

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1610 Prince Street, Conway, Arkansas, 501-329-3801, www.conwayfumc.org

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 18, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE WELCOME

Prelude

O Innocent Lamb of God, BWV Deest J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Introit Behold the Lamb of God G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world.

—John 1

The Call to Worship

Officiant Sisters and brothers, rejoice. We live sustained by God's presence and love.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant As we mourn the wounds of God's children,

People **God weeps with us.**

Officiant As we give thanks for brothers and sisters who have lived in faith,

People **God gives thanks with us.**

Officiant As we struggle for justice,

People **God struggles with us.**

Officiant As we strive for peace,

People **God strives with us.**

Officiant As we work to build the beloved community,

People **God works with us.**

Officiant As we offer our gifts to all,

People **God blesses us.**

Officiant Sisters and brothers, rejoice.

People **Sustained by God's presence and love we worship God.**

* **Hymn 566** Blest be the dear uniting love *Evan*

The Confession and Pardon, said by all

Most merciful God, we your Church confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ. Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us, where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him, forgive us, we pray; and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Officiant

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. But Christ suffered and died for us, was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us, and continues to intercede for us. Believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

The Prayer for Illumination, *said by all, seated*

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word

proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today.
Amen.

The Scripture Lesson

1 John 4:7–12

Reader The word of God for the people of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 40, Hymnal p. 774

The Psalm antiphon is sung first by the psalmist, then by all.

* **Hymn 398** Jesus calls us o'er the tumult *Galilee*

* **The Gospel Lesson** *Matthew 18:12–14*

Pastor The Gospel of Jesus Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon *God's Initiative*

Affirmation of Faith, Hymnal, 881

Concerns and Prayers, *all seated*

The Lord's Prayer, text at Hymn 270

The Offering

Anthem

Dear Lord and Father of mankind C.H.H. Parry (1848-1918)

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways; reclothe us in our rightful mind; in purer lives, thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise. In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word, rise up and follow thee. Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our striving cease: take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace. Breathe

*through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still small voice of calm!*

– John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892)

*Text “Give” to 501-500-5335
or place cash or a check in the offering plate
or scan the QR code.*



As the offering is presented, the following hymn is sung by all:

*** Hymn 95**

Old 100th

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

THE SENDING FORTH

*** Hymn 292** What wondrous love is this? *Wondrous Love*

The Dismissal with Blessing

Officiant The peace of Christ be with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Response Precious Name William Doane (1832–1915)

Take the Name of Jesus with you, child of sorrow and of woe; it will joy and comfort give you; take it then, wherever you go. Precious Name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of heaven.

– Lydia Baxter (1809–1874)

Postlude

O Innocent Lamb of God, BWV 656.3

J. S. Bach

Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love 566

1. Blest be the dear u - nit - ing love that
 2. Joined in one spir - it to our Head, where
 3. O may we ev - er walk in him, and
 4. We all are one who him re - ceive, and
 5. Par - tak - ers of the Sav - ior's grace, the

will not let us part; our bod - ies may far
 he ap - points we go, and still in Je - sus'
 noth - ing know be - side, noth - ing de - sire, noth -
 each with each a - gree, in him the One, the
 same in mind and heart, nor joy, nor grief, nor

off re - move, we still are one in heart.
 foot - steps tread, and do his work be - low.
 ing es - teem, but Je - sus cru - ci - fied!
 Truth, we live; blest point of u - ni - ty!
 time, nor place, nor life, nor death can part.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1742 (1 Cor. 2:2)
 MUSIC: William Havergal, 1847; arr. by Lowell Mason, 1850

EVAN
CMUNITED IN CHRIST, *see further:*

646 Canticle of Love

114 Many Gifts, One Spirit

Psalm 40:1-11

RESPONSE (*General*)

Ps. 40:11

Don E. Saliers

O Lord, do not withhold your mercy;
let your steadfast love preserve me.

R

- ¹ I waited patiently for the Lord,
 who inclined to me and heard my cry.
- ² The Lord drew me up from the desolate pit,
 out of the miry bog,
 set my feet upon a rock,
 making my steps secure.
- ³ The Lord put a new song in my mouth,
 a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and be in awe,
 and put their trust in the Lord. R

4 Blessed are those who make
the Lord their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods!

5 O Lord my God, you have multiplied your wondrous deeds
and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you!
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be numbered.

6 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;
but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt offering and sin offering
you have not required.

7 Then I said, "Lo, I come;
in the roll of the book it is written of me;

8 I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart." R

9 I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congregation;
lo, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, O Lord.

10 I have not hid your saving help within my heart,
I have spoken of your faithfulness
and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and faithfulness
from the great congregation.

