

4th Sunday of Easter
April 30, 2023

PRELUDE/GATHERING
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charles Ferguson
Buddy Butler

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES: THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN OUR MIDST
CALL TO WORSHIP

Buddy Butler

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON, 892

Our heavenly Father, who by thy love hast made us, and through thy love hast kept us, and in thy love wouldst make us perfect: We humbly confess that we have not loved thee with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and that we have not loved one another as Christ hath loved us. Thy life is within our souls, but our selfishness hath hindered thee. We have not lived by faith. We have resisted thy Spirit. We have neglected thine inspirations. Forgive what we have been; help us to amend what we are; and in thy Spirit direct what we shall be; that thou mayest come into the full glory of thy creation, in us and in all the people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. All pray in silence. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. If any one sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. **Thanks be to God.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
OPENING PRAYER

Randy Loudermilk

*HYMN OF PRAISE, 400

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, 880

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE : PEOPLE
THE LORD'S PRAYER, 895

Dura Montgomery

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

Be Still and Know
Words and Music by Steven Curtis Chapman; Arranged by Tom Fettke

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

Donna Ratzlaff

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY, 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.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

Dura Montgomery

PSALTER, 754

Psalms 23

April Butler

SECOND READING

I Peter 2: 11-25

Joy Turner

*GOSPEL READING

John 10:1-10

*GLORIA PATRI, 70 **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.**

SERMON

“An Alternative”

Buddy Butler

*HYMN OF INVITATION, 474

Precious Lord, take My Hand

*SENDING FORTH

Shirley Starling

*FOLLOWING CHRIST INTO THE WORLD, TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO OUR COMMUNITY

*POSTLUDE

Charles Ferguson

*Congregation standing, as able

Our **Fifth Sunday Offering** for Holston Home for Children will be received today.

The **Scholarship Committee** will meet on Tuesday, May 2, at 5 p.m.



An **UWF Dinner Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, May 3, at 5 p.m. in Legacy Hall. Please bring a covered dish. Mike Rutan, Director of the Open Arms Program, which provides a safe home for abused children in Fannin County, will be our speaker.

The **Son Seekers** Adult Sunday School Class is starting a new 6-week Bible study. It's about the questions Jesus asked His disciples--and questions He asks modern day disciples. All are welcome. We meet in the Parlor at 10 a.m. Our study book is QUESTIONS JESUS ASKED by United Methodist pastor Magrey R. DeVega.

Shopping lists for our **2023 Hands On Mission Project Health Kits** are available in the Narthex.

The **Son Seekers** Sunday School Class is helping a grandmother taking care of a newborn baby. The baby's mother is not in a position to help. Donations of diapers, baby clothes, baby supplies, a car seat, etc. are desperately needed. Contact Elaine Minor at 561-795-0313 if you can help in any way.

Mark your calendars for our **Annual Church Picnic**—May 24, at 6 p.m. at Horseshoe Bend Park.

All are invited to a **groundbreaking ceremony** for the new Fannin County Public Library on Tuesday, May 2, at 1 p.m. The building site is located at 2290 East First Street, Blue Ridge (near Fannin County High School).

The **Brasstown Ringers** will perform on Saturday, May 6, at 7 p.m. (note date change) in the Robert Foster Auditorium of the Appalachian Mountain Regional Campus (125 Schoolhouse Road, Epworth). The Epworth Brass Ensemble will also perform. Admission is free but a love offering will be received to benefit the Campus.

Blue Ridge United Methodist Women will be having an indoor **Rummage Sale** May 5 and 6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donations welcome! Call Heidi Rule at 706-455-7941 for information.



The beautiful flowers on the Altar today in placed in loving memory of Lila Taylor by Lynn Hurst and Steve Taylor.

Church Leadership
Pastor Gilbert "Buddy" Butler
Secretary Heidi Rule
Custodian Christine Dowlin

Sunday Servants
Ushers Smokey Brooks, Shirley Russell
Sound Techs Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer
Webmaster Marti Lane

Our Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: John and Mary Mills, Ed Massengale, Cathryn McCarter, Sheppie Dunn, Jeane Kalchik, Hannah Geren, Bill Simonds, Glenda Simonds, Elaine Crowe, Louise Arp, Barb Bender

Homebound/Assisted Living: ^Shirley Sheffer (having back surgery), ~Warrene Alexander (in hospice care)

Others in our prayers: *~Irene Panchyshyn, in hospice case in New York (mother-in-law of Kathy Panchyshyn), *Ann Record, multiple broken bones after car accident (very good friend of Dura Montgomery), Emily Martin Bryant (surgery—niece of Joy Turner), two women injured in hit and run accident, Marilyn Day (Garry Day's mother), Earthquake victims in Syria/Turkey, Kimberly Curcio (friend of Neila Pace), Bee Hicks, Junior Gwynn, ^Tom Reed, Kerry and Cindy Hicks, first responders, armed forces members, the people of Ukraine
 *new to concerns +Hospital or Rehab ^Assisted Living/Nursing Home ~ Hospice

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Concerns, please call the church office.

