

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 28, 2024

Gathering  
Welcome and Announcements  
Chiming of the Trinity  
Prelude Emily Wallace  
*All Creatures of Our God and King – arr. Dino Kartsonakis*

## \*Call to Worship

Sing to our God a new song.  
**God has done marvelous things!**  
Make a joyful noise to the Lord!  
**Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**  
Let the sea roar and all that fills it.  
**Let the world and its people sing together for joy!**

## Opening Prayer

\*Opening Hymn *Christ for the World We Sing* UMH #568

## \*Passing of the Peace

\*Hymn of Worship *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* UMH #703

## Pastoral Prayer

Offering  
Offertory *The Lord Bless You and Keep You – John Rutter* Emily Wallace

\*Doxology UMH #95

\*Affirmation of Faith UMH #881

\*Gloria Patri UMH #70

\*Psalter Psalm 22: 25-31 UMH #752

Scripture Acts 8: 26-40

Sermon *Soul Pain* Pastor Gray Stallworth

\*Discipleship Hymn *God of Love and God of Power* UMH #578

## \*Benediction

\*Congregational Response *He Lives* (Refrain) UMH #310

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

\*Postlude *A Flourish – Lani Smith* Emily Wallace

\*Please stand if you are able.

## Prayer Concerns

Please pray for the world, the church, the UMC, First UMC, all who hold leadership positions, and the following persons:

Bruce Sumerel	Rosalind Sweat
Jane Rogers	Betty Lindler
Dot Wilson	Betty & Ron Burnside
Nedra Walker	Sam Lowry
Marilyn Mack	Gayle Hocker
Frances Steinacker	April Walker Family
Jane Stroud	Joel Jacks
Betty Jo Templeton	Claudette Holliday
Patsy Braswell	Calvin Culbertson
Jackie O'Bryant	Sue Sharpton

## MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Rosalind Sweat – 112 W. Farley Ave., Laurens, SC 29360  
Dot Wilson – Langston Square, Rm. 113, 939 Springdale Dr., Clinton, SC 29325

## MEMORIALS

In Memory of: **Harold Glenn Blocker**

**Given by:** Jim Eaton

In Memory of: **Miriam June Templeton**

**Given by:** Bobby & Phyllis Templeton & Children;  
Brenda Templeton & Rentz Family

## Staff Members Emails: [@firstmethodistlaurens.org](mailto:@firstmethodistlaurens.org)

Pastor: Gray Stallworth pastor@  
Secretary: Karen Reeder contact@  
Financial Secretary: Lucy Crowder finance@  
Accompanist: Emily Wallace pedalstomper1685@gmail.com  
Custodian: Lillie Philson  
Ministers: Congregation  
Lay Liturgist: Randy Hillmann  
Ushers: Jon Allen, Sam Howell  
Nursery Helpers: Sissy Taylor, Merry Young

Flowers: The flowers placed in the Sanctuary this morning are given in honor of the marriage of Betsy Ross and Ed Carey by their Children.



## DWELLING IN THE WORD

How are you doing with your daily personal Bible Study? Are you following one of our plans? Remember, it takes discipline to meditate on God's Word, but this treasure map He's given to us is worth every minute we spend in the Holy Bible. I am studying the Psalms this year. I have several companion books I am using along with the Amplified Bible as my second translation. I am picking out one verse in each Psalm that is significant. It's amazing how the Psalms point to the Messiah so much! Stay focused! Train daily for Godliness.



## FOOD BANK

Tues. & Thurs. Noon-2PM  
Please Consider Supporting by  
Marking Your Donation "Food Bank"



## FOOD BANK NEED

Just a reminder that everyone is asked to bring canned goods to the Altar during Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month.



## FRI. LUNCH BUNCH

\*\* Meet at church at 11:00am to carpool, except for Blue Ocean (4/26) meet at 12:30pm  
Also, if meeting at a Laurens restaurant, go directly to the restaurant instead of carpooling.



April 26 – Blue Ocean, Clinton (Meet at the church at 12:30pm to carpool)

May 3 – Sweet Catherine's, Ft. Inn

May 10 – Happy Days, Laurens

May 17 – Wilson's Curb Market, Clinton

May 24 – Trotters, Clinton

May 31 – Scurry's Café, Laurens

## Offering Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Place in offering plates as they come by,  
Mail to P.O. Box 203, Laurens, SC 29360  
Online at [firstmethodistlaurens.org](http://firstmethodistlaurens.org), click "Give",  
Or Text "BOLD" to 73256

## CONNECT WITH US

Worship: Sundays at 10:30am  
Office Hrs.: M-Th. 8:30am-3pm  
Phone #: 864-984-7696

## ONLINE

[firstmethodistlaurens.org](http://firstmethodistlaurens.org)  
[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

Pastoral Emergency Phone #:

\*\* (After Hours and on Weekends) \*\* **864-334-8561**

# First United Methodist Church

West Main Street  
Laurens, South Carolina

Sunday, April 28, 2024



## Welcome!

At First United Methodist Church  
we challenge each other to be BOLD,  
to step out in faith as disciples of Jesus Christ.

**BOLD**  
BECOMING • OBEDIENT • LOVING • DISCIPLES

Rev. Gray Stallworth  
Pastor

# Announcements

## CHURCH RECIPE BOOK

If you have not turned in your favorite recipe, the deadline of **April 30<sup>th</sup>** is getting near!! The Kingdom Krafters are working on a new church recipe book for a fundraiser. Please email or bring to Karen Reeder or Susan Roberts.



## SPRING FLING

### for the Laurens Police Department

As part of Pastor Gray's ministry as Chaplain for the LPD, we are sponsoring a SPRING FLING on **May 4 from 1-5pm**. The event will be held at the city owned Ceram Tec Park. There is a sign-up list on the bulletin board.



## EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

Each year, Epworth Children's Home provides care to children in our own communities who have experienced abuse, neglect, and loss. Epworth's support breaks the destructive cycle and encourages children to aim higher in life.

On **Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, our congregation will support Epworth by collecting the Annual Epworth Mother's Day Offering. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit online at [www.epworthchildrenshome.org](http://www.epworthchildrenshome.org).



## KINGDOM KRAFTERS CLASS

Please join us for our next Kingdom Krafters class on **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm - 3:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall. We will be making flower glasses, fabric flowers and blessing shells. There is no cost for this class and food will be provided. If you can join us for this class, please sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.



*Join us for a Couple's Baby Shower*

*Celebrating*

*Mollie & Caleb Berry*

*Saturday, May 4, 2024  
at 2:00 p.m.*

*First United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall  
244 West Main Street  
Laurens, SC 29360*

*Hosted by:  
Patrice Bodie, Tammy Anderson, & Zac Elwood*

*Please RSVP to 864 872 0547 by April 27<sup>th</sup>.*

*The couple is registered at [Babylist.com](http://Babylist.com) (Mollie Berry)*

