

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1610 Prince Street, Conway, Arkansas, 501-329-3801, [www.conwayfumc.org](http://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,

*The \* indicates all stand.*

*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; re clothe 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 dew 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.*

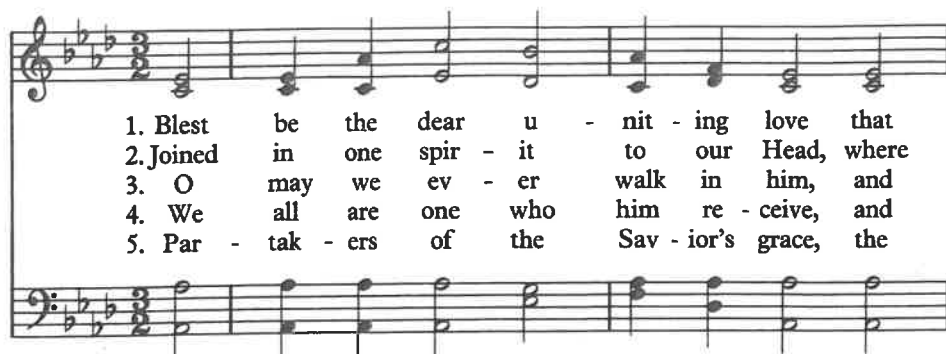
— Lydia Baxter (1809–1874)

## **Postlude**

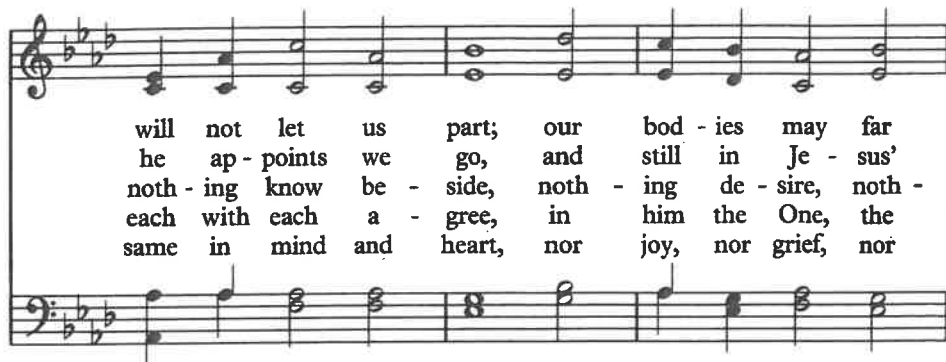
O Innocent Lamb of God, BWV 656.3

J. S. Bach

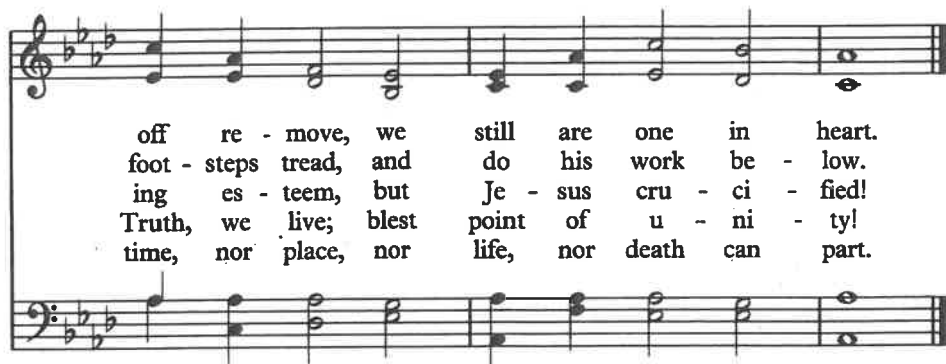
## Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love 566



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 with-hold your mer - cy;

let your stead - fast love pre - serve me.

R

- <sup>1</sup> I waited patiently for the Lord,  
who inclined to me and heard my cry.
- <sup>2</sup> The Lord drew me up from the desolate pit,  
out of the miry bog,  
set my feet upon a rock,  
making my steps secure.
- <sup>3</sup> 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



## 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 won - drous love is this, O my soul! 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

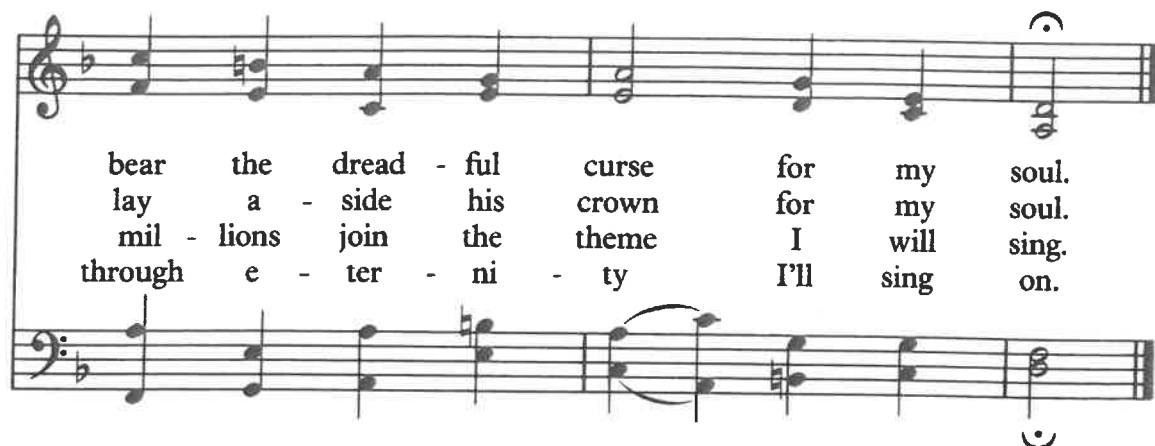
WORDS: USA folk hymn

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

WONDROUS LOVE

12 9.12 9

Harm. © 1955, renewed 1983 Augsburg Publishing House



## Behold the Savior of Mankind

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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.

## 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.



United  
Women  
in Faith

## 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](http://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