Birthdays

30 Evelyn Stemmann, Shirley Sheffer 4 Lonney McDonald, Stephanie Silvani

Anniversaries

2 Dominic and Stephanie Silvani 16th
 5 Ron and Neila Pace 49th

If your birthday or anniversary has not appeared in our listings please call the church office.



Scan here to give: when you scan this image with a smartphone's QR decoder, it will connect you to the mobile version of the FUMCC web page—a quick and easy way to access it. You can also donate securely online at fumc-copperhill.org.

Our Vanco giving page can also be accessed at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YJXP/home>

Upper Rooms for May-June are in the Narthex today.

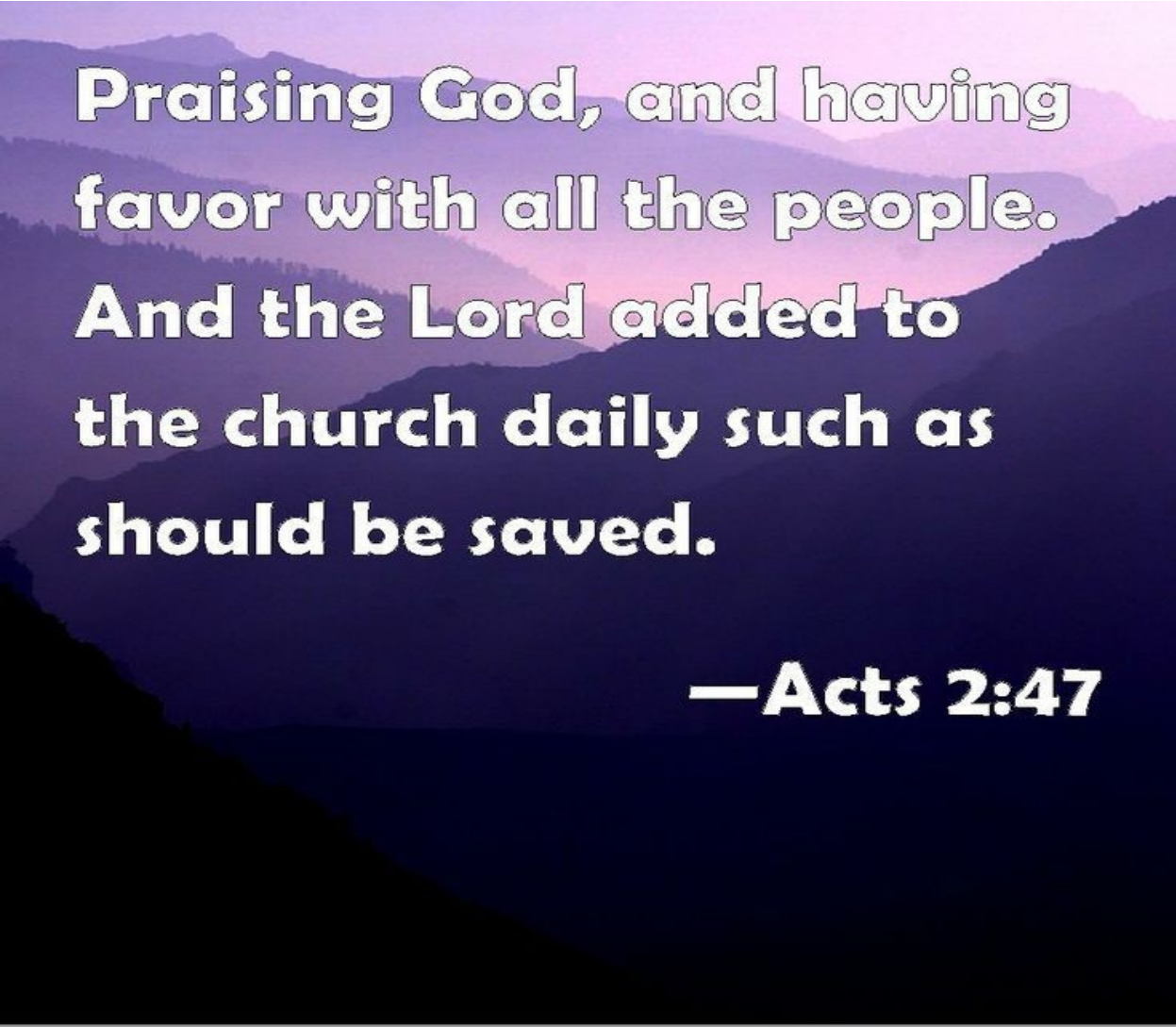
Calendar

Today
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship
 6:00 pm Life Group Meeting

Monday
 4-5:30 pm Community Meal "To Go"
 6-8 pm GriefShare Meeting
Tuesday
 5:00 pm Scholarship Committee Meets

Wednesday
 5:00 pm UWF Dinner Meeting
 6:00 pm Choir Practice
Thursday
 6:00 pm AA Meeting

Church: 423-496-4931 ♦ Parsonage: 423-761-6999 ♦ Pastor's Cell: 423-429-3820
 Email: firstumc@etcm.com ♦ Website: fumc-copperhill.org
 Facebook: First United Methodist Church-Copperhill
 Secretary's Office Hours: Monday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.



Everyone Welcome!