

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

www.cherawfirstumc.org



*Good Enough:
Embracing Faith and Life*

*Sixth Sunday of Lent
Palm Sunday*

"Imperfect Parade"

THE CHURCH WITH A HEART, IN THE HEART OF CHERAW.

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

APRIL 10, 2022

PALM SUNDAY

LITURGICAL COLOR: BURLAP

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Martha Starling

PRELUDE & PROCESSION OF THE PALMS

Beth Maier

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Susan Marsh

L: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: Hosanna! Rejoice for the Lord is in our midst.

L: He comes with joy and hope.

C: He comes to set us free from fear.

L: Hosanna!

C: Hosanna! Glory to God in the Highest Heaven. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER²

Susan Marsh

With great joy we welcome you, Lord Jesus! The journey has been long and we have longed to enter the Holy City. You come into our hearts and our lives, humbly, patiently, encouraging us to learn and grow, to embark on journeys of hope and healing. Open our hearts today to hear your words, as we sing praise to you. Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's Name. **AMEN.**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 882**

"Apostle's Creed Ecumenical Version"

Susan Marsh

***PSALTER & RESPONSE NO. 839**

Psalm 118:14-29

Susan Marsh

***HYMN NO. 278**

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

ELLACOMBE

CONFESSION & PARDON³

Pastor: Jesus orchestrated a low-budget parade into a city where he knew his days were numbered. "Get me a colt," he said. Not a steed. Not a float. A young, green donkey (not the color, that's horse-speak for not-ridden-alot-yet). And folks gathered and his friends started some liturgical shouting that ticked off the local priests. Life is hard and we all need friends and sometimes big, loud, praying that will not be messed with. We are created for interdependence. So, all our hiding and pretending that we are "perfectly fine" all on our own just won't work. Get on the donkey when you need to and let people lay down their cloaks for you and make some noise for you. 'Cause you know you'll do it for them too when the chips are down. What keeps you from connectedness with others? Let us take a moment of silent reflection...

Silent Reflection

Pastor: Hear this compassionate word from the Letter to the Philippians: "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus..." Know that already, God is offering us freedom from isolation as we are called into the kind of community Christ had in mind for all. We are invited to the audacity of interdependence so that we might recognize love in its giving and receiving. And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.

Congregation: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God! Amen.

MORNING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Debra

OFFERTORY

Choir

***DOXOLOGY NO. 95**

OLD 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Jesus Christ, our burdens know, praise Spirit through whom our hearts grow, Praise Three-in-One, from here below.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Debra

***HYMN NO. 361**

"Rock of Ages Cleft for Me"

TOPLADY

***SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 19: 28-40

SERMON

"Imperfect Parade"

Pastor Debra

A BLESSING FOR WHEN YOU FEE LONELY⁴

*"Blessed are we who cry out,
'God, I need a friend to share the simple unaffected joys that come,
the troubles unbidden, those too heavy to sustain...'
Blessed are we, opening our hands in readiness,
to risk intimacy, to receive the gift of friendship, and give it in return."*

***HYMN NO. 156**

"I Love to Tell the Story"

HANKEY

***BENEDICTION**

And now, may the God who loves all of creation, especially the lonely bits, and Jesus, our companion along this crooked path called life, and the Holy Spirit, who loves to improvise in surprising ways, go with you, dwell among you, and give you joy this day and all of your days. **Amen.**

***POSTLUDE**

Beth Maier

**If you are able, please stand.*

¹ <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3662>

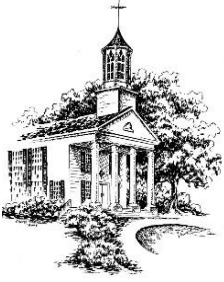
² Ibid

³ All liturgy and leader parts not otherwise referenced Marcia McFee © www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough Used and adapted with permission.

⁴ "A Blessing for a When You Are in Grief" from *Good Enough: 40'ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. Used with permission. Purchase the book at www.katebowler.com/goodenough.

The flowers are placed in sanctuary to the glory of God.

OUR PRAYER LIST – Our President, our Congress, all Governors, Mayors, State, County, and Local employees, all health care workers, EMT's, all who defend our nation, all who make decisions for our nation, Jane Campbell, Mabel Foster, Jim Bennett, Phillip Caulder, Scott Tomberlin, Theodore Burns, Margaret Stanton, Mary Snookie Lomas, Dan Ellenburg (Patty Fisher's brother-in-law), Rachel Smith (Brenda Rayfield's friend), Shep Straughn, Dennis Pressley (friend of Jenny Keefe). **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**



THE CONNECTION

The Mission of First United Methodist Church is to win and nurture souls for Jesus Christ by sharing and living the message of salvation.

www.cherawfirstumc.org

Volume 18,
Issue 15
April 10, 2022

A few words from the pastor...

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:12-17 NRSV

Chosen, holy and beloved people of God it seems very right that as we begin holy week our focus is directed to the word of Christ. The Apostle Paul admonishes us to let the word dwell within us.

One of the ancient practices of the church is Lectio Divina. It is a wonderful process that helps us to dwell in and be saturated by scripture. The first step is to read the scripture aloud several times. Pay attention to what stands out to you. The next step is to reflect in silence on the scripture and the parts that caught your eye. Responding to the scripture is the third step. Read the scripture slowly aloud or silently and have a conversation with God about the passage asking for deeper understanding and giving thanks and praise for the scripture. The last step is to be still and remain in the presence of God and the scripture. Read, Reflect, Respond, and Remain are the four Rs that help me remember the practice of Lectio Divina. Try it this week and it will be a good enough practice to help us dwell richly in the word of Christ.

