

**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
October 1, 2023**

PRELUDE/GATHERING  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES: THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN OUR MIDST  
CALL TO WORSHIP  
OPENING PRAYER  
\*HYMN OF PRAISE, 177 *He Is Lord*  
PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION  
FIRST READING Exodus 17:1-7 Linda Day  
PSALTER, 799 Psalm 78 April Butler  
SECOND READING Philippians 2:1-13 Dura Montgomery  
\*GOSPEL READING Matthew 12:23-32  
\*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.

\*ANTHEM *Broken For You* Choir  
Words and Music by Jack Hayford, Arranged by Tom Fettke

SERMON "Humility and Unity" Garry Day

\*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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON, 8  
Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *All pray in silence.*  
Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST  
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.

Charles Ferguson

HOLY COMMUNION

**Offerings left on the communion rail will go  
to the Pastor's Benevolence Fund to help people in our community.**


\*HYMN OF INVITATION, 467 *Trust and Obey*  
\*SENDING FORTH  
\*FOLLOWING CHRIST INTO THE WORLD, TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO OUR COMMUNITY  
\*POSTLUDE Charles Ferguson  
\*Congregation standing, as able

Today we observe **World Communion Sunday**. The World Communion Offering supports scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students in the U.S. and other countries. We welcome Dr. Garry Day to the pulpit.

**Hiwassee District Conference:** today at 3 p.m. at Keith Memorial UMC, Athens, TN. Voting members are: Clergy, Chair of Church Council, Lay Leader, Annual Conference Lay Members, Finance Chair/Treasurer, Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Chair. A reception for Sandra Johnson and her husband, Leon, will follow the worship service.

The United Women in Faith will meet on Wednesday, October 4, at 11:30 a.m. for a business and planning meeting for UWF Sunday on October 15. We will meet in Legacy Hall and each member is asked to bring her own lunch.



 **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes and gift suggestions lists are now available in the Narthex. Filled shoeboxes, along with \$10 each for shipping, will be due back at First UMC on Sunday, November 12.

A **GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays Seminar** will be held on Saturday, October 21, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Legacy Hall. Contact Lonney McDonald at 706-455-8249 for more information.



**The Friends of the Fannin County Public Library Book Sale** will be held in the Blue Ridge UMC Fellowship Hall (enter at rear of church) 235 Orvin Lance Drive, **October 13-15 Friday & Saturday, 9 a.m.—5 p.m.; Sunday, 12—5 p.m.** Mountains of books (including collectible, rare, signed, local authors), DVDs, CDs, and Jigsaw puzzles will be available. This year we will have an Arts & Crafts Table & Bake Sale Table. There will be a Bag Sale and special sale on Sunday. Donations are welcome. Contact Heidi Rule at 706-455-7941.

**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 [fumcc-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** Joy Turner, Charlie Stemmann,  
 Shirley Starling  
**Sound Techs** Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer  
**Webmaster** Marti Lane



**Prayer Concerns**

**Our Congregation:** Tonya Callihan (recovering from knee surgery), Donna Ratzlaff, +T.J. Thompson (recovering from knee surgery), Sally Patterson, Ed Massengale, Cathryn McCarter, Jeane Kalchik, Louise Arp, Barb Bender

**Homebound/Assisted Living:** ^Shirley Sheffer (cancer diagnosis), ^Elaine Crowe

**Others in our prayers:** \*the family of Patricia Boggs Arnold, JoAnn Whitlow, stroke (niece of Loretta Loudermilk), the family of Judy Potter (friend of Neila Pace), Brenda Turner, surgery (sister in law of Joy Turner), Norma Bean, Richard Wagner (heart surgery), Tiffany Deaver, Stewart Haslam (rare cancer), ^Don Loudermilk (brother in law of Loretta), Major Andy Lai (stationed in Taiwan, son-in-law of Rick and Tonya Callihan), +Lee Womac (Copperhill Postmaster—motorcycle accident), McKinley Majors (requested by Tonya Callihan), Emily Martin Bryant (niece of Joy Turner), Kimberly Curcio (friend of Neila Pace), ^Tom Reed, Kerry and Cindy Hicks, Hannah Geren, first responders, armed forces members, the people of Ukraine, victims of natural disasters worldwide  
 \*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**

3 Elaine Minor      4 Cathryn McCarter      6 Randy Loudermilk

**Anniversaries**

6 Alex and Lisa Loudermilk 23<sup>rd</sup>

**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, peanut butter, jelly, breakfast cereal, oatmeal, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, rice, soup, chili, macaroni and cheese**, etc.  
 Thanks to all who contribute - recipients are grateful.



The **Community Meal** is held on Mondays, 4 to 5:30 p.m. 195 free "to go" meals were served last week. If you would like to help, contact volunteers at 423-241-2282.

<b>Calendar</b>	<b>Today</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
	10:00 am Sunday School	4-5:30 pm Community Meal "To Go"	11:30 am UMF Planning Meeting
	11:00 am Worship		6:00 pm Choir Practice
	6:00 pm Life Group 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!*