



"If Only"

17th Sunday after Pentecost **World Communion Sunday**

October 5, 2025

Prelude

Toccata, P.465

Pachelbel

Greetings

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

Centering Words:

God's mercies never end; they are new every morning. Take delight in God, who is with us wherever we go.

Call to worship:

We gather in gratitude that our faith may increase.

We will sing our songs of praise and proclaim the good news of the gospel.

Take delight in God who is with us wherever we go, even when we do not feel like singing.

We will commit all our ways to god and wait patiently for answers to our prayers.

By God's grace, we are gathered for worship.

We have been called together by the Holy Spirit.

In God's love, we are no longer exiles and strangers.

We will treasure this special time in sacred space.

*Opening Hymn

God of Grace and God of Glory

²UMH # 577

1.

**God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown the ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

2.

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us, scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to love and praise.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.**

3.

**Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.**

4.

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 577
Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930
Music: CWM RHONDDA; John Hughes, 1907
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Psalter: **Psalm 137** Responsively with Sung Response

²UMH page 852

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

Musical Response:

Now, O Lord, for what do I wait?

For my hope is in you alone.

¹ By the rivers of Babylon,
there we sat down and wept,
when we remembered Zion.

² **On the willows there
we hung up our lyres.**

³ For there our captors
required of us songs,
and our tormentors, mirth, saying,
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”

⁴ **How shall we sing the Lord’s song
in a foreign land?**

⁵ If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither!

⁶ **Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth,
if I do not remember you,
if I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy!**

⁷ O Lord, remember against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem,
**how they said, “Raze it, raze it!
Down to its foundations!”**

⁸ O daughter Babylon, you devastator!
Happy shall they be who repay you
with what you have done to us!

⁹ **Happy shall they be who take your little ones
and dash them against the rock!**

Musical Response

Special Music

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

Bradbury

Soloist: Kim Foster

Epistle Reading: **2 Timothy 1:1-14**

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

*Gospel Reading: **Luke 17:5-10**

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 577

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Music: CWM RHONDDA; John Hughes, 1907

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Message

"If Only"

Refrain:

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.**

1.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more.

Refrain

2.

Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all.

Refrain

3.

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one, for all.

Refrain

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 620

Words: John B. Foley, 1978

Music: John B. Foley, 1978; harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

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Sharing in Holy Communion

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON.

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.**

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 our God.

It is right to give our joyful thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
You formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through the prophets.

And so,

with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him

to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended,

he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so,

in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,

that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

Because there is one loaf,
we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The Bread of Life, broken for you. **Amen.**

The Cup of Salvation, poured out for you. **Amen.**

Going Forth...

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Go forth in peace.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

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

Elevation - Tierce en Taille

Couperin

*Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
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.**

[♯] UMH # 95

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 95
Words: Thomas Ken, 1674
Music: OLD 100TH; Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

*Offertory Prayer:

We are grateful to you, O God, for the faith we have inherited. We give thanks for the courage and faithfulness of ancestors who suffered for the gospel that we might know your love. We join with them in putting our trust in you. May we match their generosity and self-discipline, seeking above all else to know your will and do it. To that end, we dedicate our offerings. Amen.

Announcements

*Closing 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,
His life laid down for me.**

2.

**I come with Christians far and near To find, as all are fed,
Our true community of love In Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.**

3.

**As Christ breaks bread for us to share Each proud division ends.
That love that made us makes us one, And strangers now are friends,
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,
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,
We'll live and speak His praise.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 617
Words: Brian Wren, 1968
Music: The Souther Harmony, 1835; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1989 Words ©1971 Hope Publishing Co.;
harm. © 1989The United Methodist Publishing House
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Benediction

Postlude

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele, BWV 654

Bach

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

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

[♩] FWS - *The Faith We Sing* (soft cover hymnal)

Worship Participants

Preaching: Pastor Marcus Atha

Liturgist: Bailey Borer

Media: David Wilm

Musicians: Kingsley Wood, Jack Roberts, and the Chancel Choir

Sound room: Neal Hubbard

Ushers and Greeters: 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 with money given for our radio ministry. Thank you to those who donate which allows us to continue our radio ministry as we share God's love with the radio audience and the community.

