 520

(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.....*May the Grace of Christ Be with You*.....Ensemble (8:30)

arr. Dale Wood

Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho*.....Alison Beck, piano

arr. Benjamin Harlan

8:30: *Crucifer – Lorynn Farrington • Acolyte – Sadie Farrington*

11:00: *Banner Carrier – Lily Norris • Crucifer – Albany Lyles
Acolyte – Mia White*

† *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 Street.