

Celebrate

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

February 1, 2026

WHAT IS
GOOD

First
Church



Celebrate Service - February 1, 2026

WE GATHER

Welcome & Lighting of Candles

Preaching Pastor

Prelude

Centering Words

L: Beloved, what worship does God desire of us?

P: To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.

L: In our life together as the body of Christ, what worship does God desire of us?

P: To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.

L: When we share the good news with all creation, what worship does God desire of us?

P: To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.

P: We come to worship God with our voices and our lives. Thanks be to God!

Song

"We Utter Our Cry"

Opening Prayer

Oh God,
Our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer-
How do we thank you?
How do we show our gratitude?
Do you want signs and sacrifices?
Do you want gold and cattle?
Can we turn over our children to you?
Would that repay our debt, make everything right?
Tell us, what do you require in return for all your goodness?

Oh God,
Our teacher, example, companion—
You have shown us what is good,
and call us to remember
that what you require is not
repayment of debt
or settling the score,
but obedience.
Show us, God,
When to do justice,
how to love kindness,
and where to walk,
humbly,
with you.

Amen.

WE PROCLAIM

The Message to Young Disciples

Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures

Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

L: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

P: Thanks be to God.

The Message

What is Good?

Message in Music

WE RESPOND

The Pastoral Prayer

Lead Pastor

Invitation to Generosity

Assisting Pastor

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Assisting Pastor

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And, also, with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: We give thanks to you, God of all people. You hear the cries of those seeking justice. You welcome the stranger. You offer grace to the lost. We praise you, O God, for you remember the forgotten and you make a home for us in your love. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: 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 recovery 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.

God, you are the God who loves the stranger, who gives them bread and clothes. You are the God who protects the foreigner, and defends the orphan's cause. You are the God who becomes a foreigner with foreigners, a refugee with refugees.

"I was a stranger and you did not accept me", your Son, Jesus, warns us. "When, Lord - is our answer - did we see you a stranger? If we had seen you in need, we would certainly have welcomed you".

Forgive us, Lord, because despite our many words we don't know how to recognize you and we don't know how to welcome you in the stranger, in the refugee, in the poor, in every outcast.

Forgive our short-sightedness, our dryness, and shatter the barriers we build every day to avoid to recognize in the other a brother, a sister, a sibling.

Lord Jesus, we are not worthy of being welcomed at your table: but we ask you to perform the miracle of Emmaus once again, when the disciples invited you, believing you a stranger.

When the evening came they urged him strongly to stay with them. And that poor dinner, shared with an unknown traveler, was transformed into your Supper: and their eyes were opened.

Open our eyes today, Lord, so that we know to recognize your presence, so that we know how to welcome the other as you welcomed us, and that we welcome you in the other. Turn our poor table into your Supper: that we who have prepared this bread and this wine invite you, that we may become guests of your table.

Because we know that on the night he was betrayed, Jesus gathered with his followers, remembering Your deliverance from Egypt. On that Passover, Christ gave new meaning to the meal of Your people.

As they gathered at the table, 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.

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

Pastor: 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 God, now and forever. Amen.

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.

Communion

WE GO FORTH

Song

"God Bless the Immigrants"

The Benediction

Preaching Pastor

The Postlude

Prayers

Concerns Shared

John Anderson
Chad Anderson, nephew of Diana Hoke
Kim Meyer

Steve Meyer
All in need of prayer

Those In Memory Care

Jack Gaunt

Pat Staver

Active Military

As we update our list of active military personnel, we invite First Church families to share the names of any immediate family members currently serving. Please contact Ronda at rkroeschen@fumcwl.org and include each military member's name and rank.

Alex Turco

James Beaty

Worship Team

Audio/Visual

Livestream:

Riley Schellingerhout

Band

Piano:

Charis Vander Plaats

Liturgists

Liturgist:

Diana Hoke

Pastors

Lead Pastor:

Duane Carlisle

Vocals

Song Leader:

John Jones

Slides:

Todd Pickard

Soundboard:

Evora Schellingerhout

Quick Links



[Giving](#)



[Bulletin](#)



[Check In](#)

We Utter Our Cry

Tune: O Worship the King

10 10. 11 11

We ut - ter our cry; that peace may pre - vail, that earth will sur - vive, and
We cry from the fright of our dai - ly scene for strength to say "No" to
Cre - a - tor of life, come, share out, we pray, your Spir - it on earth, re -
Come with us, Lord; love, in pro - test and march, and help us to fire with
What - ev - er the ill or pre - sure we face, Lord, heart - en and heal, give

