

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given
by Pat Haire and family
to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of
Rev. Dr. Earle Haire,
who was Senior Pastor from 1984 until 1990.

To donate flowers, please contact Becky Kirtley
at 252-331-3431.

LICENSES

Some music for our worship service is offered with
permissions granted by One License A-784965.

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Karen Easter-Bayne
Lead Pastor

Rev. Erin Yow
Associate Pastor

Rev. Steven Coss
Associate Pastor

Michael S. Brannon
Director of Music

Chancel Choir
Musicians

Rev. Ally Deal
Reader

Deborah Kirkman
Altar Guild Volunteer

Jody Swenson, Phyllis Owens, Mike Owens,
Barbara Clay, Becky Kirtley
Communion Servers

Jason Gardner; Keith Anderson
Sound Technicians

GIVING

To support the ministries and missions of First
United Methodist Church, place a gift in the
offering plate, give online through this QR code,
send a check to the church, or give through regular
bank drafts. Thank you for your generosity.



If you have not returned your 2025 Commitment
Card, you may place it in the offering plate today, or
in the deposit opening in the Finance Office.

JULY 2025 GIVING

Funds Needed - \$105,833
Funds Received - \$97,150.51

2025 YTD GIVING

Funds Needed - \$751,075
Funds Received - \$657,626.96



204 Sixth Avenue West
Hendersonville, NC 28739
828-693-4275
fumchvnc.org

FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

CHIMING THE TRINITY

OPENING VOLUNTARY Jesus Loves Me arr. Joel Raney

† HYMN 372 How Can We Sinners Know ST. MICHAEL
How can we sinners know our sins on earth forgiven?
How can my gracious Savior show my name inscribed in heaven?

What we have felt and seen, with confidence we tell,
and publish to the ends of earth the signs infallible.

We who in Christ believe that he for us hath died,
we all his unknown peace receive and feel his blood applied.

We by his Spirit prove and know the things of God,
the things which freely of his love he hath on us bestowed.

The meek and lowly heart that in our Savior was,
to us that Spirit doth impart and signs us with his cross.

Our nature's turned, our mind transformed in all its powers,
and both the witnesses are joined, the Spirit of God with ours.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

All pray in silence.
Hear the good news!
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.

A warm welcome to
all guests and
newcomers. Please
fill out the
attendance register
on your pew.
All persons are
welcome at First
United Methodist
Church, as
Jesus Christ has
welcomed us into
the love and grace
of God. Our mission
is to change lives
and make disciples
of Jesus Christ.

At the chiming
of the Trinity,
please silence your
mobile devices
and prepare
your hearts
and minds
for worship.

† *Please rise in
body or in spirit*

† RESPONSORIAL HYMN 71 Glory Be to the Father GREATOREX
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

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

† THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5:17-20, 43-48

RESPONSE TO THE LESSON
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Perfect Law Rev. Karen Easter-Bayne

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Be Thou My Vision Bob Chilcott

† RESPONSORIAL HYMN 95 Doxology OLD 100TH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

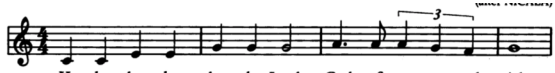
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.




Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!




A - men, a - men a - men.



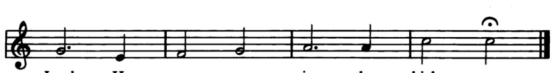
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The ushers will direct you to receive Holy Communion. Gluten-free bread is available; ask your server if needed. If you are unable to walk to the altar, let the usher know and you will be served at your seat. All are invited to join in singing the Communion hymns while others are being served.

THE LORD’S PRAYER
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.

HYMN 632 Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether UNION SEMINARY
Draw us in the Spirit’s tether, for when humbly in thy name,
two or three are met together, thou art in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment’s hem.

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup:
Alleluia! Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee,
that by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

SENDING FORTH

† HYMN 162 Alleluia, Alleluia ALLELUIA NO. 1
Refrain
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. Refrain

Spread the good news o’er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. Refrain

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever. Refrain

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior. Refrain

† DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

† CLOSING VOLUNTARY Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee arr. Joel Raney

As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins; we depart to be the church in the world.

The closing voluntary is offered as a the final act of praise of God. Go forth as the music ends to continue praising the Lord with your life.