

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
November 17, 2019
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Welcome: It's time to celebrate, we are in the presence of God.
 We invite you to joyfully prepare your hearts to receive God's love and to
 feel connected to the Body of Christ this day.*

*Please take a moment to sign the pew pads. We'd like to keep you
 informed of what we are doing, so please give us your email, too.*

*Please stand as you are able.
 † 8:45 Worship Only †† 11:00 Worship Only

EIGHT FORTY-FIVE

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

GATHERING AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

VOLUNTARY **Élégie** Louis Vierne
 (1870-1937)

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVELY)**

Leader: We are pulled in many directions.

People: Many duties and tasks seek to lay claim on our lives.

Leader: This day, in this place, let service to God be your choice.

People: This day, in this place, we open our hearts and spirits to God.

Leader: Blessed be the God of creation, who has called us here.

People: Praise be to God, who sustains and nurtures our lives. Amen.

*** PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 100**

God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us LAUDA ANIMA

CALL TO CONFESSION

May we join our hearts and voices together as we come before the Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (IN UNISON)

Heavenly Father, we live by the clock. We think we are ready for all events that will come our way. But we are rarely ready for you. We would like you to come to us at a planned time so that we can fit you into our busy lives. Forgive us, Lord, for trying to make you a scheduled event. Help us to learn that, with you as our focus, all other things pale in comparison. Help us to look at the priorities in our lives, and see where we have placed our relationship with you. Amen.

PERSONAL CONFESSION AND MEDITATION (IN SILENCE)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: In the deepest darkness, in the times when all seems lost, we are not lost to God. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

Alleluia Verse William Bradley Roberts
 (b. 1947)

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

†† TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to gather at the chancel steps.
 Children ages 4 – first grade may then depart
 for Children's Church in Room 304.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (IN UNISON)

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. May there be one voice we hear today—the voice of truth and grace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

James 2:14-17

NT Page 230

†† ANTHEM

Christ Is Our Cornerstone Noel Rawsthorne
 Chancel Choir (1929-2019)

Christ is our cornerstone on him alone we build; with his true saints alone the courts of heaven are filled; on his great love our hopes we place of present grace and joy above. Here, gracious God, do thou for evermore draw nigh; accept each faithful vow, and mark each suppliant sigh; in copious shower on all who pray each holy day thy blessings pour. O then with hymns of praise these hallowed courts shall ring; our voices will we raise the Three in One to sing; and thus proclaim in joyful song, both loud and long that glorious name.
-Latin, 7th century; trans. John Chandler (1806-1876)

*** GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 25:14-30

NT Page 28

SERMON "If God Owns It All, Then What Am I Doing With It?"

Rev. Ross Carter

CALL TO PRAYER

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your support of the mission and ministry of the church. If you would prefer to make your contribution via Text-to-Give, just text your offering amount to FSUMC's dedicated number, 336-489-GIVE (4483).

OFFERTORY

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Alan Bullard

Charlie Taylor, baritone

(b. 1947)

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation; I hear the clear though far-off hymn that hails a new creation. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing; it finds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing? What though the tempest loudly roars, I know my Savior liveth; although the darkness binds me close, deep in the night sweet songs he giveth. His inner peace makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing; since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

-Robert Lowry (1826-1899)

*** DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

All Singing: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 UMH No. 94

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (IN UNISON)**

O Lord, our God, you are completely righteous and good. In Christ, you call us to worship you in spirit and truth. Help us to continue to connect our faith with our daily actions. As we do, let our lives and offerings be pleasing in your sight. We pray through Christ your Son. Amen.

*** HYMN No. 581 Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service**

BEACH SPRING

*** PRONOUNCEMENT OF BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Carillon de Longpont

Louis Vierne

WELCOME! We're glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Following the 11:00 a.m. service, there is a gathering in the Heritage Center for fellowship and refreshments. Please join us. Our hosts this week are Lee and Jeannie Proctor.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in memory of Wayne, LaJune, and Bill Vaught by Henry and Jenna Johnson.

We thank the following for their service during our worship service:

	8:45	11:00
Lay Reader:	Nancy Bell	Phil Minton
Acolytes:	Ethan Rodriguez	Ava and Layne Pittard
Crucifer:	Henry Lakey	Claire Piatt

MEMBERS OF THE ALTAR GUILD serving in November are Martha Brannock, Chris Presley, and Linda Weavil.

THE PRAYER REQUEST CARDS in the pews may be placed in the offering or in the prayer request boxes in the reading area and the narthex area, or you may email the Prayer Ministry Team at prayer@frontstreetumc.org. We thank team member Kathy Cecil, who will be in the Prayer Room on our behalf at noon to pray for requests given on the prayer request cards.

POINSETTIA ORDERS

Today is the deadline for poinsettia orders. Order forms are available in the Welcome Center and on the church website.

