

7th Sunday of Easter
May 21, 2023

PRELUDE/GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES: THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN OUR MIDST

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON, 890

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen. *All pray in silence.* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE, 154

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, 881

The 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.

PRAYERS OF THE : PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER, 895

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

Days of Elijah

Words and Music by Robin Mark; Arranged by Jack Schrader

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

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 1: 1-11

Garry Day

PSALTER, 781

Psalms 47

April Butler

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

Linda Day

*GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:44-53

*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.

Charles Ferguson

Buddy Butler

Buddy Butler

SERMON

“Ascending”

Buddy Butler

*HYMN OF INVITATION, 327 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

*SENDING FORTH

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

*POSTLUDE

Charles Ferguson

*Congregation standing, as able

Love and sympathy is expressed to the family of Jimmie Rymer who passed to the new life on Monday. Please keep her son, Leland Rymer, and the rest of her family in your prayers.

Congratulations to our graduates! Today we honor our graduating seniors, Ethan Butler and Lily Loudermilk. We also honor our 2023 Faith Scholarship winners, Peyton O'Neal and Mary Beth Wells, and our Tommy Mitchell Memorial Scholarship recipients, Lyndsay and McCay Turner.

The **Church Council** will meet on Tuesday, May 23, at 6:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited to our **Annual Church Picnic**—Wednesday, May 24, at 6 p.m. at Horseshoe Bend Park. Hot dogs, hamburgers, and condiments provided. Bring your favorite salad or dessert and/or drinks and come and enjoy good food, fun, and fellowship. Volunteers needed: contact our host, Garry Day, at 706-632-3884 if you can help.

The **Son Seekers** Adult Sunday School Class have begun a new 6-week Bible study about the questions Jesus asked His disciples--and questions He asks modern day disciples. All are welcome, meet in the Parlor at 10 a.m. Our study is *Questions Jesus Asked* by United Methodist pastor Magrey R. DeVega.

Please bring completed **Hands On Mission Project Health Kits** back to First UMC by tomorrow.

If you would like to help a grandmother taking care of a newborn baby boy—donations of diapers, baby clothes, baby supplies, a car seat, etc. are desperately needed. The baby's mother is not in a position to help. Contact Elaine Minor at 561-795-0313 if you can help in any way.

The Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale is May 26-28, Blue Ridge UMC Fellowship Hall. Sale hours are: Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.—5 p.m.; Sunday, 12—5 p.m. Mountains of books (including antique/collectible, rare, signed, local authors), DVDs, CDs, and Jigsaw puzzles will be available. Donations welcome—call Heidi at 706-455-7941. *We are especially low on jigsaw puzzles this year.*



Please donate nonperishable food items in the Narthex box - **canned meat, tuna, jelly, peanut butter, breakfast cereal, oatmeal, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, rice, soup, chili, canned vegetables**, etc. (We have enough macaroni and cheese.) *Thanks to all who contribute - the families are always grateful.*

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

Sunday Servants
Ushers Elaine Morgan, Bill Simonds
 Ron Singleton
Sound Techs Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer
Webmaster Marti Lane



Our Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: *the family of Jimmie Rymer (mother of Leland), the family of Warrene Alexander, the family of Reverend James Mitchell, the Simonds family after the passing of Bill's brother, John and Mary Mills, Ed Massengale, Cathryn McCarter, Sheppie Dunn, Jeane Kalchik, Bill Simonds, Glenda Simonds, Elaine Crowe, Louise Arp, Barb Bender

Homebound/Assisted Living: ^Shirley Sheffer (having back surgery),

Others in our prayers: the family of Irene Panchyshyn, the Geren family after the passing of Beth's mother, *Mckinley Majors (requested by Tonya Callihan), 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, Earthquake victims in Syria/Turkey, Kimberly Curcio (friend of Neila Pace), Bee Hicks, Junior Gwynn, ^Tom Reed, Kerry and Cindy Hicks, Hannah Geren, 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

