



3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 14, 2026

Prelude

To God Be the Glory

Doane

Greetings

*The assembly responds or joins in unison when our text is **bold**.*

Centering Words:

Open your minds to recognize God's presence among us; open your hearts to receive God's promises; open your arms to embrace God's miraculous works with joy, wonder, and laughter.

Call to worship:

Come to enjoy the mighty works of God.

God is our refuge and strength.

In the midst of turmoil, confusion and change, God is with us to support and uphold.

We rejoice in God, who answers prayer, who is with us in our suffering and grief.

We have been reconciled to God through Christ.

We marvel that God knows us and cares for us.

Rejoice this day in the love of God.

We come in awe that God calls us together.

*Opening Hymn

I Come with Joy

♯ UMH # 617

1.

**I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me.**

2.

**I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread.**

3.

**As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
That love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends.**

4.

**And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near,
is in such friendship better known: we see and praise him here.**

5.

**Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways,
and as his people in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 617

Words: Brian Wren, 1968; Music: The Southern Harmony, 1835; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1987

Words © 1971 Hope Publishing Co.; harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

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Call to Confession

Silent Prayers of Confession

Words of assurance

Old Testament Reading: **Genesis 18:1-15**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Special Music

Safe Within Your Arms

Hayes

Soloist: Kim Foster

Epistle Reading: **Romans 5:1-8**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

*Gospel Reading: **Matthew 9:35-10:8**

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn of Preparation

Seek Ye First

♪ UMH # 405

1.

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.**

Hallelu, Hallelujah!

2.

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.**

Hallelu, Hallelujah!

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 405

Words: Karen Lafferty , 1972; Music: Karen Lafferty, 1972; © 1972 Maranatha! Music Used by permission CCLI 673591

Message

“Getting in Touch”

Hymn of Response

Standing on the Promises

♪ UMH # 374

1.

**Standing on the promises of Christ, my King!
Through eternal ages let His praises ring.**

"Glory in the highest!" I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.

Refrain:

**Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God, my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.**

2.

**Standing on the promises that cannot fail!
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God.**

Refrain

3.

**Standing on the promises of Christ, the Lord,
bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's Sword, standing on the promises of God.**

Refrain

4.

**Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God.**

Refrain

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 374

Words: R. Kelso Carter, 1886; Music: R. Kelso Carter, 1886

Invitation to the Offering

*As you feel led, please place your offering and/or completed connection card
in the basket at the back of the chapel, or text your gift to 833-756-0325,
or Contribute Now on our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.*

Offertory

Jesus Loves Me

Bradbury

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

♯ UMH # 95

**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.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 95

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674

Music: OLD 100TH; Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

*Offertory Prayer:

Joyful Giver of Miracles, we come to you with hearts open to the unexpected, for you are the God who surprises us with joy, even in seasons of waiting and even through our disbelief. You meet us in the ordinariness of welcome, and you plant seeds of laughter that bloom into life. As Abraham and Sarah offered their hospitality and received the promise of new life, so we offer our gifts in trust and gratitude. Bless these gifts, O God, that they may bear witness to your goodness and extend joy, hope, and welcome to the world you so love. May our giving be a reflection of our faith, and may our faith be full of laughter. In the name of the one who brings life out of impossibility, Amen.

Sharing in Holy Communion

Announcements

*Closing Hymn

The Summons

♯FWS# 2130

1.

**Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known?
Will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?**

2.

**Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?**

3.

**Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen?
And admit to what I mean in you, and you in me?**

4.

**Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell that fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound in you, and you in me?**

5.

**Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go, where your love and footsteps show,
thus I'll move and live and grow in you, and you in me.**

The Faith We Sing Number 2130

Words: John Bell

Music: KELVINGROVE; Traditional Scottish

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Benediction

Postlude

We've a Story to Tell to the Nation

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

†UMH ~ *United Methodist Hymnal* (hard cover hymnal)

♫FWS ~ *The Faith We Sing* (soft cover hymnal)

Nichol

Worship Participants

Preaching: Rev. Marcus Atha

Liturgist: Sheila André de la Porte

Media Specialists: Denise Smith and Dave Wilm

Musicians: Jack Roberts and the Chancel Choir

Sound: Neal Hubbard

Ushers and Greeters: Roger & Wendy Fleming, Mike Gebhardt, Garry Gibbs, Bruce Schneider, and Mike Zahnke

This service is broadcast live on the radio station WOBL 1320 AM and 107.7 FM. Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Dolores Morgan to celebrate all that's wonderful in June.

The altar flowers are sponsored by Kim Foster in celebration of Clyde H. Allison, her father's 95th birthday.

If you are interested in joining our church family, or if you have any pastoral needs or prayer concerns, please call the church office at 440.322.6622.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035 440.322.6622

www.elyriafirstumc.org

An equal opportunity provider

To God Be the Glory by William H. Doane, 1875. ***Safe Within Your Arms*** by Mark Hayes. ***Jesus Loves Me*** by William B. Bradbury, 1862. ***We've a Story To Tell To the Nation*** by H. Ernest Nichol, 1896. All songs are performed under license # 673591.

Third Street Review



June Mission focus:

June 14, 2026

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440.322.6622

Email: church@elyriafirstumc.org

Community Outreach

This month we will collect funds to aid our Community Outreach efforts. Many of the community members who come for a hot meal for breakfast or come to our free store for cleaning and hygiene products and shop in our clothing store, are victims and survivors of everything from Domestic Violence to health challenges. With our efforts every month, we are often the difference between someone not getting a meal and being able to survive for the month. We are called to do our part, and we do it well! We need support to continue our work in the community that may seem small but makes a world of difference. Your donation will support our local families in need. Cash or checks made payable to: *First United Methodist Church*, (indicate **Community Outreach** on the memo line). Donate online via our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.

Father's Day Tributes are due today!

Complete the insert and place it
in the offering plate with the donation.

Church Charge Conference

Mark your calendar to attend the Church Charge Conference following worship on **Sunday, June 28th**. Several items are to be voted on, including the new church name.

Next Step: Action!

Back in May we were blessed with folks who came to the *Building Walk Through & Discernment Process* with many memories, much wisdom, and eyes wide open to determine what items still have use and what to keep. Now, we need to clear and move the items to prepare several spaces for what God will do next.

Mark your calendars to come roll up your sleeves on Tuesday-Thursday, **July 7-9**, to help prepare the way! Meet at the church at **4-7 pm**. Think there's nothing for you to do? Think again! Sure, muscle is needed but so are you! Dinner will be available, set-up/clean-up folks are needed for this, as well as some other tasks you can do!

Our prayer continues that this becomes more than a clean-out process. We hope it becomes a way of telling the story of this church, celebrating what God has done here, and making room for what God may do next. ***Many hands make light work!***

Free Clothing Store

We are accepting clothing, coats, blankets, and linens. Please place items in the box on the main level. The store will be open to the community on **Saturday, June 27th, 10 am-12 pm**.

Questions? Concerns?

Pastor Karson is available **Tuesdays** from **9 am – 4 pm** and **Thursdays, 11 am – 4 pm**. Please call the church office to set up a time to meet with him.

Free Hygiene Store

We are grateful for your continued support of this much needed ministry. Being open to the community and filling in the gap for many families is a blessing!

Our needs for April include:

- **Cleaning Supplies** (glass, bathroom, and toilet bowl cleaners)
- **Laundry & Dish Soap**
- **Shampoo & Conditioner** (dry shampoo too)
- **Women's and Men's Body Wash**

Please place these items in the box located on the main level. The store will be open on **Saturday, June 27th** from **10 am-12 pm!**

New Church Plan

As a reminder, in July we will take a one-month pause from regular Sunday services. This is not a shutdown, but a strategic shift. During this time, we will focus on training, alignment, and preparation so that we are ready for what comes next.

A key part of July will include church site visits. We will be visiting other churches and learning from what they are doing well. Worksheets will be provided to help guide these visits.