FRONT STREET PLAYSCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Playschool is hosting the Sixth Annual Holiday Marketplace **today** from **2 - 5 p.m.** in Aldersgate Hall. Admission is free. Come browse and get a jump on Christmas shopping, or find something special for yourself!

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Our stewardship focus this year is "Living & Giving." It's a great theme, because it reminds us that stewardship isn't only about our finances, it's also about how we live as we share our time and talent. We will come together for worship on **Sunday, November 24** for **Pledge Sunday**, and lay our financial pledges on the altar rail. After the 11 a.m. worship service, we will enjoy a covered dish meal. A pledge card and letter were mailed earlier this month.

FAMILY ADVENT WORKSHOP | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Today is the last day to register for the Family Advent Workshop. This workshop is for all ages. A nursery will be provided for 0-3 year olds. Visit www.frontstreetumc.org to register and for details.

C4C UPCOMING EVENT

Front Street is providing turkeys for some families at Eastlawn Elementary (our C4C partner school). Turkeys are \$20. Make checks payable to Front Street UMC with "turkey" on the memo-line, and turn into the church office by **November 24**. Also, volunteers are needed to assist with delivering the turkeys to Eastlawn on **Monday, November 25 at 9:00 a.m.** Please contact Marcy at marcy@frontstreetumc.org to volunteer.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM

Would your child like to participate in our 5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Eve service? Speaking and non-speaking parts are available. Be a narrator or dress up as a character in the nativity story. Please contact Ms. Marcy (marcy@frontstreetumc.org) by **December 1** if your child is interested or to learn more.

BOXED LUNCH FUNDRAISER – DECEMBER 8

Support our adult mission team by purchasing a boxed lunch containing delicious soup, sandwich (your choice of turkey & cheese or roast beef & cheese), chips, and a cookie. Lunches are \$10 a box. Quarts of soup (chicken & vegetable with a tomato base) are also available for \$7.50. Money raised will support the Front Street adult mission team as they travel to the Dominican Republic in January 2020, where they will serve with Mission of Hope. Simply place your order by **December 6** at www.frontstreetumc.org, and pick up your lunch following 11:00 a.m. worship on **December 8**. Paper forms are also available in the Welcome Center.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Date	8:45	Aldersgate	11:00	Total
10/20	35	23	190	248
10/27	62	40	175	277
11/3	0	59	228	287
11/10	57	56	165	278

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17, 2019

Sunday, November 17

8:45	Worship Service	Sanctuary
8:45	Contemporary Worship Service	Aldersgate Hall
9:45	Sunday School	Classrooms
11:00	Worship Service	Sanctuary
12:00	Bible Buddies/Lunch	Room 307
2:00	Playschool Annual Holiday Marketplace	Aldersgate Hall
4:00	Financial Peace	Room 301
4:00	Children's Choir	Sanctuary
4:00	Youth Choir	Choir Room
5:00	Wesley Ringers	Room 406
5:00	Youth Bells	Bell Room
6:00	UMYF/Confirmation	Aldersgate Hall

Tuesday, November 19

7:30	Men's Breakfast Bible Study	Reading Area
9:30	Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study	Room 305
6:15	Epworth Ringers	Bell Room
7:00	Financial Peace	Room 401

Wednesday, November 20

7:15	Youth Breakfast Club/Junior High	Dr. Cecil's Office
7:30	Youth Breakfast Club/Senior High	1711 Sykes St.
6:00	Aldersgate Praise Band	Aldersgate Hall
7:00	Chancel Choir	Choir Room

Thursday, November 21

9:30	Prayer & Meditation	Prayer Room
10:00	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Room 405
6:30	Mission Team Meeting	John Wesley Room

Sunday, November 24

8:45	Worship Service/Pledge Sunday	Sanctuary
8:45	Contemporary Worship Service/Pledge Sunday	Aldersgate Hall
9:45	Sunday School	Classrooms
11:00	Worship Service/Pledge Sunday	Sanctuary
12:00	Church-wide Covered Dish Lunch	Aldersgate Hall
1:00	Family Advent Workshop	Aldersgate Hall
4:00	Children's Choir	Sanctuary
4:00	Youth Choir	Choir Room
5:00	Wesley Ringers	Room 406
5:00	Youth Bells	Bell Room
6:00	UMYF/Confirmation	Aldersgate Hall

LIVE-STREAMING

We are pleased to be able to live-stream our 11:00 a.m. worship each week for the benefit of those who are not able to be physically present. For those who would prefer to not be on camera, we endeavor to make the back half of the Sanctuary a non-video zone. The balcony is also available for non-video seating. If you have any questions about this service, please feel free to speak with Pastor Ross.

FRONT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our Mission:

Knowing Christ • Growing in Christ • Sharing Christ



Pastors

Rev. Ross Carter
Rev. Patrick Murphy

Youth Minister

Chris Huneycutt

Organist/Director of Music

Dr. Matt Brittain

Choirmaster

Laura J. Sam

Director of Children's Ministries

Marcella Z. McAdams