

First United Methodist Church

210 North 2nd Avenue East * Newton, Iowa 50208 * (641) 792-4648
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facebook.com/newtonfirstumc

**“Reaching Up, Reaching In, Reaching Out,
Making Connections through Jesus Christ within Our Community and World.”**

**May 2, 2021
8:45 AM**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Service of Praise and Worship

THE GATHERING

Gathering Music

Jean Ibbotson

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Rhonda Loder

Leader: *Like a whisper that lures us to safety,*

People: Strong as a shout that bids us to come,

Leader: *Gentle as a prayer that eases our worry,*

People: Like a clear bell that rings out our name,

Leader: *Your Word comes to us, Loving God.*

**People: It calls us, comforts us, and urges us to
depart from evil and do good, to seek peace
and pursue it.**

Leader: *Talking God, open our hearts to hear you*

People: And free our voices to praise you.

PRAYERS AND PRAISE

In Songs of Praise

“Down to the River to Pray” (Worship & Song #3164, vs 1 & 2)

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good ole way

And who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

O sisters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

Come on, sisters, let's go down, down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good ole way
And who shall wear the robe and crown, good Lord, show me the way.

O brothers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

Come on, brothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray.



CCLI #155662

"Lord, Be Glorified" (The Faith We Sing #2150)

*In our lives, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In our lives, Lord, be glorified today.*

*In our homes, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In our homes, Lord, be glorified today.*

*In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your church, Lord, be glorified today.*

*In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.*

CCLI #155662

"Bind Us Together" (The Faith We Sing #2226 x2)

{Chorus}

*Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord, bind us together in love.*

{Verse}

*There is only one God, there is only one King;
There is only one body, that is why we sing.*

{Ending Chorus}

CCLI #155662

*Hymn of Praise 318 "Christ Is Alive"

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
He comes to claim the here and now and dwell in every place and time.*

*Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily, in the midst of life, our Savior in the Godhead reigns.*

*In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
He suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth and all creation ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

CCLI #155662

The Scripture Reading – 1 John 4:7-21 (NRSV)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through

THE WEEK – Beginning May 2, 2021

Today

*8:45 Worship
9:00 "First Church on the Air"
10:00 Park Centre Worship*

Wednesday

*9:00 Staff Meeting
1:00 UMW Memorial Service
5:30 Community Meal*

THERE WILL BE no Free Treasures Giveaway in May due to the continued pandemic concerns. Watch for upcoming details hopefully in the fall.

UMW NUT ORDERS can still be placed online until the end of 2021 by going to <https://fumcnewton.terrylynn.com> and order directly. There is a \$5 flat shipping rate for orders through the online store. Thanks to all for your continued support.

*THE FOLLOWING LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES training opportunities are available; registration is required: **Basic Lay Servant Ministries Training** is foundational for all courses in lay servant ministries and will be held May 8, 15, 22 and 29 (Saturdays) from 9 AM to 11:45 AM through Zoom. Book: Lay Servant Ministries by Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson (\$12.00) purchased at bookstore.upperroom.org or cokesbury.com. **Advanced "Accountable Discipleship"** focuses on the concept of the household of God, Scripture as divine revelation, Wesleyan understanding of grace, and the importance of the class leaders in the development of the Methodist movement and will be held July 10, 17, 24, and 31 (Saturdays) from 9 AM to 11:45 AM through Zoom. Only those who have taken the Basic Course may enroll in the Advanced Course. Book: Accountable Discipleship by Steven W. Manskar (\$15.00) purchased at bookstore.upperroom.org or cokesbury.com. If you have questions, you may email Bernie Colorado at Berniecolorado628@gmail.com.*

*THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: **May 2nd** – Cheryl Haldeman, Jackson Poulson, Jerry Yates; **3rd** – Pat Beckham, Dave Birkenholz, Jorja McDermott, Allen Wigans; **5th** – Tatum Baethke, Sherrie Pelock; **6th** – Sharon Atwood, Michelle Branderhorst, Stephanie Gott, Twila Jones; **7th** – Doug Barcus, Matthew Marchant; **8th** – Sue Bryan, Chris Crise, Jane Hollander, Bekah Swersie*

*THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: **May 3rd** – Calvin & Vicky Holmquist; **5th** – Jeff & Sara Guthrie; **6th** – Kraig & Tamara Holubar; **8th** – Brent & Trisha Boyer*

OFFICIARY

*Pastor – Paul Smith
Financial Secretary – Dorothy McFarling
Director of Music – Rachel Faidley
Custodian – Kraig Holubar
Technical Engineers – Koni Bunse, Projection;
Marv Bunse, Sound; Tim Blount, Videography*

*Administrative Assistant – Joy Osborn-Daniels
Coordinator of Lay Ministries – Mel Wilson
Organist – Jean Ibbotson; Park Centre Pianist – Rachel Faidley
Lay Leader – Karen Kriz*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Thanksgiving to God for...

All God's blessings
Family & Friends

Guests & Visitors
Good Health

New Beginnings
All Volunteers

God's Guidance & Direction for...

People Unemployed/Economic/
Housing Struggles
Natural Disaster Recovery
All Who Are Grieving

World Peace
Local, State & National Leaders
Sunday School Teachers/Leaders
School Students/Teachers

Those in Seminary
Tim Morgan

God's Protection & Safety for...

Those in the Military
Kevin Ehresman
Dylan Drew
Austin Leytham

Those in Mission Work
Cherie Miner
Dr. Emmanuel & Florence Mefor
Lynn & Sharon Fogleman
Rev. Doug Williams
Larry Kies

Those Protecting Us
Law Enforcement
Firefighters
EMTs

Those Who Mourn...

Those in Care Facilities...

Betty Ashby
Ruby Blount
Pam Conklin

Andy Jackson
Helen Newton
Norma Rose

Alice Schwarz
Rita Skinner
Bob Yeutsy

Healing & Health Concerns...

Dorothy Carpenter
Steve Dailey
Cash Dickerson
Mick Drew
Nick Dreyer
Mackenzie Eldred
Paul Frohardt
Jody Gooch

Wilma Grout
Jill Hoffman
Mary Kay Hoft
Vicky Holmquist
Pat Ingledue
Danielle Keninger
Verle Kooistra

John McGinley
Loretta Miller
Sylvie Miller
Wilma Mott
Connie Myers
Theresa Stewart
Bill Yeager

PLEASE NOTE: If you have a prayer request or know of a change and want it reflected in the bulletin, please call the church office at 792-4648. Please keep us updated and let us know when you would like to be removed from the prayer list.

him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Scripture Reading – John 15:1-8 (NRSV)

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Prayers of the People

Hymn 2200 "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" (The Faith We Sing x2)

O LORD, hear my prayer. O LORD, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.

O LORD, hear my prayer. O LORD, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

CCLI #155662

Call to Prayer – You give us life; we must offer commitment. You give us Scripture; we must study. You give us children; we must serve as good parents. You give us talents; we must minister accordingly. You give us the church; we must extend fellowship. You give us the gospel; we must share the Good News. You give us each other; we must live in love. You give us money; we must invest in the eternal. O Giver of all that we call good and perfect, transform our gratitude for what you have placed within our hands into significant means of serving others as well as you. Amen

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

In Children's Time

Hymn 349 "Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus"

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

CCLI #155662

Children's Message

Offertory Scripture – Psalm 22:25 (NRSV)

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

In the Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "I Am the Vine" John Michael Talbot
The Doxology 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Dedication of Gifts

Recognition of 50-Year Members

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

The Scripture Reading – Acts 8:26-40 (NRSV)

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Witness to the Word "Leaving an Imprint" Pastor Paul Smith

THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Administrative Council has guidelines for in-person worship. We can't take away all the risk; please use your best judgment for you and your family in attendance. Most other church-related activities are on hold until further notice.

