



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

907 West Lake Drive, PO Box 530, Taylor, Texas 76574
512-352-2593

For updates sent via text message: please text @fumctaylor to number 81010
Email: office@fumctaylor.org

WORSHIP SERVICE
10:30 am Traditional

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE
www.facebook.com/fumctaylor
YouTube #fumctaylor

PRAYER, DEVOTION, JOYS AND CONCERNS
9:30 am via [ZOOM](#)
Meeting ID: 982-9669-2304
Phone# 346-248-7799

First United Methodist Church

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

May 2, 2021 – 10:30 A.M.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Welcome! Thank you for worshiping with us this morning. Whether you are a first-time visitor or long-time member, we're glad you are here. (*Stand, if able.)

GATHER IN ANTICIPATION & PRAISE OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Respond in Bold)**

Christ is alive. He is risen from the dead.

The Holy One calls us to worship and praise.

Baptized with the power of the Holy Spirit,

we live with Christ in our hearts.

Clap your hands and shout to God

with loud songs of joy.

Sing praises to God, who fills the world with forgiveness and grace.

***OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)**

Blessed are you, Holy One, creator of all that is and all that ever will be. You sent your holy child, Jesus, to heal us and bless us, to show us your love. After his suffering and death on the cross, he was still among us, proclaiming repentance and forgiveness of sins for all who call on his name. Just as you sent the power of the Holy Spirit to those who first believed, fill us now with your power and grace, that we may become the hands and feet, and heart and spirit, of Christ. Amen.

***HYMN**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

UMH # 384

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown!

Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art.

Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast.

Let us all in thee inherit, let us find that second rest.

Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be.

End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive.
Suddenly return and never, never more they temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Tiffany Charles

JOYS & CONCERNS *(Currently shared during Zoom gathering at 9:30 a.m.)*

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Sela Finau

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen”

***HYMN**

“O How I Love Jesus ”

UMH # 170

1. There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;
it sounds like music in my ear, the sweetest name on earth.

Refrain: O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!

2. It tells me of a Savior's love, who died to set me free;
it tells me of his precious blood, the sinner's perfect plea. [Refrain]

3. It tells of one whose loving heart can feel my deepest woe;
who in each sorrow bears a part that none can bear below. [Refrain]

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of the far-flung universe and God who is closer than our own
heartbeat: we long to dwell in your closeness, abiding in you and you
abiding in us. However, the call to abide in other places is strong: to abide
in the world of popularity and acceptance or in the world of increasing
wealth and power centered around our own wants and desires. As we offer
our gifts and ourselves to you, help us turn away from other calls and
abide in that place of heart's deepest desire: in your Son, Jesus, and he in
us. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH UMH #881**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***GLORY PATRI**

UMH#70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

1 John 4:7-21

Rev. Sela Finau

SERMON

“God is Love”

Rev. Sela Finau

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**INVITATION** All are welcome at the Lord’s Table.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.**

Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to God.

Let us give our thanks to the Holy One.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is a right, good, and a joyful thing,
always and everywhere, to give our thanks to you,
Holy One, our God, Maker of all that is,
and all that ever will be.
We give you thanks for showing us your power
in the ancient stories of your people, Israel,
and in the new stories of hope
that are happening all around us.
We give you thanks for revealing yourself to us
in your holy child, Jesus,
for making us into members of his holy body,
the church, and for calling us to witness
to the power of your grace.
And so, with your creatures on earth
and all the heavenly chorus,
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 the one
who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and holy is your child, Jesus Christ,
who lived, died, and appeared again to his friends
in Jerusalem, risen from the dead,
telling them to proclaim repentance
and the forgiveness of sins to all nations;
and now lives in those who are called by his name.

On the night in which he gave himself up,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying:
“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,
offered thanks and gave it to the disciples, saying:
“Drink from this, all of you;
this is my life in 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 your mighty acts
in Jesus Christ, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be the body of Christ
to a world that yearns for joy.

God of all creation, powerful Spirit, Savior of all,
we praise your holy, eternal, loving name. **Amen.**

(Please remain seated while communion is being served. Each family will receive 1 roll and 1 juice bottle. Please notify an usher if you need gluten free elements.)

Communion offering for May will go towards Benevolent Giving. You may place your communion offering in the basket.

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION *(In unison)*

Triune God, you have fed us with the love of Christ, uniting us with you, filling us with the power that raised Jesus from the dead. Send us, rejoicing, to declare in hearts, and hands, and voices, that day has dawned, and Christ is alive. Amen.

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN OF INVITATION**

“Christ Is Alive ”

UMH # 318

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily, in the midst of life, our Savior in the God-head reigns.
4. In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
He suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.
5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth all creation ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Sela Finau

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal) the red hymnal.

Ways you can give:

1. Contact your bank to setup autodraft.
2. Mail a check to FUMC, P.O. Box 530, Taylor, Texas 76574.
3. Give online at www.fumctaylor.org/give.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Sela Finau, Pastor

Debby Vester, Organist & Director of Music Ministry

Tiffany Charles, Children's Time

Marsha Beckermann, Jim Curik, Clayton Cobb Liturgists &
Communion Servers

HOW TO JOIN FUMC TAYLOR

Are you being led to become a part of this fellowship of believers? Do you desire to grow in the likeness of Jesus Christ? We invite you to join as a full member of the FUMC family! While the closing hymn is sung, you may come forward and make a commitment to follow Jesus through his local body of FUMC Taylor in prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness. Please also send us a message to office@fumctaylor.org.

For Pastoral emergencies, outside of office hours, please contact
Rev. Finau at 817-874-3533.

Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance,
Offertory Prayer credit to Ministry Matters and UMC Discipleship.

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