AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

ENTRANCE

GATHERING OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE  ‘Tis the Gift to Be Simple  arr. Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP  Adapted from Psalm 118

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
People: his steadfast love endures forever!
Leader: The Lord is my strength and my might;
People: he has become my salvation.
Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made;
People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

HYMN 2001  We Sing to You, O God  Grindal

OPENING PRAYER

THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (8:25)

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (8:25)

FIRST LESSON  I Corinthians 13:4-13

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

ANTHEM  Christians All, Come Sing His Praises  Carter

GOSPEL LESSON  John 13:33-35

Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

RESPONSE (to be sung by all)  No. 98, refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he hath done!

SERMON  Life Before Death

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH  No. 888

Leader: This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:
People: Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.
We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit.

Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.

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,

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Offertory  One Step He Leads  Choplin

The Methodaires

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SENDING FORTH

HYMN  This Is a Day of New Beginnings  Wren

(stanzas 1–4)

CARRYING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE

THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

To honor our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, please remain standing for all the chimes of the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CARY

We welcome you to First United Methodist Church–Cary, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray that our time of worship will draw you closer to God and invite you to join us for worship on Sunday mornings. Our regular schedule includes Sanctuary services at 8:25, 9:45, and 11:05, 1st on Chatham at The Cary at 9:45, and our Celebration service in the Fellowship Hall at 11:11.

We invite you to stop by our information table in the large narthex if you have any questions about our church. Also, our website, firstcary.com, may provide the information you need.

We invite you to join us for coffee on Sunday mornings at “First Cup” after each service in the back of the fellowship hall!

WORSHIP LEADERS THIS MORNING:
Preacher: The Reverend Heather Herrin Wong, Pastor of Senior Adult Ministry
Liturgist: The Reverend Martha K. McLean, Pastor of Christian Formation
Choir Director: Patti Cook, Director of Children's Music
Organist: Christy Farrior, Assoc. Director of Music Ministry
Pianist: David Griffin

Acolytes:
8:25 Katherine Stinneford
9:45 Jordan Simpson and Hailey Simpson
11:05 Trevor Lamm

Lay Readers: Stephen Ministers:
8:25 James Hedrick Karen Dufour
9:45 Mark Schneider Ellen Schneider
11:05 Karen Du Four Suzanne Gordon

A Stephen Minister is available in the large narthex after each church service to meet and pray with anyone who would like to.

Listening devices are available at the sound booth in the back of the sanctuary.

Kids and Youth
Children are always welcome! Bulletins and crayon packs are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary. Nursery and Sunday school classes are available for infants through fifth grade. Youth (grades 6-12) gather in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30. Our ushers are happy to escort you and your child or youth to the Children's or Youth Ministry area.

Cell Phones and Text Messaging interfere with other people's worship. As an act of worship and as a courtesy to others, please turn off these electronic devices.

Prayer Concerns
You may view the list of prayer concerns at firstcary.com/prayerlist firstcary.com • 919-467-1861