



First Pres Maumee
LOVE FIRST

October 1, 2023, 9:00 Modern Service

Living Out God's Kingdom: God creates, we respond in love

World Communion Sunday

GOD'S PEOPLE OF HOPE GATHER

Song of Proclamation: "Let the Nations Be Glad"

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Clint Tolbert

Song of Praise: "All Praise to Him"

WE APPROACH OUR HOLY GOD

*Prayer of Confession

Pastor Jason Armstrong

One: Gracious Lord, you created the world and called it good, but because of sin, we look out and see division and suffering both near and far. You call us to share peace and to live in unity, yet we confess our slowness to open our hearts to people of other lands, tongues, and races. You call us to love the least of these, yet too often it is easy to turn our backs and allow others to struggle alone.

All: Forgive us, Lord. Take away from us that which causes fear and division; grow in us the fruit of your Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control. Help us to see one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, each person made in your image. Work in us as we move toward the day when all are truly one in Jesus Christ.

(Silence for personal confession.)

Assurance of Pardon & Passing of the Peace

Song of Prayer: "Show Us Christ"

Children's Church Sending – information located under Worship Notes.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Exodus 3:1-15 (p. 57)

Song of Exhortation: "Only a Holy God"

Sermon: "Who Am I?"

Pastor Clint Tolbert

WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO THE LORD

Additional information about communion service, prayer, and giving is located under Worship Notes.

Celebrating the Lord's Supper

Song of Exhortation: "Behold the Lamb (Communion Hymn)"

Prayers for God's People & the Lord's Prayer (see insert for additional languages)

Giving

Life of the Church Announcement

Song of Proclamation: "Christ the True and Better"

GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S OWN CHILDREN

Charge and Blessing

Please join us for Fellowship Hour downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after the service.

WORSHIP NOTES

COMMUNION SERVICE TODAY

As we share in the celebration of the Lord's Supper today, those wishing to receive communion will be coming forward, down the center aisle, to receive the elements from the table. Please pick up a cup of bread and a cup of juice and return to your seat (by way of the side aisle) to partake of the elements. For those who moving to the front is not as easy to do, please remain in your seats. Communion Servers will be stationed in the side aisles and will come and serve you.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. The Holy Spirit connects us as a body of Christ through time and space, through cultures and nationalities. Every person who comes to the table, proclaiming Jesus as Savior, is connected by the Holy Spirit at this moment. There are no barriers due to language, culture, race – the Holy Spirit removes all barriers.

On World Communion Sunday, as we reaffirm the promises of our baptism and recommit ourselves to serve God and others in our world, we also will remember that our church family is part of the global Church. This Sunday in worship, we will hear praises and prayers in other languages, and have the Lord's Prayer written and available in French, Spanish, Russian, and German for our time of prayer. We continue to await the time when we are all gathered around the feast in heaven – every nation, tribe, and tongue.

GIVING

The Christian life is an offering of one's self to God. One of the ways we respond to Christ's call to discipleship is by returning some of the financial provision that God has provided to us. Please make your tithes and offerings for the work of the church by giving as you depart the sanctuary, mailing a check to the church office, or by using the “give” button at the top right-hand corner of the church website. A QR code is also available on the giving card in the pews.

PRAYER

If you have a joy or concern that you would like to share with us, so that others can be in prayer with you, please fill out one of our prayer cards (found in the pews or the prayer room) and bring your completed card to one of our prayer team members, located in the prayer room on Sunday mornings. If no one is available at that time, you may leave your card in the prayer box outside of the prayer room.

To learn and pray in greater detail for those who are named in the service, please visit “First Pres in Prayer” in the FYI Newsletter.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH & NURSERY

Children ages four through fifth grade are invited to join Mrs. Axford (Director of Family Ministries) and our adult leaders for Children's Church (a time for child-engaging worship activities). We will send the children off to church with a song of prayer (*Show Us Christ*) prior to the sermon. They will return prior to communion. If this is your child's first time in Children's Church, please go with them to meet Mrs. Axford. The nursery is staffed during the entire service for infants through age three.