

# Upcoming Events and Announcements

## UPCOMING SUNDAYS

**May 12** – Mother's Day – Celebrate in the Narthex with Refreshments by Joy. Children's Moment, Baptism (*See photograph request below.*)

**May 19** – Pentecost Sunday – Wear RED as we celebrate the birthday of the church. (Acts 2); Baptism

**June 2** – ONE SERVICE (10 a.m.) followed by a RETIREMENT CELEBRATION and FAREWELL to DR. SAM in Fellowship Hall

**June 16** – ONE SERVICE (10 a.m.) Father's Day and PASTOR WOODY'S Farewell

**June 30** – ONE SERVICE (11 a.m.) Celebration of Freedom followed by Patriotic Picnic in Fellowship Hall

**July 7**– FUMC's new minister's (Rev. Brett DeHart) First Sunday

## TO HONOR MOTHERS

We would like to feature you and your mother in a slideshow with beautiful music during our worship services on Mother's Day, May 12. **Send your photo by Tuesday, May 7, to [techcoord@firstsrq.com](mailto:techcoord@firstsrq.com).** We will do the same for June 16 Father's Day if you would like to send a photo of you and your father at the same time.

## FUMC'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SCUBA – Diving into Friendship with God



June 17-21 9-11:30 a.m.

## VOLUNTEERS INVITED/NEEDED

YOU will get hugs, see smiles, hear giggles! Yes, there is an area for your VOLUNTEER talents and energy level. Your heart will sing with joy all summer long.

Contact **Donna Maynard** to see how you can be a summer friend to kids (941-539-8560; [dmaynard@firstsrq.com](mailto:dmaynard@firstsrq.com)).

## NEW 6-WEEK STUDY BEGINS MAY 19

### FAITH CAFÉ - SUNDAY SMALL GROUP

9:40 a.m. in Room 104 - Study and Fellowship

*The Lord's Prayer* by Adam Hamilton

The Meaning and Power of the Prayer Jesus Taught

Contact **Ann Day** (941-704-8424; [annietd@hotmail.com](mailto:annietd@hotmail.com)).

## FIRST'S BOOK CLUB EVERYONE INVITED!

Monday, May 20 – 10 a.m.

Room 105 and Zoom

Enjoy discussing *The Heaven and Earth Book Store* by James McBride

Leader **Leah Pittard** (941-586-0185; [rockpitt38@gmail.com](mailto:rockpitt38@gmail.com))

# Church Calendar

## SUNDAY, MAY 5

Online Worship Services: 8:30, 9:45, 11 a.m.

8:30 a.m. Worship, Chapel

9:40 a.m. Faith Cafe, Room 104

11 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:45 a.m. Children's Nursery/Sunday School

12 p.m. Team Treble, Choir Room

## TUESDAY, MAY 7

9:30 a.m. ECC Song Squad—Gators/Bunnies  
Fellowship Hall

2:30 p.m. Women's Spiritual Growth Group  
Room 104/Zoom

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

12 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study, Rm 104/Zoom

6 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study, Rm 104/Zoom

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Choir Room

## THURSDAY, MAY 9

10 a.m. ECC Chapel, Sanctuary

5 p.m. Song Squad, Fellowship Hall

## SATURDAY, MAY 11

2:30 p.m. Ukraine Discussion Group  
Room 104/Fellowship Hall

## SUNDAY, MAY 12

Online Worship Services: 8:30, 9:45, 11 a.m.

8:30 a.m. Worship, Chapel

9:40 a.m. Faith Cafe, Room 104/Zoom

11 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:45 a.m. Children's Nursery/Sunday School

12 p.m. Team Treble, Choir Room

\*THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP  
GROUP WILL RESUME IN AUGUST.

## CHURCH STAFF

### Candy Bell

Early Care Center Director

### Jeff Croy

Custodian

### Baron Garriott

Director of Praise Music

### Joyce Johnson

Faith Community Nurse/  
Pastoral Care Assistant

### Donna Maynard

Director of Ministries

### Julie Miller

Director of Finance/Administration

### Maria Mossbarger

Early Care Center Office Manager

### Marc Nordstrom

Church Technology Coordinator

### Mike Pepe

Tech Assistant/  
Sound Engineer

### Tammy Ralston

Administrative Assistant

### Kerry Sanders

Custodian

### Michael Stuart

Director of Music/Organist

### Rev. Woody Woodward

Associate Pastor

### Rev. Dr. Sam Wright

Senior Pastor

May 5, 2024



# WELCOME to WORSHIP

Love God. Love People. Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.

## MICHAEL STUART

Director of Music/Organist

## REV. WOODY WOODWARD

Associate Pastor

## REV. SAM WRIGHT, PH.D.

Senior Pastor

104 South Pineapple Avenue

Sarasota, Florida 34236

941.955.0935

[www.firstsrq.com](http://www.firstsrq.com)

This service is being live-streamed and recorded so others can worship with us online.