9

faith - must not fail. We pray with our life for the world in our care, for peo - ple di -
all - that is mean: de - signs bearing cha - os, ex - tinc - tion of life, all en - er - gy
- veal - ing the Way to lead - ers con - fer - ring round ta - bles for peace, that they may from
pas - sion your church, to match all our state - ments and loft - y re - solve with - be - ing, un -
in - sight and grace to think and make peace with each heart - beat and breath, choose Christ be - fore

18

min - ished by doubt - and des - pair.
wast - ed on weap - ons of death.
bi - as and gui - le be re - leased.
- rest - ing, in ac - tion in - volved.
Cae - sar and life - be - fore death!

God, Bless the Immigrants

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2024

Faithfulness

William Marion Runyan, 1923



1. God, bless the im - mi - grants liv - ing a - mong us,
2. God, bless the re - fu - gees com - ing to join us,
3. God, bless the aides in our nurs - ing home hall - ways,
4. God bless the new - com - ers liv - ing a - mong us.
5. God bless the im - mi - grants, re - fu - gees, stran - gers,



work - ing all day in the sun and the heat.
flee - ing from dan - ger and hun - ger and strife.
God, bless the fam - ilies who ven - ture here, too,
God bless the youth who have come here a - lone.
threa - tened and slan - dered, who now live in fear.



Work - ing on roof - tops and bring - ing the har - vest,
They are be - lov - ed and val - ued and pre - cious.
God, bless the doc - tors and stu - dents and el - ders
God bless the mi - grants with les - sons to teach us,
May we show mer - cy, com - pas - sion and kind - ness.



they build our homes and pro - vide food we eat.
You're with them here as they seek a new life.
who came from else - where to start life a - new.
God bless the peo - ple who wel - come them home.
We are all neigh - bors; we're one vil - lage here.



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Email: carolynshymns@gmail.com | New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com

Feb. 1, 2026



GET INVOLVED

No Tech Experience Required

Want to be part of the magic that streams our services to the world? It's easy and all takes place upstairs in a tech booth. You would toggle between three cameras as our services unfold, select the online display and adjust audio levels.

Or, how about changing the slides during the service? It's done in a booth next to the streaming team. The words are scripted and so very easy to follow.

Is there someone you know who would enjoy this opportunity? No tech experience required! Ideally, we would have two people running the boards at each service. For a training session, contact Assistant Pastor Kory Pritchett or Music Director Charis Vander Plaats: <https://www.fumcwl.org/contact-us/> or call 765-743-1285.

Sign up for euchre

Join us for euchre 5:45 PM to 8:30 PM on the second Wednesdays of the month. Our next play date is Feb. 11. We usually have about five tables each month and lots of laughs. Get on the evite list by contacting Jeanne Norberg jnorberg@purdue.edu.

Let's Sing

Our choir would love to have you join it. They sing for us at the 11 AM services on the second and fourth Sundays, as well as Palm and Easter Sundays. Our singers rehearse weekly September through May from 7:15 to 8:15 PM. Then they offer shares and prayers from 8:15-8:30 PM, finishing up no later than 8:30 pm. They take a break from rehearsals the three weeks after Christmas and the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Sing a song, read a scripture:

At the 11 AM service we need volunteers to lead the singing of two hymns during worship or read the scriptures. Contact Charis Vander Plaats: cplaats@fumcwl.org

Chiming in

Don't you just love the bells! Our Aldersgate Bell Choir chimes on the third Sunday of the month and for special times such as Easter. They practice on Wednesday evenings from 6:15 to 7:15 PM during the school calendar.

There are five octaves of handbells, so we have spots for up to 14 ringers. The director is on the lookout for substitute ringers, particularly people with experience with handbells or piano. Contact Kathy Lind, director of the bell choir: Klind1962@outlook.com, or text at 765-714-3506.

FUMC's turn at food pantry

February is one of three months we volunteer to work at the Tippecanoe United Food Pantry, 1314 Tippecanoe St., operated by Church Women United. Contact Lynn Griffin, 765-743-8087. Volunteers are needed 3:15 - 6:15 PM Tuesday, Feb. 17 and 11:30 AM-2:45 PM Wednesday, Feb. 18.

Here's a great video of volunteers in action at the pantry <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjWnxwM0Eio>.