

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 2025

Greetings

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

Centering Words:

God is with us always, ready to lift and guide our lives. Place your life and your cares in God's loving presence.

Prelude

How Firm a Foundation

Early USA melody

Call to worship:

With great rejoicing we come to the house of the Lord today!

God is our refuge and our stronghold.

The power and love of God flow through this gathering.

We place our whole trust in God's mighty compassion for us.

Come, let us worship the Lord!

Let us celebrate the presence of God here in this place and in all our lives.

*Opening Hymn

Stand Up and Bless the Lord

♫ UMH # 662

1.

**Stand up and bless the Lord, ye people of His choice;
stand up and bless the Lord your God with heart and soul and voice.**

2.

**Though high above all praise, above all blessing high,
who would not fear His holy name and laud and magnify?**

3.

**O for the living flame from His own altar brought,
to touch our lips, our minds inspire, and wing to heav'n our thought!**

4.

**God is our strength and song, and His salvation ours;
then be His love in Christ proclaimed with all our ransomed powers.**

5.

**Stand up and bless the Lord; the Lord your God adore;
stand up and bless His glorious name henceforth and evermore.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 662

Words: James Montgomery

Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; adapt. by William Crotch, 1836

Call to Confession

Silent Prayers of Confession

Words of assurance

New Testament Reading: **Hebrews 12:18-29**

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

Special Music

He's Got the Whole World In His Hands

Bonds

Soloist: Jeanine Donaldson

Gospel Reading: **Luke 13:10-17**

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

**We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around; let us praise Jesus now;
we are standing in his presence on holy ground.**

The Faith We Sing Hymnal Number 2272

Words: Geron Davis

Music: Geron Davis

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Message

“Love & Compassion”



***“Love &
Compassion”***

1.

**I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth:
At Bethlehem I had my birth.**

Refrain:

**Dance, then, wherever you may be, I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

2.

**I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came with me and the dance went on:**

Refrain

3.

**I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
And they left me there on a cross to die:**

Refrain

4.

**I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
But I am the dance, and I still go on:**

Refrain

5.

**They cut me down and I leapt up high; I am the life that'll never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me: I am the Lord of the dance, said he.**

Refrain

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 261

Words: Sydney Carter, 1963

Music: 19th cent. Shaker tune; adapt. by Sydney Carter, 1963

harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

© 1963, 1989 Galliard, Ltd.

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Pastoral Prayer and 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.

Invitation to the Offering:

Our gifts speak where we cannot go. They witness to people we will never meet. They praise God who has provided for us every day of our lives. Let us give thanks through our offerings.

Please submit your offering as you feel led by placing it in the plates on the altar railing, or text your gift to 833-756-0325, or on our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.

Offertory

In the Garden

Miles

Soloist: Jeanine Donaldson

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

[♯]UMH # 95

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Offertory Prayer:

O God, we cannot forget all your benefits. Accept our offerings as expressions of praise and acts of true worship. We pour out our thanks for all you have given us and for all you do for us. We are grateful for the opportunities you grant us to help others. Use us and our gifts to bring the changes for good that you intend for our world. Amen.

Announcements

*Closing Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

[♯]UMH # 451

1.

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me save that thou art.
Thou my best thought by day and by night; Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

2.

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou and thou only, first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

3.

**Great God of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 451

Words: Ancient Irish; trans. by Mary E. Byrne, 1905; versed by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt.

Music: SLANE; Trad. Irish melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1963

Alt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House;

harm. © 1964 Abingdon Press

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Benediction

Postlude

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Miller/Jackson

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

[♯]UMH ~ *United Methodist Hymnal* (hard cover hymnal)

[♯]FWS ~ *The Faith We Sing* (soft cover hymnal)

Worship Participants

Preaching: Rev. Marcus Atha

Liturgist: Kim Foster

Media: David Wilm

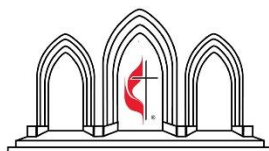
Musicians: Jack Roberts and the Chancel Choir

Sound room: Neal Hubbard

Ushers and Greeters: John Borer and Mike Zahnke

This service is broadcast live on the radio station WOBL 1320 AM and 107.7 FM. Today's radio broadcast and altar flowers are sponsored by Tom and Sherry Ruth to celebrate their 45th Wedding Anniversary.

