

Experiencing Jesus Through the Sense of ...

September 1, 2024

Announcements and greetings

*The assembly responds or joins in unison when our text is in **bold**.*

Centering Words:

Just as a fragrance fills the air, may the love and grace of Jesus fill our souls. Be still and allow the fragrance of God's presence to refresh and renew our spirits. Co-mingled scents of life and death.

Prelude

"Father Abraham"
from 8 Biblical Vignettes

Dett

Call to worship:

Break open our hearts this morning to hear your word, O God.

Let our fears be vanquished, our spirits restored!

Come and let us worship with great joy!

Let us drop the things of the past which weigh us down!

God is about to do something new in our lives!

Let God's will become strong in our lives.

*Opening hymn

O Young and Fearless Prophet

^JUMH # 444

1.

**O young and fearless Prophet of ancient Galilee,
thy life is still a summons to serve humanity;
to make our thoughts and actions less prone to please the crowd,
to stand with humble courage for truth with hearts uncowed.**

2.

**We marvel at the purpose that held thee to thy course
while ever on the hilltop before thee loomed the cross;
thy steadfast face set forward where love and duty shone,
while we betray so quickly and leave thee there alone.**

3.

**O help us stand unswerving against war's bloody way,
where hate and lust and falsehood hold back Christ's holy sway;
forbid false love of country that blinds us to his call,
who lifts above the nations the unity of all.**

4.

**Stir up in us a protest against our greed for wealth,
while others starve and hunger and plead for work and health;
where homes with little children cry out for lack of bread,
who live their years sore burdened beneath a gloomy dread.**

5.

**O young and fearless Prophet, we need thy presence here,
amid our pride and glory to see thy face appear;
once more to hear thy challenge above our noisy day,
again to lead us forward along God's holy way.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 444

Words: S. Ralph Harlow, 1931

Music: BLAIRGOWRIE; John B. Dykes, 1872

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Opening Prayer: In Unison

As we gather in Your presence today, we are reminded of the many ways You invite us to experience You in our lives. Lord, we ask that You fill this place with the fragrance of Christ, that we may sense your presence among us. Help us to be aware of the subtle ways You speak to us, guiding us in love and truth. Let our lives be a sweet-smelling offering to You, reflecting the grace, mercy, and love that we have received through Your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: **Leviticus 1:1-2, 7-9**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalter: **Psalms 143** Responsively with sung response 2

² UMH page 856

Musical Response

God is my rock and my salvation, the strength of my life.

- ¹ Hear my prayer, O Lord;
in your faithfulness give ear to my supplications;
in your righteousness answer me!
- ² **Enter not into judgment with your servant,
for no one living is righteous before you.**
- ³ For enemies have pursued me;
they have crushed my life to the ground,
they have made me sit in darkness like those long dead.
- ⁴ **Therefore my spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is appalled.**

Musical Response

- ⁵ I remember the days of old;
I meditate on all you have done;
I muse on what your hands have wrought.
- ⁶ **I stretch out my hands to you;
my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**
- ⁷ Make haste to answer me, O Lord!
My spirit fails!
**Hide not your face from me,
lest I be like those who go down to the Pit.**
- ⁸ In the morning let me hear of your steadfast love,
for in you I put my trust.
**Teach me the way I should go,
for to you I lift up my soul.**

Musical Response

- ⁹ Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies!
I have fled to you for refuge!
- ¹⁰ Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God!
Let your good spirit lead me
on a level path!

Musical Response

Special Music

Come, Labor On

arr. Wellman

New Testament Reading: **2 Corinthians 2:14-16**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Reading: **John 12:1-8**

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn of Preparation

My Jesus, I Love Thee

UMH # 172

1.

**My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign; My gracious Redeemer,
my Savior art Thou; If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

2.

**I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

3.

