

Our Christian Worship of God
May 3, 2026
Youth Sunday
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

5th Sunday of Easter

Liturgical Color: White

The Prelude "Joy, Joy, Joy" Sophia Hastings
The Chiming of the Hour
The Call to Worship "Surely the Presence of the Lord"

The Welcome and Announcements

Children's Moments

*The Hymn TFWS 2173 "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

*The Invocation

Leader: Heavenly Father, we come before You today to lift up our hands and hearts in gratitude, recognizing that children are a precious gift and a reward from You.

People: We thank You for the heritage You have entrusted to our care—the children of our youth.

Leader: We ask that You shape our children to be like polished arrows in the hands of a warrior.

People: May they be straight, true, and strategically aimed by Your wisdom to make a difference in this world.

All: We dedicate our children back to You, confident that You are their protector. Amen.

The Anthem "Find Us Faithful" Chancel Choir

*The Affirmation of Christian Faith The Apostles' Creed
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.

*universal

*The Gloria Patri "**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. Amen.**"

The Offering

Offertory "Blessed Assurance" Alice Hastings

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

"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. Amen

*Offertory Prayer

*The Hymn W&S 3004 "Step by Step"

The Pastoral Prayer and 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

*The Scripture Lesson Psalm 127: 3-5 (see insert) Addie Bowman

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God. Amen

The Message "Guiding the Next Generation in Faith" Eliza Stanton
Prayer of Christian Discipleship

The Sacrament of Holy Communion UMH 12-15

*The Hymn TFWS 2164 "Sanctuary"

*The Benediction

*The Choral Response and Recessional

**May the road rise to meet you; May the wind blow at your back.
May the sun shine warmly on your face;
May the rain fall softly on your field,
And until we meet again, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen**

*The Chiming of the Trinity

*The Postlude "Sing Praise to God" -Schutz

*indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able

OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS April 30, 2026

Note: please contact Shirley Davis in the church office to add to the joys and prayer concerns. 222-3496 or sdavis@cloverfumc.com.

Recent Concerns: Jackie Brown, Josh Hastings, Crystal Lane, Tommy Crawford, Pat Bono, Melva Jones, Denise Bono, Judy Bailes, Sandy King, Judy Hench & family, Renee Gallien, Jane Turpin, Marie Millen, Our Homebound Angels

Military: Major Virginia Stanton, USMC; Petty Officer Second Class William Shearer; Petty Officer Andrew Beaty; Lt. Col. Leeann Hidle Chavers, Air Force; Lieutenant Colonel Thad Wilson; Lt. Col. Nicholas S. Hare; Lt. Col. Blair Preston.

The AEDs, with an alarm system, are located downstairs near the nursery and outside the sanctuary. A list of those who are CPR trained is also included in the boxes.

Reverend Scott Gilmer, Senior Pastor – ssgilmer@bellsouth.net

Reverend J. Richard Gibson, Pastor Emeritus

Cheri King, Director of Music Ministries – cking@cloverfumc.com

Jay Oden, Organist – jay.oden@gmail.com

Christine Payseur, Church Business / Technical Coordinator – cpayseur@cloverfumc.com

Shirley M. Davis, Admin. Asst. / Financial Sec. – sdavis@cloverfumc.com

Tracie Kite, Sexton – kite_tracie@hotmail.com

Hope Long, Nursery

Anna Livingston – Lay Leader

Renee Gallien, Jason King, Judy Falls

Lay Members to Annual Conference

Reverend Scott Gilmer's telephone number is 864-554-8676. Feel free to call if you have need of him.

Invitation to New Worshipers: Those desiring to unite with our congregation through Baptism, Profession of Faith or Transfer of Membership are encouraged to signify this on the attendance pad, on a visitor card and/or contact our Pastor. We are thankful to have new worshippers. Welcome to the First UMC family.

Weekly Scripture Readings: Acts 17: 22-31; Psalm 66: 8-20; 1 Peter 3: 13-22; John 14: 15-21

Words of Wisdom: “Be sure to taste your words before you spit them out.”

Tutoring Program: Our tutoring program is in dire NEED of two mentors for the next 5 weeks on Wednesdays, 2:15 TO 4:00PM. Due to unseen circumstances some of our current mentors have had to step away. We would like to have one mentor per student (second and third grade). No special training is necessary, just love and patience. And since we meet as a group in the Missions & Fellowship Center, the safe sanctuary requirement is waived at this time. For more information, contact Sherry Gibbs 910-269-7729

Graduation Sunday: We will be honoring our graduates during the worship service on May 17th. Bags will be placed downstairs for each graduate. Please feel free to leave cards or other small tokens of congratulations in these bags. Thank you for helping us celebrate these special young people!

High School Graduates: Jacob Allen AJ Dover Clara Dover
 Carter Farris Wade Ward

College Graduates: Lawrence Bartee Alexis Bono Sarah Keller

Nothing But Nurture

- **Homebound Angels and Friends** - Please keep our Homebound Angels and Friends in your prayers.

God calls all of us to offer each other Christian hospitality and to be there to nurture one another. You can do this in simple ways—with a phone call, a text, or a card to let someone know that you are thinking about them, and you are there for them! This will not only bless the person that you reach out to, but it will bless you as well! So, ask yourself—“Who can I be a blessing to today?”

Notes on Missions

Help us fill the grocery cart to show our love to those in need! This week's suggested donations: spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese, canned meat. (These are just suggestions. All donations are appreciated!)

This Week

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----|
| Budget Receipts | \$ 4,546.00 | Week | 18 |
| Other | \$ 849.41 | % of Budget receive ... | 35 |
| Total Budget for 2026... | \$ 484,517 | Church School | 26 |
| Amount needed weekly... | \$ 9,318 | Morning Worship..... | 77 |
| | | Youth..... | |

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1/1/26 Bank Balance | \$ 57,059.69 |
| Total giving to date | \$ 179,792.90 |
| Total spending to date | \$ <u>156,444.59</u> |
| Current Bank Balance | \$ 80,408.00 |

4/30/26 Local Operating Balance \$ 39,649.29

If you want your offering to go to the new Local Operating Fund, please be sure to mark your check clearly.

Stewardship ~ Ways to Give

Regular Tithes and Offerings through the **Sunday Morning Offering.**

Giving On-Line: Giving to FUMC is available online through our website:

www.firstumcclover.org **Thanks for your support of the mission and ministry of FUMC.**

If you decide to give electronically, please feel free to drop an "Electronic Giver" card in the offering plate on Sundays as an act of worship.

Wonderful Wednesday Meal, May 6
Menu: Potato and Salad Bar w/fixings & Dessert

hosted by Cub Scouts

_____ #_____

Psalm 127:3-5

³ Lo, children are a heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

⁴ As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

⁵ Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Mother's Day Carnations:

A special flower arrangement will be placed on the altar on Mother's Day. You may place a red carnation in honor of, or a white carnation in memory of, your loved ones for \$ 3.00 each. Any additional money collected beyond the cost of the carnations will go to our Food Project. To purchase a flower(s), place this form, with payment attached, in the offering plate or return to the church office not later than May 1st.

Your name _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____