It is noteworthy that teaching and admonishing come after we are fully clothed in Christ and dwelling richly in his word. Being grounded in the word is so that we may teach and admonish each other not with just our abilities but with all the wisdom of God to guide us. We are not qualified to teach or to admonish anyone unless we are steeped ourselves in the word of Christ. We are to teach and admonish with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

This was counter-cultural in Jesus's day, the Apostle Paul's day, and it still is today. Teaching and admonishing are often interpreted as a green light to tell people what they should think and do rather than sharing the word of God and our testimony with them. The common idea of teaching and admonishing methods in our world today seems to be criticizing, judging, and condemning people and then expecting them to learn.

Jesus and the Apostle encourage us to be different than the world. We are to demonstrate compassion and patience with each other. To let our humility, meekness and love be teaching tools so others will come to know, love, and follow Christ. Looking forward to hearing about your adventures dwelling in the word of Christ and teaching and admonishing with your Jesus clothes shining like a beacon for our Lord.

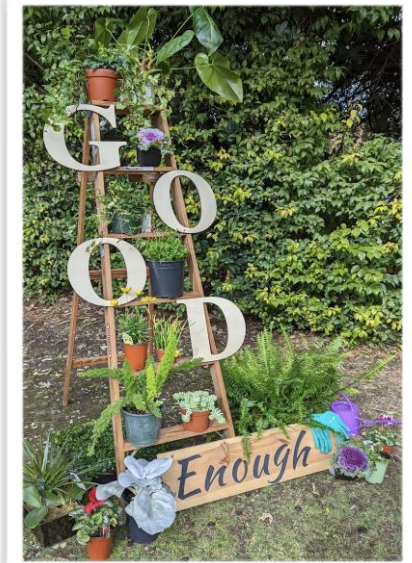


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Pastor Debra

Join Us Holy Week and Easter Sunday!



Palm Sunday Service	
April 10 th	11:00 a.m.
Maundy Thursday Service	
April 14 th	6:00 p.m.
Easter Sunrise Service	
April 17 th	6:30 a.m.
Easter Breakfast	
April 17 th	9:15 a.m.
Sunday School	
April 17 th	10:00 a.m.
Easter Sunday Service	
April 17 th	11:00 a.m.

MEMORIALS:

IN MEMORY OF JACKIE FURR

Walter & Charlotte Crosby

IN MEMORY OF JEFF FOSTER

Walter & Charlotte Crosby, Orrin Thomas

COLLEGE STUDENTS ADDRESSES REQUESTED: If you are a college student or have a child that is in college please contact the church office and give us their mailing address.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY AT FUMC: Our Nurture and Care team at First United Methodist Church will provide rides to individuals to doctor's or other medical appointments. If you need a ride, please contact the church office at 843-537-7002.

WORSHIP ONLINE: Not able to be here for in-person worship? Then join us online! To worship online, go to our website www.cherawfirstumc.org. Click on the tab at the top of the page that says video sermon archive. The most recent worship service will be the first service listed. Worship services are available on our website by 2:00 p.m. on Sundays.

Covid Restrictions Lifted - Based upon recent and continually improving Covid-19 risk factors in the county reported by the SC Department of Health and consistent with CDC guidance, the Church Council voted unanimously this week to remove the remaining restrictions previously imposed on our activities and routines at First Methodist. Masking remains optional and we will continue to monitor the situation for changes that might warrant action in the future.

Easter Breakfast
Sunday, April 17th 9:15 a.m.
Hardees Breakfast Biscuits
Coffee, Juice, Water
Please contact the church office to reserve
your breakfast by Noon on Thursday, April 14th.
Donations will be accepted



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. Grief Share is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. Thursdays 10:30 am.

**Flowering of
the Cross**

Please bring flowers for the cross as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. The cross will be in front of the sanctuary on Easter morning.



LADIES LENTEN LUNCH

Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 12 noon, Fellowship Hall

All women of the church are invited.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 10, 2022

10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship
5:30-7:00pm Fireflies (Kids Nook & Fellowship Hall)
5:30-7:00pm UMYF (Youth Hut & Fellowship Hall)

Monday, April 11, 2022

6:00pm Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
6:30pm Boy Scouts (NETC)

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

12:00pm UMW Lenten Lunch (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open
12:00pm Bulletin/Newsletter Deadline
7:00pm Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Thursday, April 14, 2022

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open
10:30am Grief Share (Parlor)
6:00pm Maundy Thursday Service

Sunday, April 17, 2022

6:30am Easter Sunrise Service
9:15am Easter Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship

Weekly amount needed for budget: \$5,769.24
Amount received for week of April 6: \$3,448.22
Sunday School Attendance April 3: 45
FUMC Food Pantry Item: Canned vegetables
Greeters: Mike & Debbie Elmore
Acolyte: Nancy Wagnon
Nursery Worker: Michelle Rohde
UMYF Leader for next week: No UMYF Meeting
UMYF Meal for next week: No UMYF Meal

Amount needed year to date: \$80,769.36
Received year to date: \$80,851.39
Worship Attendance April 3: 96
McArn Items: Peanut butter cups
Head Usher: Jeff Johnson
Liturgist for next Sunday: Jenny Keefe
Flowers next Sunday: Ezer Class
Soundsystem Operator: Holly Miles
Video Technicians: Bryson Hunter & Peyton Taylor

FUMC STAFF

Rev. Debra Armstrong, Pastor (fumcpastor1@gmail.com) 843-537-7002 O 843-253-3132 C
Angie Smith, Ministry Assistant (fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)
Tara McPherson, Child Development Ministry Director (fccdm@yahoo.com)
Beth Maier – Interim Music Director