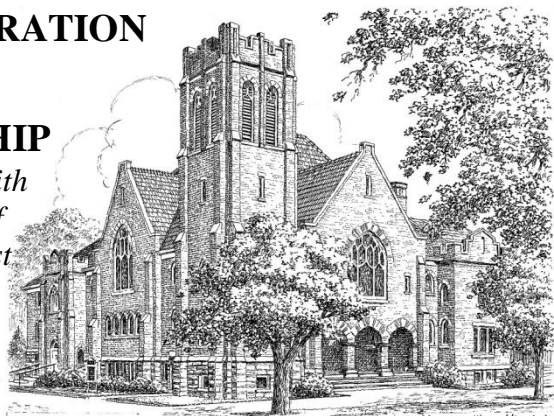


# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*To shine with  
the Light of  
Jesus Christ  
so that  
others will  
know and  
love him*



*+ Those who are able are invited to stand.*

You are invited to respond with the **Bold** responses.

## THE CHURCH GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

O Gentle God, in the tender hours of this new day, open our hearts to receive the wonders you have in store for us. Make us attentive to images you place within us. Grant us wisdom and courage to act in ways that delight you. O God, show us how to live this day as a grateful response to your goodness and love. Go with us today, O God, and even amid the blur of busy activity, give us ears to hear and eyes to see that you are with us, so that we may live faithfully in the world and never be undone by its troubles. Keep us safe in the lap of your holy love. In that love we pray. Amen.

**GOOD MORNING! WELCOME TO WORSHIP!**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HOSPITALITY

PRELUDE

+CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *UMH 94*

**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 up-lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

+CALL TO WORSHIP

*Responsively*

Praise the Lord!

**Praise the Lord from the heavens.**

**Praise God from the heights!**

Praise the Lord, you angels.

Sing praise, you heavenly host!

**Praise the Lord, O sun and moon.**

**Join in song, O shining stars!**

Praise the Lord, snow and rain.

Blow loud, wind and storm!

**Praise the Lord, O trees.**

**Dance with joy, O birds!**

Praise the Lord, women and men.

Rejoice, children and rulers!

**Praise the Lord, weak and strong.**

**Sing for joy, timid and bold!**

Praise the Lord, mothers and aunts.

Give praise, grandfathers and cousins!

**Let all creation praise God's name!**

**Praise the Lord!**

+INVOCATION

*Leader*

Alpha and Omega, you make your home with us, you dry our tears and quench our thirst, you are the tender love that welcomes all people. Like a mother, you nurture your children, giving them life, teaching them to love. Come and dwell among us and make all things new. **Amen.**

+HYMN OF PRAISE

*UMH 126*

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

## THE CHURCH SHARES IN CONFESSION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *Revelation 21:1-6*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Responsively*

Patient God, sometimes we are just too busy for our own good. We pledge ourselves to hectic schedules,

demands on time, energy, and resources that erode all too quickly. We are rushing through life. The cries of those in need often go unheeded in our blur of activities which sap our energy, our resources, our spirits.

**Slow us down a bit, Lord.**

**Remind us again that we are responsible for reaching out and offering your healing love. Help us to hear the words of patient love that you have for us. Remind us again of Jesus' words to his disciples when he told them that they should love one another as he loved them. May we take time to bear witness to that love in all that we do. For we ask this in Jesus' Name.**

## PERSONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Leader*

Wherever you are, Christ is with you. You are beloved of God and God's care will always surround you. Be at peace and rejoice!

**Amen.**

RESPONSE

*UMH 422*

*Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love, vv. 1 & 3*

1. Jesus, thine all victorious love shed in my heart abroad; then shall my feet no longer rove, rooted and fixed in God.
3. O that it now from heaven might fall and all my sins consume! Come, Holy Ghost, for thee I call, Spirit of burning, come!

## THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR THE WORD

THE WORD

CHORAL CALL TO WIGGLETIME

*FWS 2030*

*First Song of Isaiah*

**Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.**

WIGGLETIME

*The children are invited to join Steve at the Chancel.*

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER *FWS 2086*

*Open Our Eyes*

**Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *Responsively*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the living God who listens and hears our prayers.

**We praise and we bless you, our true and loving God.**

We pray for all who search for you: may they find their way in you. Bless us with voices that sing your praise and lives that tell the stories of all that you have done for us. Open our eyes to find you among us as we share your love with others.

Lord in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for all who live lives of oppression: for those whose voices are not heard or believed, those with no one on their side. Bless us with a joy for justice and the strength to persevere as we live into your coming realm.

Lord in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for all who hunger, and those who worry each day how they will care for their families. We pray for those who work long hours for unfair pay, and for those who have no employment. Bless us all with meaningful work and fill us with good things, as we love and care for each other and find our sustenance in you.

