

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
July 30, 2023

PRELUDE/GATHERING  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES: THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN OUR MIDST  
CALL TO WORSHIP

Charles Ferguson  
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

\*HYMN OF PRAISE, 371

*I Stand Amazed in the Presence*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, 888 From I Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

**Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit. Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. 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**

HYMN STORY, 514

*Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

Dura Montgomery

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

PSALTER, 828

SECOND READING

\*GOSPEL READING

Genesis 29: 15-28

Psalm 105

Romans 8: 26-39

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Garry Day

April Butler

Linda Day

\*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

"Which Voice Do We Listen to?"

Buddy Butler

\*HYMN OF INVITATION, 530

*Are Ye Able*

\*SENDING FORTH

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

\*POSTLUDE

\*Congregation standing, as able



United  
Women  
in Faith

During the month of July the UWF are collecting items for the Open Arms for Children in Fannin County. Items needed are paper towels, toilet paper, outdoor games, MP3 players (without screens) and gift cards from hair and nail salons.

Thank you to those who have already brought items.

The United Women in Faith will meet on Wednesday, August 2, for a potluck supper at 5:00 p.m. This meeting will be a time for us to get to know each other better. Each person is asked to bring an example of a hobby or interest you have and share it with the group. If you have been thinking of joining UWF, this will be a great first meeting for you to attend. We would love to have you.

Today we receive the Fifth Sunday Offering for **Holston Home for Children**. See bulletin insert.

**Top of the Hill Rummage Sale Update:** Your donations of items for the sale are greatly appreciated! Please bring priced items to Legacy Hall on Thursday, August 3, 9– 11 a.m. *It will not be necessary to stay at the sale with your donations or pick them up afterwards (unless you would like to).* Sales hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Items that remain after the sale will be available for a "special fill a box for a donation sale" after church on August 6. **All proceeds from the sale will benefit local mission projects.** Copper Basin Elementary's Snack Pack Program is under consideration for funding.

All are invited to an **Organ Concert** on Sunday, August 6, at 3 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 7 Ewing Street, Blue Ridge. Guest organist Andrew Atkinson is a celebrated organist and pianist and is a member of the American Guild of Organists. Free admission—a retiring offering will be received.

**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](https://secure.myvanco.com/YJXP/home).

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



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

**Sunday Servants**  
**Ushers** Bill Simonds, Adam Turner  
**Sound Techs** Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer  
**Webmaster** Marti Lane



**Our Prayer Concerns**

**Our Congregation:** \*T.J. Thompson (recovering from knee surgery), Sally Patterson (recovering after surgery), Ed Massengale, Cathryn McCarter, Jeane Kalchik, Bill Simonds, Glenda Simonds, Louise Arp, Barb Bender

**Homebound/Assisted Living:** ^Shirley Sheffer (recovering from back surgery) new address is: 10914 Kingston Pike, Apt. 108, Knoxville, TN 37934, ^Elaine Crowe

**Others in our prayers:** \*Tiffany Deaver, +Lester Ruark (father of Evelyn Stemmann), \*Stewart Haslam (rare cancer), Peggy McGee (cancer patient), ^Don Loudermilk (brother in law of Loretta), Major Andy Lai (stationed in Taiwan, son-in-law of the Callihans), +Lee Womac (Copperhill Postmaster—motorcycle accident), McKinley Majors (requested by Tonya Callihan), Ann Record (multiple broken bones after car accident - good friend of Dura Montgomery), Emily Martin Bryant (niece of Joy Turner), 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**

