



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

695 E. Calvin Street, Fayetteville, AR 72703 • (479) 442-4411 • www.fupcfay.org

May 10, 2026

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

Bo Morton and Lindley Ramsey

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Stewart Smith

CHILDREN'S CHORAL INTROIT

Come! Come! Everybody Worship
Words and Music by Natalie Sleeth

Children's Choir & Youth
Jeffrey Kerst, guitar

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Stewart Smith

Leader: Like the tender mother who supports a child's first steps,

People: God guides us along our steps through life.

Leader: Like the loving mother who gathers us into her lap,

People: God holds us in our time of need.

Leader: Like an intuitive mother who seems to sense our needs,

People: God's compassion and mercy are always surrounding us.

Leader: In many ways and with many faces,

People: God is loving us. This day and every day!

Unison: Then let us lift our voices in praise as we worship the living and loving God!

*HYMN

Faith of Our Mothers

Use bulletin or screens

Words by Arthur Bardwell Patten, 1920

Music by Henri Frederick Hem, 1864

**Faith of our mothers, living still
in cradle song and bedtime prayer;
In nursery lore and fireside love,
your presence still pervades the air.
Faith of our mothers, living faith,
We will be true to you till death.**

**Faith of our mothers, loving faith,
fount of our childhood's trust and grace,
O, may your consecration prove
source of a finer, nobler race.
Faith of our mothers, loving faith,
We will be true to you till death.**

**Faith of our mothers, guiding faith,
for youthful longing, youthful doubt,
how blurred our vision, blind our way,
your providential care without.
Faith of our mothers, guiding faith,
We will be true to you till death.**

*LITANY FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Amanda McDonald

Leader: Mothers come in many different forms, and today we celebrate them all!

People: Thank You God, for mothers!

Leader: Everyone here is a son or a daughter.

People: I thank God for my mother!

Leader: For those women who have joined God in heaven and whom we miss dearly here on earth,

People: We thank God for the mothers of the past.

Leader: For every woman who is working night and day to raise her children right now,

People: We thank God for the mothers of today.

Leader: For all the women who are carrying, preparing for, or praying for children,

People: We thank God for the soon to be mothers.

Leader: For the women who love and care for children through adoption and foster care,

People: We thank God for the mothers with hearts so big.

Leader: For those women who have lost a child to death and must carry on,

People: We pray for Your continued healing presence in their lives.

Leader: For all women who have desperately wanted to have children but were unable,

People: Comfort and sustain them by Your loving presence.

Leader: For those that did not give birth to us but showered us with love and wisdom,

People: We give You thanks for the many ways they influenced our lives.

Unison: We thank you Lord, for all the women who have influenced our lives in so many ways.

We pray that we will honor them in everything we do.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*seated, unison*)

Sabra Martin

God of compassion, we confess that in our busyness we do not always know love. We forget whose we are and to whom we belong. We get caught up in what we know, what we want, putting our desires ahead of everyone and everything else. We are led astray by many voices and pursuits, and worship idols of our own making.

Forgive us, O God, for words that hurt, actions that destroy, knowledge that belittles, additions that consume. Forgive us when our pride and self-righteousness build walls in our relationship with You, our family, and our friends and neighbors. Forgive us, when we prioritize possessions, pursuits, or relationships that push our relationship with You aside. Renew us. Remind us of what is important. Restore in us a proper perspective on those things that which have a tendency to become idols. ... (Silent Confession) ... Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE #471 (verse 1)**

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Glory to God

Words by The Taizé Community, France

Music by Jacques Berthier

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.

[repeat]

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also, with you.

CHILDREN'S SONG #591

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Glory to God

Traditional Caribbean Song

Hal-le, Hal-le, Hallelujah! Hal-le, Hal-le, Hallelujah!

Hal-le, Hal-le, hallelujah! hallelujah! hallelujah!

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Rev. Stewart Smith

ANTHEM

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Chancel Choir

Words By Ray Palmer; Music by Lowell Mason

SungKun Jung. piano

Arranged by Jay Rouse

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!

Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away,

O let me from this day be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;

as Thou hast died for me, O may my love to Thee

pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be Thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll.
blest Savior, then in love, fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Stewart Smith

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 17:22-31

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.' ²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

SERMON

The Fine Line Between Reverence and Idolatry

Rev. Stewart Smith

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

I Will Lift Mine Eyes Unto the Hills (Psalm 121)
Music by Cathy Moklebust

Bells on the Hill
Pam Gilbreath, director

*I will lift mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh, cometh my help.
My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved; he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.*

*I will lift mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh, cometh my help.
My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.
The Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is thy shade.
The sun shall not smite by day, nor the moon by night.*

*The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; he shall preserve thy soul, preserve thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth,
And even for evermore, evermore, evermore.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Stewart Smith

*RESPONSE #606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Words by Thomas Ken, 1709; Music from The Genevan Psalter, 1551

Glory to God

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Kristi Button

God, in your grace.
You hear our prayers.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Stewart Smith

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Amanda McDonald

***HYMN**

As We Go

Use bulletins or screens

Words and Music by Jeremy Johnson

**As we go, may your Spirit go before us.
As we go, may we follow where you lead.
May we live what we have learned,
share the message we have heard,
and be a light unto the world as we go.**
[Repeat]

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Stewart Smith

PARTICIPANTS

Interim Senior Pastor – Rev. Stewart Smith

Minister of Music/Commissioned Ruling Elder – Isaac Thomas

Director of Christian Education – Kristi Button

Director of Youth and Young Adults Ministries – Amanda McDonald

Audio/Visual Team – Christopher Verdery, Connor Button, and Drew Parker

Choral Interns – Amelia Booker, Cole Jackson, Jeffrey Kerst, Verna Labitad, Aiden Thompson

Worship Band – Nina Andrews (drums), Rob Button (guitar), Dennis Brewer (guitar), Jeffrey Kerst (bass)

Organist – Xiao McCollum

Pianist/Choral Accompanist – SungKun Jung

Membership Coordinator – Amy McCann

Bells on the Hill (from left to right): Katie Jackson, Jane Steinkraus, Jim Gilbreath, Laurie Reh, Ron Warren, Janet Allured, Marti Woodruff, Cole Jackson, Dave Edmark, Kelly Hadley, Don Steinkraus

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