# First United Methodist Church of Sarasota

## Traditional Worship Service Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

### Order of Service

#### PRELUDE (11 a.m.)

*Psalm Prelude, Set 1, No. 2* Herbert Howells

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Sam Wright

#### HYMN SING (8:30 a.m.)

#### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

Leader: On this day of worship, we call on God's name,

**People: and hear our own invitation to work for the good of all.**

Leader: Gathered with neighbors and strangers, we call on God's hope,

**People: and discover that a lifetime of service seems but a few days.**

Leader: In this place of praise and prayer, we call on God's love,

**People: and receive that grace which is as old as creation, yet as fresh as each morning.**

#### PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

*Take a moment to share the peace of Christ with those around you.*

#### \*OPENING HYMN

**God, Whose Love is Reigning O'er Us** Screens/Hymnal 100

#### OPENING PRAYER

Tony Kenworthy, Lay Leader (8:30 a.m.)  
Rev. Woody Woodward, Associate Pastor (11 a.m.)

#### THE CHORAL RESPONSE (11 a.m.)

**Amen** John Rutter  
Chancel Choir

#### CHORAL ANTHEM (11 a.m.)

**Easter Song of Praise** Richard Shephard  
Chancel Choir

*Sing choirs of heaven. Let saints and angels sing. Around God's throne exult in harmony! Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave. Salute your king in glorious symphony. Sing choir of earth. Behold your light has come. The glory of the Lord shines radiantly. Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death. The night is past, the day of life is here. Sing church of God. Exult with joy outpoured. The gospel trumpets tell of victory won! Your Saviour lives, he's with you evermore. Let all God's people shout the long Amen.*

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 29:15-30 (CEB)

Laban said to Jacob, "You shouldn't have to work for free just because you are my relative. Tell me what you would like to be paid."

Now Laban had two daughters: the older was named Leah and the younger Rachel. Leah had lovely eyes, but Rachel had a beautiful figure and was good-looking. Jacob loved Rachel and said, "I will work for you for seven years for Rachel, your younger daughter."

Laban said, "I'd rather give her to you than to another man. Stay with me."

Jacob worked for Rachel for seven years, but it seemed like a few days because he loved her. Jacob said to Laban, "The time has come. Give me my wife so that I may sleep with her." So Laban invited all the people of that place and prepared a banquet. However, in the evening, he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he slept with her. Laban had given his servant Zilpah to his daughter Leah as her servant. In the morning, there she was—Leah! Jacob said to Laban, "What have you done to me? Didn't I work for you to have Rachel? Why did you betray me?"

Laban said, "Where we live, we don't give the younger woman before the oldest. Complete the honeymoon week with this woman. Then I will give you Rachel if you work for me seven more years." So that is what Jacob did. He completed the celebratory week with Leah, and then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as his wife. Laban had given his servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as her servant. Jacob slept with Rachel, and he loved Rachel more than Leah. He worked for Laban seven more years.

Leader: May we hear the words of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### THE MESSAGE

**Sister Wives: Leah & Rachel** Rev. Sam Wright, Ph.D.

#### CELEBRATION OF HOLY 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 (unison)

**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've not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray.**

**Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

Leader: 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!

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**All: Glory to God. Amen**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(See Insert)  
Joyce Johnson, Faith Community Nurse/  
Pastoral Care Assistant (8:30 a.m.)  
Rev. Woody Woodward, Associate Pastor (11 a.m.)

#### THE 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.**

#### RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

#### COMMUNION HYMN (8:30 a.m.)

**One Bread, One Body** Screens/Hymnal 620

#### CHORAL COMMUNION ANTHEM (11 a.m.)

**Alleluia No. 1** Donald Fishel  
Chancel Choir

*Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia! Give praise to his name. Jesus is Lord of all the earth, He is the king of creation. Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever. Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior. Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia! Give praise to his name.*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### \*HYMN OF RESPONSE

**I Come with Joy** Screens/Hymnal 617

#### OFFERING OUR GIFTS

On the first Sunday, we share the Table by giving to the Caritas ministry, which helps the less fortunate in our community with utilities, work boots, bus passes, and groceries. We are grateful for your generosity to the ministries of First Church. Please place your offering in one of the baskets/boxes as you exit the service, mail a check to the church, or you may give online at [www.firstsrq.com](http://www.firstsrq.com); click GIVE. Thank you for your faithful support. You are making a difference in the lives of those in need.

#### BENEDICTION

#### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Make Me a Channel of Your Peace** Screens/TFWS, 2171

#### POSTLUDE (11 a.m.)

**Trumpet Voluntary on TRURO** Jerry Westenkueler

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

<sup>1</sup> Thom M. Shuman, [lectionaryliturgy.blogspot.com](http://lectionaryliturgy.blogspot.com).

#### ALTAR FLOWERS

*The flowers are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of Dave Tucker  
from Kay Davis and Family.*