30 Quinn Loudermilk 1 Ryan Knight, Maggie Wilson 2 Colin Rymer  
 4 Will Luke 5 Loretta Loudermilk

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

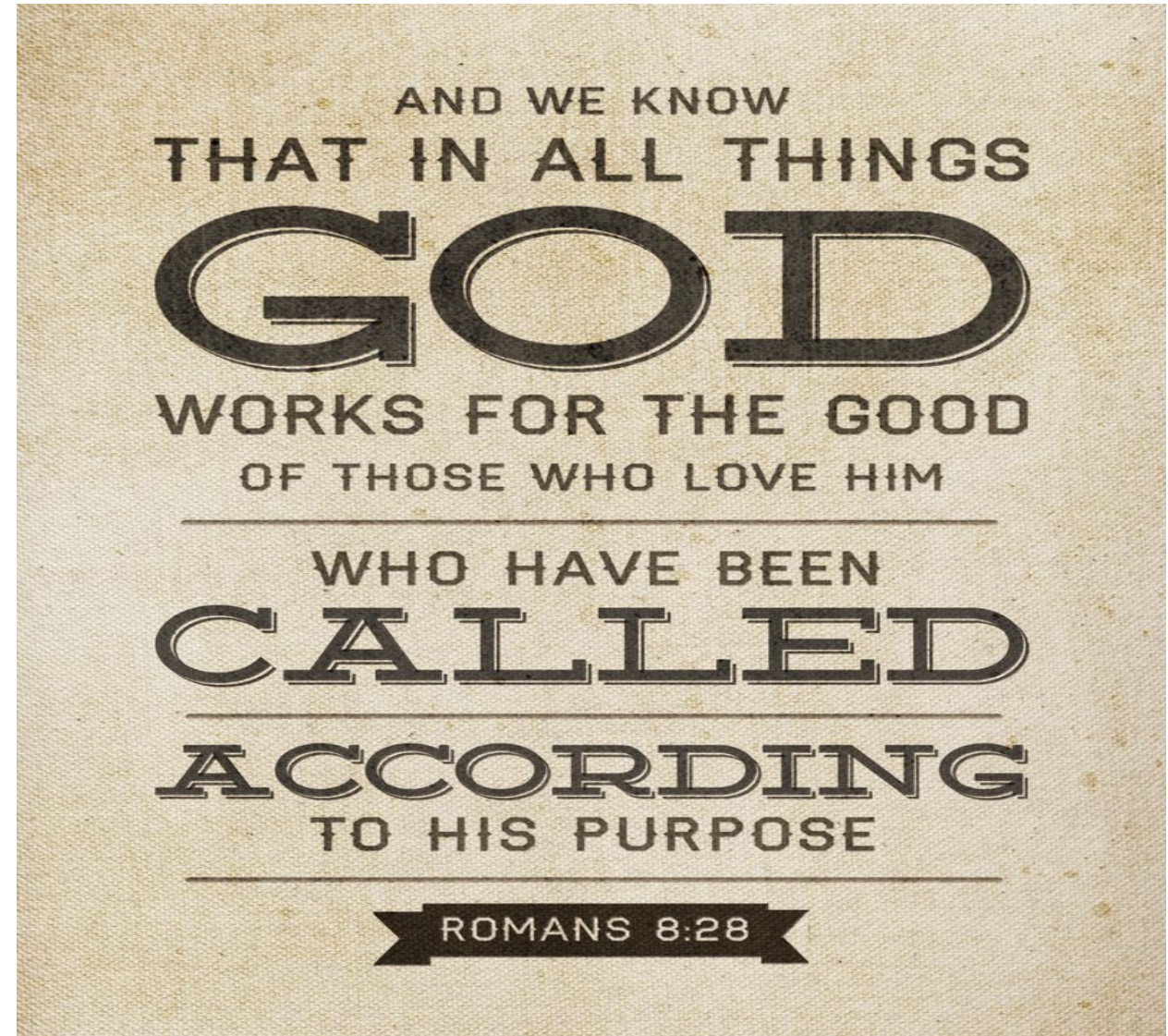
Please donate nonperishable food items in the Narthex box - **canned meat, tuna, jelly, breakfast cereal, oatmeal, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, rice, soup, chili, canned vegetables**, etc. (We have enough peanut butter and macaroni and cheese.) *Thanks to all who contribute - recipients are grateful.*



My daughter is starting a pollinator garden if you have any butterfly bush seedlings, or other flowering perennial plants to share. Thanks! She has a limited supply of fresh eggs, \$3 dozen or 2 for \$5.00. Contact Heidi at 706-455-7941.

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|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Calendar</b>            | <b>Today</b>                | <b>Monday</b>                    | <b>Thursday</b>              |
|                            | 10:00 am Sunday School      | 4-5:30 pm Community Meal "To Go" | 9-11 am Rummage Sale Setup   |
|                            | 11:00 am Worship            | <b>Wednesday</b>                 | <b>Friday &amp; Saturday</b> |
| 6:00 pm Life Group Meeting | 5:00 pm UWF Potluck Meeting | 9 am-2 pm Rummage Sale           |                              |
|                            | No Choir Practice in July   |                                  |                              |

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 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!*