

Church staff:

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Prayer List

Susie Barker
Brendan Barnard
Bill Carter
Catherine Cartus
Scott Combs
Vernon Crawford
Ernie & Jo Cross
Kristen Daniels
The Deakins family
Fran Dennison
Hank Devault
Vivian Eckerson
Jim Furches
Alex Garrison
Ben Gouge
Juanita Gray
Nannie Green
Tom Holmes
Traci Honeycutt
Deb King
Linda Kostreva
Robert Lee
James Lessly
Roy & Sharyn Lessly
Mary Lewis
Barbara Marrs
David McElveen
Betty McGaha
John Melendez & family
Tom Palmer
JoAnne Paty
Bob & Athena Peebles
Cathie Rosecrance
Judy Rust
Samantha Sams
Mary Shomaker
Nancy Stevenson
Summer Strasser
Phil Torbett
Doris Welch
Family Promise
Brother's Keeper
Haven of Mercy
Kairos Ministry
Afghanistan
Haiti
Hurricane victims &
workers



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP GUIDE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prelude "Voluntary in D Minor: Op. 5, No. 8" John Stanley

Call to worship

Leader: God spoke these words: I am the Lord your God; you shall have no other gods before me.

People: The Lord is God; there is no other.

Leader: The Lord is the true God, the living God, and the everlasting King.

People: O Lord, there is none like You, neither is there any God besides You.

Leader: By God all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominions, or rulers or authorities- all things were created by God and for God.

People: You, O God, are great, and do wondrous things: You are God alone.

Invocation

Hymn of Praise

"The God of Abraham Praise"

Gospel Reading	Mark 12:28-34	
Morning Prayer & Lord's Prayer		
Hymn of Reflection	"You Are My All In All"	
Ministry Moment		
Doxology		
Old Testament Reading	1 Kings 18:1-2, 17-40	
Sermon	"One True God"	Rev. Jodie Ihfe
Prayer of Confession		
	Most merciful God,	
	we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.	
	<i>(a time of silent reflection)</i>	
The Nicene Creed	#880	
Hymn of Commitment	"You Are God Alone"	
Benediction		
Postlude	"Song of Love"	Vivian Eckerson

Today's accompanist is Vivian Eckerson.

COVID-19 Response Update

The Church Reopening Team met again on September 7 in response to the continued significant increase in COVID-19 cases in our community. We understand that continuing to meet in person is important to the members of our church. In order to do so safely, we are continuing the following protocols for anyone planning to attend any church activities in person over the next few weeks:

- We ask that anyone, regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask at all times during indoor activities.
- We ask that everyone please spread out in all gathering spaces to allow for proper social distancing between households.
- We will be pausing congregational singing temporarily.
- We ask that meals take place outside with appropriate social distancing.

In addition, it was decided that Wednesday Niter Programming will be postponed until January. We will revisit this decision next month if there is a sharp decline in new cases of COVID in the community. Youth and children's activities will continue using established COVID protocols.

We are asking that groups such as Youth/Children, UMW circles and Sunday School classes keep records of attendance at all gatherings to allow contact tracing in the event that a participant tests positive for COVID and exposes others during the gathering.

In the event that a group is exposed to a person who tests positive, those present at the event should be informed of the exposure (while maintaining appropriate privacy for all members of the group.) The person who tested positive should wait 10 days from the test date before returning to church activities (based on CDC guidelines.) Groups that meet off-site should establish appropriate protocols and communicate expectations to the group prior to the event.

We continue to recommend these safety protocols because we have vulnerable populations that cannot be vaccinated and those who are already vaccinated can still be at risk for serious illness from this virus. This is especially true for people with certain underlying health conditions.

We are hopeful that these actions will be temporary and hope that COVID numbers will start to decline soon.

Sympathy is extended to:

Anna & Karl Kapoor in the death of Anna's cousin, Wilbur West, who passed away on August 24.

Family & friends of Eddie Brittain, who passed away on September 6.

Mission and Outreach Opportunities

- **UMCOR Cleaning Kits and Hygiene Kits** for victims of natural disasters: please leave all donations in the print room by September 30
- **Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes**: due by November 14