22 Brett McDonald 23 Jeff Walker 26 Bonnie McDonald

Anniversaries

30 Smokey and Janice Brooks 56th

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

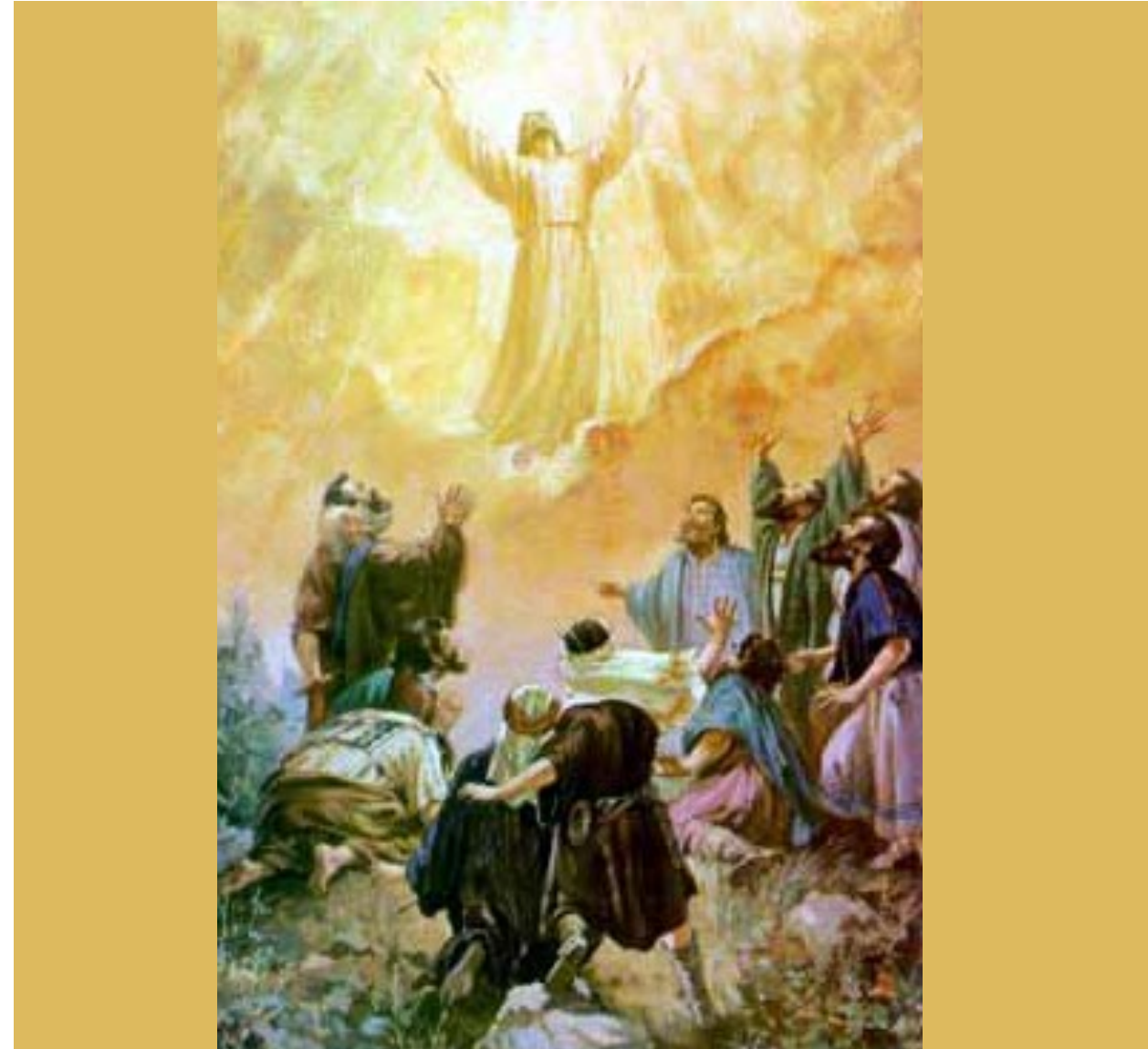


Scan here to give: when you scan this image with a smartphone's QR decoder, it will connect you to the mobile version of the FUMCC web page—a quick and easy way to access it. You can also donate securely online at fumc-copperhill.org.

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

Calendar	Today	Monday	Wednesday
	10:00 am Sunday School	4-5:30 pm Community Meal "To Go"	6:00 pm Church Picnic
	11:00 am Worship	6-8 pm GriefShare Meeting	Thursday
6:00 pm Life Group Meeting	Tuesday	6:00 pm AA Meeting	
	6:30 pm Church Council Meeting		

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



Everyone Welcome!