USHERS: Calvin Holmquist, Shawn McFarling, Terry Ingledue, Pat Riemenschneider

OPENING & CLOSING CHURCH: Greg & Rhonda Loder and Jerry & Betty Yates

VAN MAINTENANCE (May): Gary Kaput

PLEASE NOTIFY PASTOR PAUL or the church office if you or a family member is admitted to a hospital.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK - 8:45: 70; Park Centre: 38; Total: 108

PLEASE FOLLOW US on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/newtonfirstumc>.
The worship services are live streamed.

DONATION GIVING STATEMENTS (YEAR TO DATE) are available and can be picked up in the narthex. Please take a moment to pick up yours as this will save postage.

THIS WEEK'S RADIO BROADCAST on KCOB is sponsored in memory of Jim Wright from Jack Wright and family.

THE MAY MESSENGER is ready and can be picked up at the church entrances or in the church office.

AS A REMINDER, if you are unable to join us in worship, please send your offering to the church office at 210 N 2nd Ave E, Newton IA 50208. Online giving is also available for donations to First United Methodist Church. This can be done by going to the church's website (newtonfirst.org) and selecting the "Give" tab. Your continued financial support is greatly appreciated.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS are available from 5:30 PM – 6 PM, with sack suppers served curbside (elevator entrance) to those interested. Volunteers from First Lutheran Church, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and FUMC rotate weeks of service. This week FUMC will serve goulash, green beans, buttered bread, and pumpkin bars.

SIGN-UP SHEETS for FUMC-sponsored Wednesday Night Meals in May are now in the Welcome Center. All contributions will be greatly appreciated.

WE ARE IN NEED of several more people willing to serve periodically as a projectionist and/or videographer during times of worship. This task is very easy and quite essential during our services. Training will be provided. Please contact the church office if you are willing to join the technical engineering team!

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, our Alpha and Omega, whose loving arms encompass the universe, for with your eternal Word and Holy Spirit you are forever one God.

Through your Word you created all things and called them good, and in you we live and move and have our being. When we fell into sin, you did not desert us. You made a covenant with your people Israel and spoke through prophets and teachers.

In Jesus Christ your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. And so, with all your people on earth, and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and Might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ, who called you Abba, Father. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embrace a people as your own and filled them with a longing for a peace that would last and justice that would never fail.

In Jesus' suffering and death you took upon yourself our sin and death and destroyed their power forever. You raised from the dead this same Jesus, who now reigns in glory, and poured upon us your Holy Spirit, making us the people of your new covenant.

On the night before meeting death, Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Drink from this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine we may know the presence of the living Christ and be renewed as the body of Christ for the world, redeemed by Christ's blood.

As the grain and grapes, once dispersed in the fields, are now united on this table in bread and wine, so may we and all your people be gathered from every time and place into the unity of your eternal household and feast at your table forever.

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**Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*(Everyone is asked to please take one container of Communion elements found at the sanctuary
exits as you leave worship this morning and partake of them when you get home.)*

Prayer after Communion

*Pastor: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given
yourself to us.*

**People: Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give
ourselves for others.**

Pastor: In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen

SENDING FORTH

*In Song 465 "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

*Holy Spirit, Truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.*

*Holy Spirit, Love divine, glow within this heart of mine;
Kindle every high desire; perish self in thy pure fire.*

*Holy Spirit, Power divine, fill and nerve this will of mine;
Grant that I may strongly live, bravely bear, and nobly strive.*

*Holy Spirit, Right divine, King within my conscience reign;
Be my Lord, and I shall be firmly bound, forever free.*

CCLI #155662

*The Benediction

*The Benediction Response 666 "Shalom to You"

*Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.*

CCLI #155662

*The Postlude

WELCOME TO WORSHIP on this beautiful spring day that the Lord has made! "Let us rejoice
today and be glad" (Psalm 118:24, NIV).

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