

Prelude		
Greeting and Announcements		
Call to Worship		
“On Eagle’s Wings”		143
And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God’s hand.		
Invocation		
Worship in Song		
“Because He Lives”		364
God sent his Son, they called him Jesus; he came to love, heal, and forgive; he lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.		
Because he lives, I can face tomorrow; because he lives, all fear is gone; because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives.		
How sweet to hold a newborn baby, and feel the pride and joy he gives; but greater still the calm assurance, this child can face uncertain days because he lives.		
Because he lives, I can face tomorrow; because he lives, all fear is gone; because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives.		
“Since Jesus Came into My Heart		2140
What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought since Jesus came into my heart I have light in my soul for which long I had sought, since Jesus came into my heart.		
Since Jesus came into my heart since Jesus came into my heart floods of joy o’er my soul like the sea billows roll, since Jesus came into my heart.		
Joys and Concerns		
Anthem	“Come to the Water”	Choplin
Scripture		Genesis 37:12-28
Message	“This Wasn’t in the Script”	Rev. Leslie Frietch

COMMUNION

Invitation
Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession and Pardon

Merciful God,
We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
We have broken your law,
We have rebelled against your love,
We have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
That proves God’s love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
And so,
with your people on earth
and all company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection
You gave birth to the church,
Delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
And made with us a new covenant
By water and the Spirit.
On the night in which he gave himself up for us
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
Do this in remembrance of me.”
And so,
In remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
As a holy and living sacrifice,
In union with Christ’s offering for us,
As we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
And on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
That we may be for the world the body of Christ,
Redeemed by his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
One with each other,
And one in ministry to all the world,
Until Christ comes in final victory,
And we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father,
Now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Offertory

Doxology
“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” **95**
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

Benediction

“Gloria Patri” **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.**

Postlude

Opportunities for the Week

Sunday, September 7th

8:30 a.m. - Coffee Time – Fellowship Hall

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Worship in Sanctuary

Wednesday, September 10th

7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice – Sanctuary

5:30 – 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday Night Gathering

Church Office Closed Fridays

Current Opportunities

Pantry

Donations needed. Please drop off donations at church office.

Upcoming Opportunities

Be Part of the Story: A Crash Course in Leading Word, Prayer and Table – Sunday, September 21st at 11a.m., in the Sanctuary. Discover how your voice, your hands and your heart can serve in worship.

Nursery

All children are welcome in worship! Our calm room and restroom with diaper changing table is available in the back of the sanctuary. If the nursery is needed, please ask the usher for assistance. Thank you.

CHURCH CLOSING SCHEDULE

Sept. 7 – Norris

Sept. 14 – Simpson

Sept. 21 – Spiller

Sept. 28 – Vicki & Suzanne

Prayer Concerns

To keep our Prayer List current, we plan to RE-SET it at the beginning of every month. If you know someone who needs to be placed on or remain on the prayer list for another month, please call the church office at 318-256-3632. In the evenings or on weekends call our Pastor, Rev. Leslie Frietch. She may be reached by cell phone 704-915-9469 or email her at: revlesriefrietch@gmail.com

Church Family

The United Methodist Church

John Hoagland

Rev. Ray Spiller

Merilyn McDonald

Charles Enterkin

Kevin Troquille

Jim Burleigh

Family of Bonnie Fox Miles

Church Family Friends

Jordan Spiller

Kim King

Jeff LaCaze

Donna & Jim Kolstad

Kevin Craig

Marilyn Downs

Birthdays and Anniversaries

If we missed your special day, please let us know.

Susan Hills

Becky Lafitte

GIVING

In addition to our offertory, online giving is available through our website

fumc-many.com or scan QR code

You can give to different funds just specify which fund. Checks can be mailed to

P. O. Box 1210 Many, LA 71449.

Please call church office for additional assistance at 318-256-3632. Thank you.



Monthly Financial Update

Amount Needed Monthly: \$ 17,487

Received in July \$ 10,055

Received in August \$ 12,196

Year to Date Total \$139,040

Unwritten: When the Story Isn't What You Expected
Week 1: This Wasn't In the Script



Scripture: Genesis 37:12-28

Focus: What feels like a pit may become the place where God's redemption begins.

Reflection Questions for the Week?

1. When have you felt like life didn't follow the 'script' you expected?
2. How do you usually respond when unexpected challenges arise like fear, anger, trust or something else?
3. What 'pit' experiences have you faced that God later used for growth or blessing?
4. How does Joseph's story encourage you to trust God in your own unwritten chapters?
5. What step of faith can you take this week to trust God with your own future?

Suggested Spiritual Practice: Stone of Surrender

Find a small stone this week and carry it with you. Each time you feel overwhelmed in your 'unwritten story', hold the stone in your hand and whisper: "Lord I give this to You". At the end of the week, place the stone somewhere meaningful (a prayer jar, garden the church altar) as a sign of trusting God with what feels difficult.

Prayer to Carry with you:

Father and Author of my life, When my story takes a turn I didn't expect, remind me that You still hold the pen. Help me to trust You with my unwritten chapters. Give me courage in the pit, hope in the waiting, and faith that You are always at work for good. Write Your story in me. Amen.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Many, Louisiana

13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025

Pastor:

Minister Emeritus:

Choir Director:

Accompanist:

Organist:

Rev. Leslie Frietch

Rev. Ray Spiller

Carole Troha

Patsy McCormick

Gail Thomas

Website: fumc-many.com



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