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## ***FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH***

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For updates sent via text message: please text @fumctaylor to number 81010

Email: [office@fumctaylor.org](mailto:office@fumctaylor.org)

### **WORSHIP SERVICE**

10:30 am Traditional

### **ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

[www.facebook.com/fumctaylor](https://www.facebook.com/fumctaylor)

YouTube #fumctaylor

# First United Methodist Church

*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*

August 22, 2021 – 10:30 A.M.

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)**

L: Though storms rage around me, I will clothe myself with the whole armor of God.

**P: I will fasten the belt of truth about my waist.**

L: I will place strength and determination as my shoes to aid me in my ministry and mission for God.

**P: I will take up the shield of faith with which I shall defend against evil ways.**

L: I will pray diligently at all times, offering prayers and supplication to God.

**P: The helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit will accompany my on my journey.**

L: Be strong in the Lord who provides for your every need.

**P: I place my confidence and trust in God always. Amen.**

#### **\*OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)**

In the beauty of this place, we have come to pray, to worship, to receive healing and hope. We come from the struggles and triumphs of the week, needing to feel the soothing presence of God. Lord, be with us this day. Calm and soothe our souls. Cause us to rejoice that you have provided a special place where we may gather to talk of your presence and love; to sing your praises; and to be empowered to go forth to serve you. Amen.

#### **\*HYMN**

“Standing on the Promises of Christ”

UMH # 374

#### **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**

"Wonderful Words of Life"

UMH # 600

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of power and might: Through the ages, you have reminded us through prophets and apostles that we are called to battle – not with one another, but against the powers of darkness and evil. It is this battle that sends children to bed with empty bellies, while others have so much food it damages their health. It is the battle that imprisons those whose only crime is poverty, while those with more than they could ever spend lose sleep scheming how to get more. As we make our gifts to you this day, may we remember on which side we're on. In the precious, loving name of 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.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Patient Lord, we are a culture that wants the quick and easy answers to all of life's problems. We want to be able to open the Bible and place our fingers on the passage that will answer all our questions and heal all our hurts. It is difficult for us to deal with the knowledge that discipleship requires patience and perseverance. Jesus' own disciples struggled with his teachings. It took a long time for them to understand fully what Jesus was saying and how they were to respond. We are no different. The words of Jesus take time for us to comprehend. Forgive us, Lord, when we are so impatient; when we just want to "get on with it", and be where the action is. Help us to understand the commitment we make in discipleship, through the rocky times and the smooth seas alike. Push us in our ministry of help and compassion to do more than we ever thought we could do in helping others. Give to us that extra measure of faith and commitment that we may truly serve you by serving others. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Even though you doubt and question, God's love is poured on you, in you, and through you to others. Rest assured in God's presence and love for you, that will never fail or abandon you. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are healed, restored, and forgiven. Amen.

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

### **SCRIPTURE**

Ephesians 6:10-20

### **SERMON**

"Equipped and Ready"

Rev. Sela Finau

## **RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

### **\*HYMN OF INVITATION**

"Onward Christian Soldiers"

UMH # 575

### **\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Sela Finau

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal – 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](http://www.fumctaylor.org/give).

## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Rev. Sela Finau, Pastor

Debby Vester, Organist & Director of Music Ministry

Tiffany Charles, Director of Children's Ministry & Mother's Day Out

## **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](mailto: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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