The altar flowers are in loving memory of Jerry and Janet Eschtruth to honor their mustard seed faith as they helped our church and other people.

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

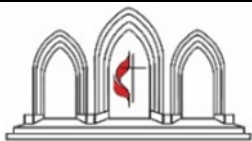
312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035 440.322.6622

www.elyriafirstumc.org

An equal opportunity provider

Toccata, P.465 by Johann Pachelbel. ***He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought*** Words: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862, Music: William B. Bradbury, 1864. ***Elevation - Tierce en Taille*** by François Couperin. ***Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele, BWV 654*** by J.S. Bach. All songs are performed under license # 73591.

Third Street Review



October 5, 2025

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440.322.6622

Email: church@elyriafirstumc.org

October Mission Foci:

World Communion Sunday

We are rounding out our mission to end world hunger. On this **World Communion Sunday**, the gifts you have given will help our neighbors who are struggling with hunger. *World Communion Sunday* supports the idea of everyone being welcome at the table of Christ and we are to do our best to ensure everyone is at the table.

Cash or checks made payable to: **First United Methodist Church**, (indicate **WCS** on the memo line).

Donate online via our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.

Community Outreach

This month we will collect funds all October to aid with 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 clothing store are victims and survivors of everything from Domestic Violence to health challenges such as Breast Cancer and mental illness. 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, which 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.

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.

Community Breakfast

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.

Quarterly Giving Statements

To be a good steward, you need to know where you stand with your giving. Quarterly Statements will be produced and available before or after worship on October 12th. They will be on the media table at the front of the Sanctuary. Any statements not picked up will be mailed at the end of October. Help us save a stamp – come to worship to receive your statement!

Cookie Hour

Thank you for those who participated in last Sunday's Cookie Hour. This went well and will happen again on October 26th. If you would like to bake or host this time of fellowship, please call the church office.

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 October 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 on **Saturday, October 25th** from **10 am-12 pm!**

Free Clothing Store

We continue to organize what has been received.

The store will be open to the community on **Saturday, October 25th 10 am-12 pm**, please contact the church office at 440.322.6622 with questions or to volunteer.

312 Happy Hour

Happy Hour is a twice per month event held on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays** at **noon** in **Fellowship Hall!**

Join us for a great meal, fun, and fellowship!

October 14th and 28th

Come – invite others!

Open Sponsorship Dates

Altar Flower dates: **November 9 and 16**

Cost \$22

Radio dates: **October 19 and 26**

Cost \$300 (includes advertising!)

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

Blessing of the Animals Service Today!

Blessing of the Animals witnesses to God's and the Church's love, care, and concern for creation. As we recognize our mutual interdependence with God's creatures, the Church's witness of stewardship of creation is strengthened.

Bring your creature to the **church courtyard** this afternoon at **4 pm**.

Scripture readings for the week:

Sunday, October 5: **Lamentations 1:1-6; Psalm 137; Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4;
Psalm 37:1-9; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10**

Monday, October 6: **Psalm 137; Lamentations 1:16-22; James 1:2-11**

Tuesday, October 7: **Psalm 137; Lamentations 2:13-22; 1 John 5:1-5, 13-21**

Wednesday, October 8: **Psalm 137; Lamentations 5:1-22; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24**

Thursday, October 9: **Psalm 66:1-12; Jeremiah 25:1-14; 2 Timothy 1:13-18**

Friday, October 10: **Psalm 66:1-12; Jeremiah 27:1-22; 2 Timothy 2:1-7**

Saturday, October 11: **Psalm 66:1-12; Jeremiah 28:1-17; Luke 5:12-16**

Sunday, October 12: **Jeremiah 29:1-7; Psalm 66:1-12; 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c;
Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19**