



**First United Methodist Church
Downtown**

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025

Service of Morning Worship

February 23, 2025

INTROIT

Jesus Saves

Terry Winch

We have heard the joyful sound: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Spread the tidings all around: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Bear the news to every land, climb the steeps and cross the waves;
Onward! 'tis our Lord's command: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Jesus saves!

WELCOME

* HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 311

Now the Green Blade Riseth

FRENCH CAROL

* CALL TO WORSHIP

From *Black Liturgies* by Cole Arthur Riley

Leader: God who mends, you invite us into not merely works of justice, but works of repair and reconciliation.

People: Help us be people of true repair. Give us sacred imaginations for how we might bring reparations in our country, cities, and neighborhoods.

Leader: Help us to honor the truth of our struggle and still pursue healing. Protect us from becoming so disillusioned that we are unable to recognize healing when it meets us.

People: We breathe in your grace and healing for we are ready to be made well. Holy God, restore us.

* OPENING PRAYER

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*universal

* GLORIA PATRI

MEINEKE

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. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (11:00)

Children are invited to come forward for a message and then to Children's Worship. Preschool in Room 101 and Elementary in Rooms 208-09.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

No. 389

Freely, Freely

FREELY, FREELY

PASTORAL PRAYER

*We would love to know how we can be in prayer with and for you.
Prayer requests are received by using prayer cards found at each exit
or by texting your request to 859-274-9471.*

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.**

RESPONSE

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

Jim Taylor

Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Incline Thine ear to us, O Lord,
And grant us peace.

OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Ride On, King Jesus

Nansi Carroll

David Pelino, *soloist*

Ride on, King Jesus!
No man can a-hinder me!
Ride on, King Jesus, ride on!
No man can a-hinder me!

For He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the First and Last, no man works like Him.

For He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the First and Last, no man works like Him.

My Jesus rides on a milk white horse,
No man works like Him.

The river of Jordan He did cross,
No man works like Him.

For He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the First and Last, no man works like Him.

Yes, He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the First and Last, no man works like Him.

My Jesus, Jesus in the middle of the air,
No man works like Him.

He gathers saints from everywhere,
You know that no man works like Him.

For He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the First and Last, no man works like Him.

He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the First and Last, no man works like Him.

Ride on, King Jesus!

No man can a-hinder me!

Ride on, King Jesus, ride on!

No man, no man, no man can a-hinder me!

* 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.**

* MEMORY VERSE

**Romans 8:28 - We know that all things work together
for good for those who love God,
who are called according to his purpose.**

ANTHEM ***When We Sing Around the Throne Eternal*** Lari Goss

Won't that be a happy, happy day
When we gather on the other shore,
Over on the golden shore,
Over on the peaceful shore;
Every earthly care shall pass away,
We'll be happy there forevermore,
When we sing around the throne eternal
On that wonderful day.

*When we sing around the throne eternal
Way over in glory,
When we join the chorus supernal,
Sing heaven's sweet story;
With the saints we'll ever be happy,
O what a glad morning,
When we sing around the throne eternal
On that wonderful day.*

With our friends we'll join a mighty throng
Over yonder in the promised land,
Over in the promised land,
Yonder in the promised land;
With the saved we'll sing a happy song
In the morning at the Lord's right hand,
When we sing around the throne eternal
On that wonderful day.

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 45:3-11, NRSV

SERMON ***Answers in Genesis***
Notes at <http://bible.com/events/49393633>

* HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP
No. 572 ***Pass It On*** PASS IT ON

* BENECTION

* RESPONSE ***Go Forth Into the World in Peace*** John Rutter

Go forth into the world in peace;
Be of good courage, be of good courage;
Go forth into the world in peace;
Be of good courage, be of good courage;
Hold fast that which is good, render to no one evil for evil,
Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak,
Help the afflicted, honor all people,
Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
And the blessing of God Almighty,
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
Be upon you, and remind with you forever.
Amen, Amen.

POSTLUDE

Lift Every Voice and Sing

John G. Barr &
Rosamond Johnson

* Please stand as you are able.

The altar flowers this morning are given by Susan Kearns, Nicki Swiderksi, and families in memory of Nick Thompson.

Nursery is available at both services in Room 103.

Listening enhancement devices and large print hymnals are available. The ushers will be happy to provide them to you.

LEADERS OF WORSHIP IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Liturgists: Tyler Mattox-Frye, Youth and Visitation Pastor
Barry Prince, Children's Ministry
Mallory Wood, Administrative Council Chair
Musicians: Choral Scholars (8:30), Chancel Choir (11:00)
Glenna Metcalfe, Associate Director of Music/Organist
Dr. Brock Terry, Director of Music
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Todd Nelson, Senior Pastor

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Welcome to the Downtown Community of First United Methodist Church! Whether this is your first time in this church (or any church) or you've been a member here for decades (or somewhere in between), it is no accident that you are here today and we are better with you here. Discipleship is at the core of who we are Downtown, and helping you grow in your love of God and love of neighbor is my calling and my passion. You will see and hear things around the numbers **1, 3, 12 and 70: Discipleship by the Numbers**, taken from the very practices of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. If you are wondering what this means in your life, I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you.

If you're wondering what happens next, you're invited to come to **Discover Downtown**, an informational lunch gathering after worship on Sunday, March 16 or Sunday, May 18. This will offer you an opportunity to meet a few people and hear about the Downtown Community of First UMC led by Todd and Carol. If you'd like to attend or have questions or just want to chat, please let Carol know (carol@lextogether.org). We look forward to helping you find your place Downtown when you are ready.

In Hope,



Carol Cooper, Downtown Pastor



Let us know you were here!

Our activities to be involved in and in prayer for.

Sunday, February 23, 2025

- 8:30 AM Worship service, Sanctuary
- 9:50 AM Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 AM Worship service, Sanctuary
- 4:30 PM Confirmation Class
- 5:00 PM High Street Neighborhood Center Trivia Night,
Calvary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 PM Fusion, Youth Cafe

Monday, February 24, 2025

- 7:15 AM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Room 13
- 9:30 AM Journey Companions, Parsonage

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

- 7:15 AM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Room 13
- 7:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous Meeting, Room 13

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

- 7:15 AM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Room 13
- 10:00 AM Book Study--*Inspired*, Room 107
- 6:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Room 13
- 7:00 PM Happiness Study, Zoom
- 7:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous Meeting, Room 13

Thursday, February 27, 2025

- 7:15 AM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Room 13
- 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study, North Lime Coffee and Donuts –
North Limestone
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday, February 28, 2025

- 7:15 AM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Room 13

Saturday, March 1, 2025

Sunday, March 2, 2025

- 8:30 AM Worship service, Sanctuary
- 9:15 AM Kids' Choir, Room 208
- 9:50 AM Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 AM Worship service, Sanctuary
- 3:30 PM Ann Orr Bible Study, Parsonage
- 4:30 PM Confirmation Class
- 6:00 PM Fusion, Youth Cafe

Weekly Friday Email -- For a full list of announcements, subscribe to the weekly Friday email at downtownlex.org/connect or pick up a printed copy located at the Sanctuary entrances.



downtown

First United Methodist Church

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