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

How Firm a Foundation Early USA melody; harm. from *Tabor*, 1866. ***He's Got the Whole World In His Hands*** by Margaret Bonds. ***In the Garden*** Words: C. Austin Miles, 1913; Music: C. Austin Miles, 1913, adapt. by Charles H. Webb, 1987; adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906. ***Let There Be Peace on Earth*** by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1987; © assigned to Jan-Lee Music; © renewed 1983. All songs are performed under license # 73591.

Third Street Review



August Mission foci:

August 24, 2025

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440.322.6622

Email: church@elyriafirstumc.org

Back to School for Everyone

Every month, we are blessed to be able to serve our community through our free hygiene and clothing store. Your generous donations were given out on Saturday. What a blessing you are to the families and meeting their needs. The excess will be taken to the neighborhood Elyria Elementary school this week. Thank you for your generosity!

"Every day is a chance to begin again.
Don't focus on the failures of yesterday,
start today with positive thoughts
and expectations."
~ Catherine Pulsifer.

Worship Month

We, as followers of Christ, (*whether in person, through our radio or on-line streaming ministries*) gather each week to celebrate the goodness of God. Worship entails many components in the many ways God speaks to us, and one way is through music. We want to make sure one of our cherished traditions of having the First Methodist Brass play every third Sunday can continue once their season begins. Let us use our mission energy to ensure the mission of worship continues! If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make your check payable to **FUMC** with **Methodist Brass** on the memo line of the check or donate online via our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.

Share Your Gifts/Talents!

Volunteers are needed for the Community Breakfast and our Free stores. Our community needs support from our outreach ministries, **and YOU have gifts and talents** to share! Please contact the church office to cheerfully offer your gifts and talents to serve in these vital ministries.

Free Clothing Store

We continue to organize what has been received.

We thank all those who donated to the clothing store! If you have an hour or two to spare, Monday through Thursday, please contact the church office to let us know you will be in to help sort. Not available during the week but have some time on Saturday? Let us know and we will work with you! The store will be open to the community on **Saturday, September 27th 10 am-12 pm**, please contact the church office at 440.322.6622 with questions or to volunteer.

Small Groups

The church staff is working on more dates and will be in touch with those who indicated they want to participate in a small group soon. If you have not signed up to participate, it's not too late. Indicate your interest on the Attendance Registration form today!

Free Hygiene Store

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

- **Baby wash and lotion**
- **Cleaning Supplies** (glass, bathroom, and toilet bowl cleaners)
- **Kids Toothbrush and toothpaste**
- **Laundry & Dish Soap**
- **Shampoo & Conditioner** (dry shampoo too)
- **Women's and men's Body wash, Deodorant, and Razors**

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

Community Breakfast Needs You!

Thank you so much for the plastic bags and cutlery! We have accumulated enough for quite some time and will alert you when we need them again.

What we do need for this ministry is YOU! Several of our breakfast teams are short of *hands*, which as you know...many hands make...light work!

Volunteering once a month can make a big difference in the life of this ministry, the community, and YOU!

Prayerfully consider joining a breakfast team then call Julie Joy in the church office (440.322.6622) to volunteer.

Open Sponsorship Dates

Altar Flower dates:

September 7, 14, and 28

Cost \$22

Radio dates:

August 31; September 7, 14, and 21

Cost \$300 (includes advertising!)

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

Happy Tuesdays

Over the summer, several folks are lunching out on **Tuesdays at a local restaurant**. Call the church office to find out where the group is enjoying fellowship and lunch!

Celebration Courtyard Cookout

Today!

Come to the church courtyard following worship to enjoy lunch and spend time in fellowship with Pastor Marcus and Kristen Atha.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, watermelon, and more will be served. Didn't sign up? No worries – COME, there's plenty of deliciousness and fellowship!

All are welcome!

Scripture readings for the week:

Sunday, August 24: **Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Isaiah 58:9b-14;
Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17**

Monday, August 25: **Psalm 10; Jeremiah 7:1-15; Hebrews 3:7-4:11**

Tuesday, August 26: **Psalm 10; Jeremiah 7:16-26; Revelation 3:7-13**

Wednesday, August 27: **Psalm 10; Jeremiah 7:27-34; Luke 6:6-11**

Thursday, August 28: **Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Jeremiah 11:1-17; 1 Peter 3:8-12**

Friday, August 29: **Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Jeremiah 12:1-13; 1 Peter 4:7-11**

Saturday, August 30: **Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Jeremiah 2:1-3, 14-22; Matthew 20:20-28**

Sunday, August 31: **Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Proverbs 25:6-7;
Psalm 112; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14**