

Worship Service

*** indicates that the people should stand, if able.*

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS & SHARING THE PEACE IN NEW WAYS

“Rule of Life”

PRELUDE, BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

****OPENING HYMN** *“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”* #223

****THE CALL TO WORSHIP** Liturgist – Kim Funkhouser

Leader: In the very beginning, God separated the darkness and the light. God called the Light “Day” and the Darkness, God called “Night.”

People: We were once people who dwelled in darkness, but God has given us the true Light, Jesus Christ.

Leader: God has blessed us and adopted us as God’s own beloved children, through the sacrament of Baptism.

People: The water of baptism brings to us healing and reconciliation; it is a symbol of nourishment and cleansing.

Leader: This day is the day of the remembrance of Jesus’ Baptism.

People: As we hear the words of his baptism, let us be reminded of our own adoption by God and celebrate the joyous connection to the Almighty God.

ALL: Amen

CARES AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please hold these people in your prayers:

<i>Joyce Stanley</i>	<i>Elaine Lucas</i>	<i>Rosalie Cochran Thompson</i>	<i>Lorelee Brown</i>
<i>Jim Eklund</i>	<i>John Spanton</i>	<i>Doug Marshall</i>	<i>Butch Bloomquist</i>
<i>Joseph Lipichok</i>	<i>Carol Jones</i>	<i>Heather Brown</i>	<i>Yenifer Jimenez</i>
<i>Taylor Deatsch</i>	<i>Colleen Kimble</i>	<i>Camille McDonnell</i>	<i>Jeff Hartman</i>
<i>Lynn Godwin</i>	<i>Darla Moylan</i>	<i>Kayla Weirup</i>	
<i>Jim Gillespie</i>	<i>Nathan Thompson</i>	<i>Cheryl Clement</i>	<i>Pat Centner</i>
<i>Larry & Connie McCurdy</i>		<i>The Friends & Family of Chuck Espy</i>	

Lord,
We lift in prayer all these we have named. We also ask for your mercy for all those who are suffering. For those of us in war torn areas, Lord, bring us hope and reasons for joy. We lift up those who find themselves without housing, and those who are trying to help. Guide us toward policies that help all of us to thrive. Open our hearts to find understanding and cooperation instead of discord and polarization. Help us all as we make our way into the future as our country and our world deal with these and many other changes. Guide our leaders to careful LISTENING, accuracy in discernment of your will for our country, WISDOM in making their decisions, and to promote LOVE of one another in these days. Help us all to know the joy of doing good work together. For all of us suffering from grief, anxiety, depression, or suffering from abuse, and living in fear, sow among us faith in your purpose, to bring us to a future defined by HOPE. Give us a season of PEACE and the joys that come with it, our rock and our redeemer.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42:1-9

PRAISE SONGS

“Come As You Are”
“The Lion and the Lamb”

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

OFFERING

You can send your tithes, offerings and pledge cards to:

First United Methodist Church
201 North Court Street
Fairfield, IA 52556

****Doxology** UMH #95

****Offertory Prayer**

****GOSPEL LESSON** **Matthew 3:13-17**

MESSAGE

-Elly Stremsterfer

****CLOSING SONG** *“Fires”*

****BLESSING AND SENDING**

****SUNG BENEDICTION**

Serving You in Worship

Minister: Pastor Al Coffin
Youth Director: Elly Stremsterfer
Lay Leader: Jim Flinspach
Liturgist: Kim Funkhouser
Choir Director: Jim Edgeton
Organist/Pianists: LeAnne Edgeton, Emily McIntyre
Sound & Tech Team: Cole Boatright, Carrie Brownlee, Greg Dorrell, Sharon Flinspach, Ben Gardner, Frazer Jones, Gary Roth and Elly Stremsterfer

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Al Coffin, coffinal2010@gmail.com, 319-899-4945

Youth Director: Elly Stremsterfer, ellystrem@gmail.com, 641-919-7840

Church Office: 201 North Court Street, Fairfield, IA 52556, 641-472-4303

Church Email: fumcfairfieldfirst@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fumcfairfieldfirst>

Fairfield First United Methodist Church

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/fairfield1stumc/>

Website: fairfieldmethodistchurch.org

Weekly Radio Broadcast: 10:35 a.m. on 1570AM-KMCD

Prayer Link: Email or call the church office



Giving made easy!

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Reflection Questions

Isaiah 42:1-9; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

- Take a look at the other three New Testament passages where the phrase “to fulfill all righteousness” is found – Romans 8:4, Romans 13:8, and Galatians 5:14.
- Could John have “restrained” Jesus’ Baptism? Look at the other gospel accounts and note the differences. What is consistent in all the accounts?
- How do we talk about notions of repentance and sin in a cultural context that doesn’t use or value these concepts? Do even we, as Christians, think of ourselves as sinners? If so, what does that mean? If not, why not?
- Take notice of the phrase in Isaiah 42:6, “I have given you as a covenant to the people.” The meaning of the Hebrew is unclear. What do you make of this idea?
- As you encounter water this week, remember your own baptism and think about what difference it makes in your life.

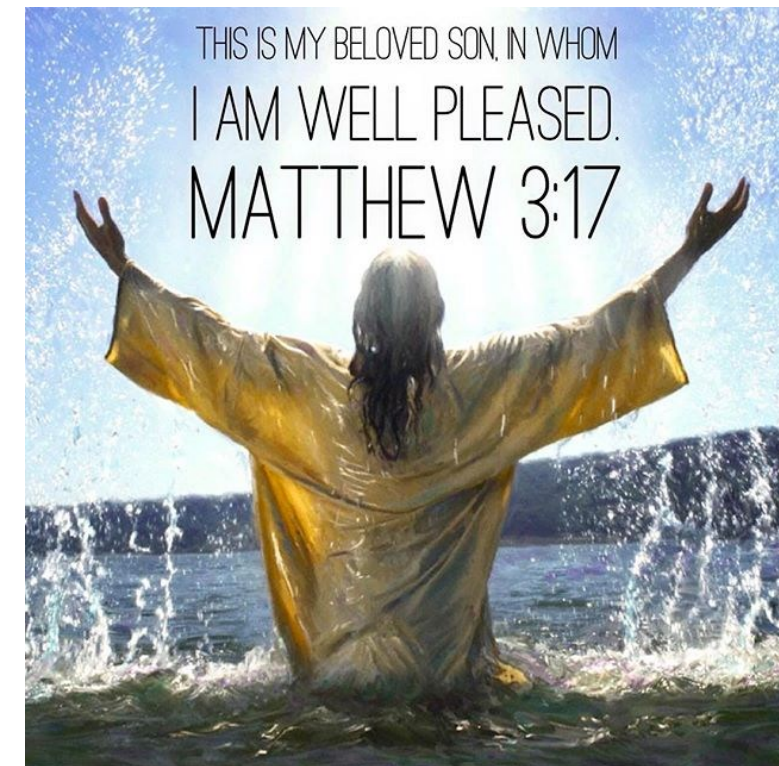
First United Methodist Church

Fairfield, Iowa



*Our Mission:
Knowing Christ
Sharing His Love
Helping Others
to Know Him*

*Sunday, January 11, 2026
10:35 a.m. In-Person,
YouTube LIVE!
& Radio Broadcast*



Hearing assist devices are available in the sound room.