Lord in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer the violence and scars of war, for all soldiers and their families, and all who live and serve in war-torn places. Give them courage in the face of fear; in times of trouble, do not let their feet slip. Bless us with your vision of peace, for you have made us one family by giving life, breath, and your grace to all.

Lord in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We remember before you all who have died, and pray for all who will die today, that they may know your peace. We pray for the heart-broken, for those who live with a mountain of grief, and for those who are caregivers whose strength to care comes from the strength you supply.

Bless us with the gift of faith, that we may know that our help comes from you, that we may know you and love you, and enjoy life eternal shared with you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

PERSONAL PRAYERS OF PETITION

THE LORD'S PRAYER *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.**

THE WORD IN MUSIC *Chancel Choir*  
*Praise to The Lord*

SERMON *Rev. Steve*

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**The Church Scatters to Share Good News**

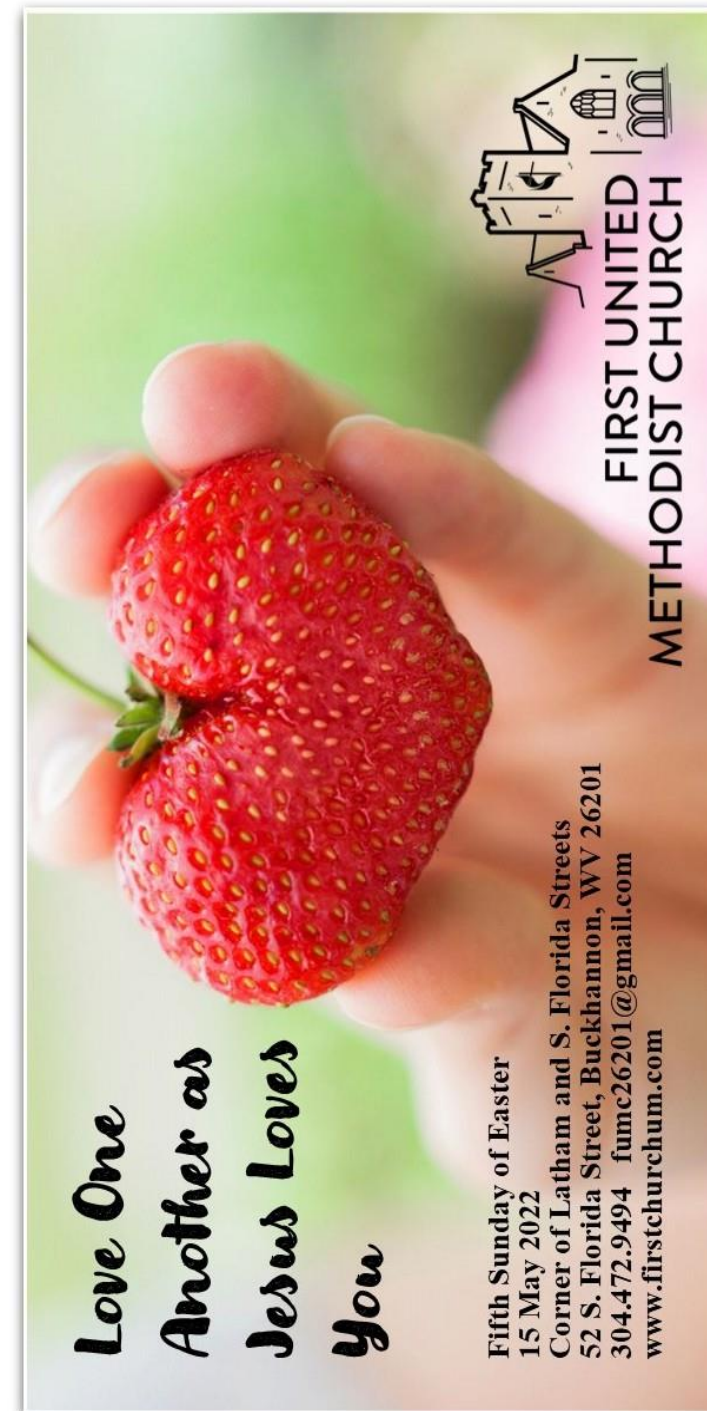
+HYMN OF DEDICATION *UMH 408*  
*The Gift of Love*

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE  
*Go in peace and may the Love of God surround you everywhere you go.*

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**...and the worship continues.**



**Love One  
Another as  
Jesus Loves  
You**

**FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
15 May 2022  
Corner of Latham and S. Florida Streets  
52 S. Florida Street, Buckhannon, WV 26201  
304.472.9494 [fumc26201@gmail.com](mailto:fumc26201@gmail.com)  
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