

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost - October 05, 2025

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Lee DuCote

PRELUDE.....KINGSFOLD.....E. Ray Peebles, organ
arr. S. Andrew Lloyd

INVITATION, CONFESSION, AND PARDON.....No. 730.....Rev. Emily Blair

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine”No. 413

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

† SCRIPTURE READING.....John 15:1-17.....Dr. Steven Bell

† 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.....Helen Palmer

MORNING & OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Debby Williams

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.....You are the Bread.....Ensemble (8:30)
Ruth Elaine Schram Chancel Choir (11:00)

† 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!*

The Christian way is different, harder, and easier. Christ says, Give me All. I don't want so much of your time and so much of your money and so much of your work. I want you. I have not come to torment your natural self, but to kill it. No half measures are any good. I don't want to cut off a branch here and a branch there, I want to have the whole tree down. Hand over the whole natural self, all the desires which you think innocent as well as the ones you think wicked – the whole outfit. I will give you a new self instead. In fact, I will give you Myself; my own shall become yours.

C.S. Lewis

Jesus repeats abide in me 11 times and bear fruit 7 times and then the word love 8 times in John 15. How are these words related?

What is the fruit that will last?

What is the link between obedience and prayer?

As a branch on Christ's vine, how would you describe the fruit in your life?

Do you feel like Jesus' servant of his friend? What helps develop the friendship?

Scripture Memory Verse

"Greater love has no one than this, that He lay down his life for His friends."

John 15:13

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING.....No. 731-732.....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.

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MUSICAL OFFERING.....*O Divine Redeemer*.....Dr. Briana Sosenheimer, soprano
Charles Gounod

WESLEYAN COVENANT PRAYER.....No. 710.....Dr. David Hobson

† HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Take Time to Be Holy”.....No. 316

(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.....Rev. Kathy Wafer

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.

† BENEDICTIONRev. Kathy Wafer

† SENDING FORTH.....*Amen*.....Ensemble (8:30)
John Rutter Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Fugue in G Minor*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ
[The Little]
Johann Sebastian Bach

8:30: *Crucifer – Lila Holley-Lerchie • Acolyte – Evie Holley-Lerchie*

11:00: *Banner Carrier – Michael Zavalydriga • Crucifer – Mia White*
Acolytes – Isabel Haggard and Charlotte Carr

† *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.