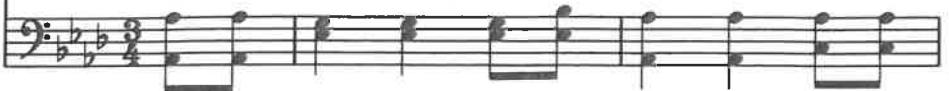
11 O Lord, do not withhold
your mercy from me,
let your steadfast love and faithfulness
ever preserve me! R

Jesus Calls Us

398



1. Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
 2. As of old the a - pos - tles heard it by the
 3. Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 4. In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 5. Je - sus calls us! By thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in
 may we hear thy call, give our hearts to



sweet voice sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me!"
 toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
 that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more!"
 cares and plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these!"
 thine o - be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.



WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1852 (Mt. 4:18-22)
 MUSIC: William H. Jude, 1874

GALILEE
 87.87

292 What Wondrous Love Is This

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
 2. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
 3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
 4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,

what what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and

won-drous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to
 won-drous love is this, that caused the Lord of life to
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM, while
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, and

bear the dread-ful curse for my soul, for my soul, to
 lay a - side his crown for my soul, for my soul, to
 mil-lions join the theme I will sing, I will sing; while
 through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

WORDS: USA folk hymn

MUSIC: USA folk hymn; harm. by Paul J. Christiansen, 1955

Harm. © 1955, renewed 1983 Augsburg Publishing House

WONDROUS LOVE

12 9.12 9

bear the dread - ful curse for my soul.
 lay a - side his crown for my soul.
 mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
 through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Behold the Savior of Mankind

293

Behold the Savior of mankind
 nailed to the shameful tree;
 how vast the love that him inclined
 to bleed and die for thee!

Hark how he groans! while nature shakes,
 and earth's strong pillars bend!
 The temple's veil in sunder breaks,
 the solid marbles rend.

'Tis done! the precious ransom's paid!
 "Receive my soul!" he cries;
 see where he bows his sacred head!
 He bows his head and dies!

But soon he'll break death's envious chain
 and in full glory shine.
 O Lamb of God, was ever pain,
 was ever love like thine?

Written by Samuel Wesley (1662-1735), this is one of the few relics of his papers found after the fire which destroyed the Epworth rectory during the night of February 9, 1709, when his son, young John Wesley, was rescued as a "brand plucked out of the burning." It was first printed in John Wesley's hymnbook *A Collection of Psalms and Hymns* (Charleston, 1737), under the title "On the Crucifixion."



HAPPENINGS



Jan. 18,
2026

Caregivers: Strategize for Joy in 2026!

Join the Caring Connections featured quarterly program* from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, to hear Karen Walker, public speaker and joy strategist.

The program is free: registration is not required. Caregivers in all situations are invited regardless of church affiliation. Meet at the FUMC library by 9:45 to participate in the event. For more information, text Barbara Satterfield with the title Karen Speaks to 501-733-9916.

Karen Walker is a nationally known leadership coach and featured speaker whose programs inspire, challenge and equip people to achieve positive outcomes in work and life situations. Among her wide-ranging presentations, she has conducted area workshops in Conway and Little Rock in a variety of educational, business, community and senior care settings.

*The Caring Connections ministry supports caregivers by providing monthly respite care programs for loved ones with dementia/cognitive decline, and informal opportunities for care givers to socialize with others or take time for self-care. Quarterly speakers and programs are held on the third Tuesdays in January, April, July, and October 2026 to focus on issues and strategies for caregivers.

SAVE THE DATE

Men's Prayer Breakfast

7 a.m. Wednesdays, Fellowship Hall

Healing Prayer Ministry

9 a.m. Wednesdays, Trinity Chapel

Guatemala Mission Trip

Jan. 17 through 25

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, Jan. 19 – Church Office Closed

Caring Connections:

Memory Care, Respite, Support

Tuesday, Jan. 20

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

MidWeek Activities

Wednesday, Jan. 21

Dinner at 6 p.m., age-level ministries after dinner, music opportunities for all ages

Wesley College Activities Begin

Wednesday, Jan. 21

Food Pantry Distribution

4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22

Inside distribution with meal

LifeQuest Conway Classes Begin

Monday, Jan. 26 – Classes for senior adults
lifequestofarkansas.org

Bald Eagle Boat Tour

2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31,

Lake Dardanelle State Park

Contact Jeremy Walter to reserve your spot.

Scout Sunday

Sunday, Feb. 1

All three worship services

Ash Wednesday Worship

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18

PICKLEBALL *Open Play*

All are welcome to play pickleball at the church!
Outdoor Ministries is hosting a pickleball afternoon
of fun in the Great Hall from 2-4pm.

SUNDAY, 25 JAN | 2-4PM

United Women in Faith News

Mary Mitchell Circle will meet at 1:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 19, at Wanda Eason's home, 1420
Bermuda St. Wanda Eason is the chair.

Nell Dyer Circle will meet at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 19,
in the church library. We will have a speaker from
Faulkner County Library. Debbie Bartrow and
Connie Copley are co-chairs.