Even during this pause, pastoral care will continue. If there are needs for visits, calls, or funerals, we will be available and responsive.

Thank you for your patience, your faith, and your willingness to walk through this season together.

Grace and peace, Karson

Sunday Social

Formerly *Fellowship Time*, Sunday Social is a time to enjoy goodies and wonderful fellowship. Come to the **Parlor** after worship next **Sunday, June 21st**.

Open Sponsorship Dates

Altar Flower dates: **Cost \$22**

June 21

Radio dates: **Cost \$300** (*includes advertising!*)

June 21

Please call the church office at 440.322.6622 to reserve your special date!

Scripture readings for the week:

Sunday, June 7: **Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 33:1-12; Hosea 5:15-6:6; Psalm 50:7-15; Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**

Monday, June 8: **Psalm 119:41-48; Genesis 16:1-15; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:2**

Tuesday, June 9: **Psalm 119:41-48; Genesis 17:1-27; Hebrews 13:1-16**

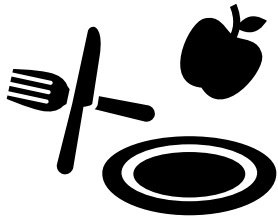
Wednesday, June 10: **Psalm 119:41-48; Genesis 18:16-33; Matthew 12:1-8**

Thursday, June 11: **Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Genesis 21:1-7; Hebrews 3:1-6**

Friday, June 12: **Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Genesis 24:1-9; Acts 7:35-43**

Saturday, June 13: **Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Genesis 24:10-52; Mark 7:1-13**

Sunday, June 14: **Genesis 18:1-15; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Exodus 19:2-8a; Psalm 100; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8-23**



FATHER'S DAY TRIBUTE 2026

Father's Day Mission Project Is . . . Community Outreach



Carnations will grace the altars on **Father's Day, June 21st** and may be taken home following the services.

Red carnations designate a living father who is honored while white carnations will memorialize the life of a deceased father.

Monies donated will be used to fund our Community Breakfasts and the Free Hygiene/Clothing stores.

Please print names, including your own name(s) as you would like them printed in the worship service bulletins.

Name of **Living Father** to be honored:

Name of **Deceased Father** to be memorialized:

Enclosed please find my minimum gift of \$10 for each name above: Total \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Phone # _____



Return to church office or place in the offering plate.
Make checks payable to: EFUMC, designated for *Father's Day*.
Please do not include in your offering check. Thank you!

DEADLINE: Sunday, June 14, 2026



Exciting Updates on Our Church's Next Season

June 14, 2026

Dear Church Family,

We wanted to share a few updates from the recent Leadership Team meeting as we continue preparing for an exciting new season in the life of our church

The Leadership Team is still working through the finalization of our new Name and Logo, to be revealed at the "Charge Conference" on June 28th.

Work continues on planning for future building improvements. Our project manager, Alicia, is currently working with contractors and gathering estimates while developing design concepts for ministry spaces throughout the building. Leadership will review preliminary plans and budget estimates in the coming weeks. While no final renovation decisions have been made, we are excited about the possibilities for creating spaces that better serve children, youth, families, and our broader community.

Leadership also approved moving forward with equipment that will allow us to improve our technology on Sundays. This investment supports our long-term vision while also providing immediate opportunities to reach new people and create additional pathways for worship. This will be a great opportunity to train volunteers before our Big Launch.

In a significant act of financial stewardship, the Leadership Team approved paying off the remaining mortgage on the parsonage. This decision will make the property debt-free and reduce future financial obligations, strengthening our financial position for ministry.

Most importantly, our mission remains unchanged. As we move through this season of transition and preparation, we remain committed to serving our neighbors, building meaningful relationships, and living out the words of Jesus in Matthew 25 by feeding the hungry, clothing those in need, welcoming the stranger, visiting the sick, and caring for our community.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and faithfulness. We are grateful for all God is doing among us as we look forward to the journey ahead.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Karson