

Worship Service

*** indicates that the people should stand, if able.*

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS & SHARING THE PEACE IN NEW WAYS

PRELUDE, BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

****OPENING SONG** *“Now Thank We all our God”* #102

****THE CALL TO WORSHIP** Liturgist – Wade Stremsterfer

Leader: The time for harvest is close at hand. What have you done with the gifts God has given you?

People: We have brought our gifts to the house of the Lord.

Leader: Praise God for the gifts and for opportunities for service that they represent.

People: We praise God for all the ways in which our lives have been blessed.

Leader: Generous God, accept our gifts and our lives this day.

People: Loving God, accept our praise and gratitude.

ALL: AMEN

CARES AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please hold these people in your prayers:

<i>Charlotte Lenhart</i>	<i>Dixie Hickenbottom</i>	<i>Diane Reiff</i>	<i>Carrie Brownlee</i>
<i>Jim Eklund</i>	<i>Marj Evans</i>	<i>Robert Snow</i>	<i>Jack Polonsky</i>
<i>Judy White</i>	<i>Joseph Lipichok</i>	<i>Carol Jones</i>	<i>Mary Vehslage</i>
<i>Ruth Leazer</i>	<i>Irene Stagers</i>	<i>Dale Noe</i>	<i>Sharon Flinspach</i>
<i>Luann Davis</i>	<i>Dick Eklund</i>	<i>Rosalie Cochran Thompson</i>	
<i>The Family of Larry Keller</i>			

Lord,
We lift in prayer all these we have named. We also ask for your mercy for all those who suffer both near and far. There is fighting in many parts of the world and at home. We lift up the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine. There is discord and polarization at home. Everywhere there are those who are ill, as well as the friends and family who stand with them. People have suffered loss of friends and loved ones. Others have lost homes or peace of mind, either from violence, natural disasters, economic hardships, or accidents. For all those suffering from grief, anxiety, depression, or suffering from abuse, and living in fear, intercede for us, our rock and our redeemer.

Children’s Message

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Judges 4:1-7

****SONG OF PRAISE** *“Lord I Need You”*

OFFERING

You can send your tithes, offerings and pledge cards to:

First United Methodist Church

201 North Court Street

Fairfield, IA 52556

****Doxology** UMH #95

****Offertory Prayer**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“You Raise Me Up with Be Still, My Soul”

FUMC Choir

Lovland/Graham and Sibelius/Von Schlegel

**GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 25:14-30

MESSAGE

– **Pastor Al**

****CLOSING SONG** *“My Lighthouse”*

**BLESSING AND SENDING

**SUNG BENEDICTION

Serving You in Worship

Minister: Pastor Al Coffin

Youth Director: Elly Stremsterfer

Lay Leader: Carrie Brownlee

Liturgist: Wade Stremsterfer

Choir Director: Jim Edgeton

Song Leader: Fred Hucke

Organist/Pianists: LeAnne Edgeton, Emily McIntyre

Sound & Tech Team: Cole Boatright, Carrie Brownlee, Greg Dorrell, Sharon Flinspach, Frazer Jones, and Gary Roth

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Al Coffin, coffinal2010@gmail.com, 319-899-4945

Youth Director: Elly Stremsterfer, ellystrem@gmail.com, 641-919-7840

Church Office: 201 North Court Street, Fairfield, IA 52556, 641-472-4303

Church Email: fumcfairfieldfirst@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fumcfairfieldfirst>

Fairfield First United Methodist Church

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/fairfield1stumc/>

Website: fairfieldmethodistchurch.org

Weekly Radio Broadcast: 10:35 a.m. on 1570AM-KMCD

Prayer Link: Email or call the church office

Reflection Questions for next week

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

- What are some of the other passages where things are divinely sorted? When you look at those passages, what are the criteria for being in one category or the other?
- Is this passage from Matthew akin to works righteousness? Why or why not?
- In the Ezekial passage, the sheep are in one flock, but some are lean, and some are fat. How do we exploit fellow members of our flock. Getting fat at their expense? What are we willing to do to change that?
- Part of what happens in the divine sorting is that some are gathered and some are scattered. What does it mean to be gathered in by God? What about scattered?
- Note how the categories in Matthew 25 (hungry, thirsty, naked, etc.) are consistent throughout the biblical narrative. Look at Isaiah 58:7, Ezekiel 18:7, and Job 31:32, for example. What do you make of consistency of these categories?
- Contrast Christ's rule with that of current earthly "kings."

First United Methodist Church



Fairfield, Iowa

*Our Mission:
Knowing Christ
Sharing His Love
Helping Others
to Know Him*

*Sunday, November 19, 2023
10:35 a.m. In-Person,
YouTube LIVE!
& Radio Broadcast*



Hearing assist devices are available in the sound room.