

# FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost - September 20, 2026

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Lee DuCote

PRELUDE.....*Andante Religioso*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ  
Alec Rowley

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

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“Great Is Our Redeeming Lord” .....No. 43

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

CELEBRATION OF LIFE.....Youth Ministry.....Kay Ferguson

MUSICAL OFFERING.....“If with all your hearts”.....Gary Elam, tenor  
from *Elijah*  
Felix Mendelssohn

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Luke 19:11-27..... Aaron Storer

† 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.....Ashley Martin

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. 332

*Lead me, Lord; lead me in Thy righteousness.  
Make Thy way plain before my face.  
For it is Thou, Lord, Thou Lord only  
That makest me dwell in safety.*

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*O Zion, Haste*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
arr. Craig Courtney Chancel Choir (11:00)

† HYMN.....\*“O Zion, Haste”.....No. 451  
\*Please stand as directed and sing Stanzas 1 and 4.

† DOXOLOGY .....Traditional

*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.....**TO REVIVE A CITY:**.....Dr. Steven Bell  
**THE PASSION FOR THE CITY**

**The Passion for the City**

**Investing Now for Then**

Everything We Have Belongs to God

Scripture Memory Verse

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”  
— Luke 19:10

- † HYMN OF INVITATION.....“All to Jesus I Surrender” .....No. 607  
*(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.*
- † BENEDICTION .....Dr. Steven Bell
- † SENDING FORTH.....Alleluia.....Ensemble (8:30)  
Larry Gatlin Chancel Choir (11:00)
- POSTLUDE.....Carillon-Sortie.....E. Ray Peebles, organ  
Henri Mulet

8:30: *Banner Carrier – Liam Gunter • Crucifer – Molly Ann Petree*  
*Acolyte – Mabry Petree*

11:00: *Banner Carrier – Grayson Magill • Crucifer – Anna Claire Caudle*  
*Acolytes – Ellie Caudle 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*

• *K5–2ND 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