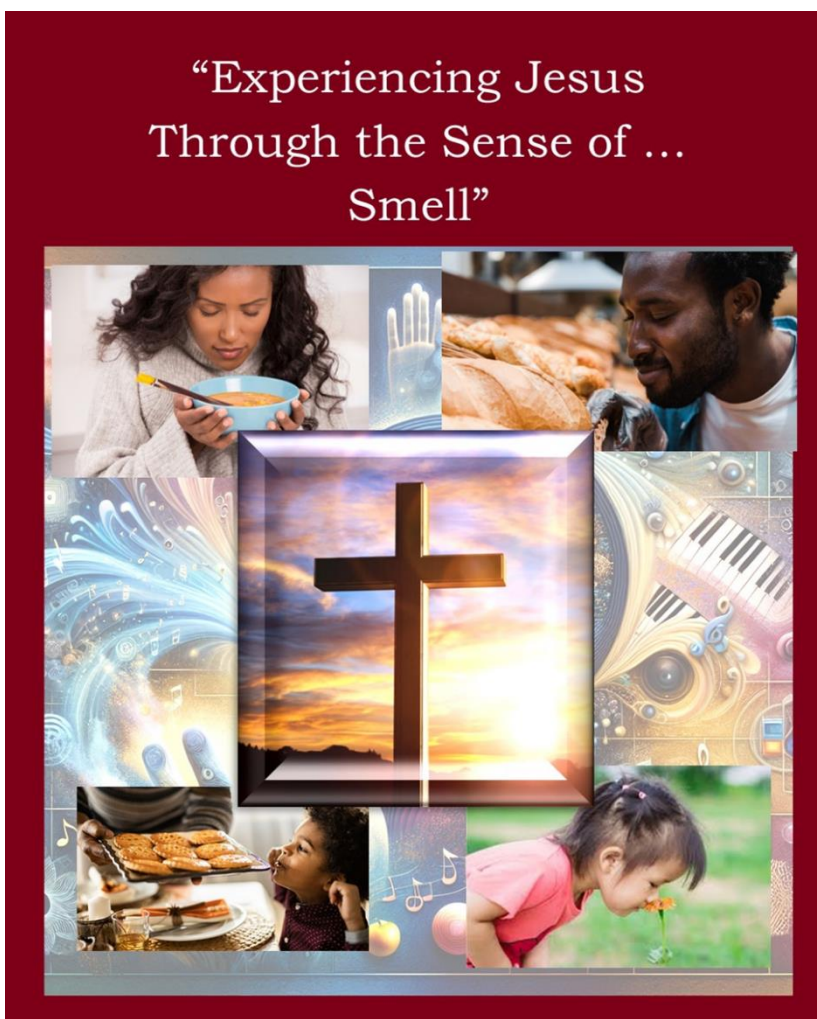
**In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 172

Words: William R. Featherston, 1864

Music: Adoniam J. Gordon, 1876

Message



1.

**For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.**

2.

**By this pledge that you do love us, by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord.**

3.

**With our sainted ones in glory seated at the heavenly board,
may the church that's waiting for you keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.**

4.

**In your service, Lord, defend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world where you have sent us, let your kingdom come, O Lord.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 614

Words: Louis F. Benson, 1924

Music: V. Earle Copes, 1960

Music © 1960, renewed 1988 Hope Publishing Co.

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Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession: In unison

We come before You today, acknowledging that our lives have not always been a sweet aroma rising to You. We confess that too often, our actions, thoughts, and words have emitted the stench of selfishness, pride, and sin. We have neglected to spread the fragrance of Christ in our relationships, our homes, and our communities. Lord, forgive us for the times we have allowed the impurities of this world to cling to us, tainting the testimony we are meant to bear. We confess that we have not always been the living sacrifices You call us to be, fragrant with the love and grace of Jesus. Cleanse us, O God, with the refining power of Your Holy Spirit. Wash away our sins and fill us once again with the sweet fragrance of Your presence. Help us to be mindful of the scent we leave behind in every interaction, choosing to spread the aroma of Christ's love, compassion, and peace wherever we go. In your loving mercy, we pray. Amen.

Let us pause for a moment of quiet confession.

Words of assurance:

As God's children, forgiven and free, we are no longer defined by the stench of sin but by the sweet aroma blessed of grace.

Invitation to the Offering

Please submit your offering as you feel led by placing it in the plates on the altar railing, or text your gift to 833-756-0325, or on our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.

Offertory

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Fletcher

Offertory Prayer: In Unison

Faithful Giver of Life, you have done great things for us. In the life and teaching of your Son Jesus, you welcome us into your heart. Help us open our hearts to others, so that we may be ever more willing to offer our hospitality, our support, and our material resources wherever they are needed. Bless these offerings in your holy name. Amen.

Sharing in Holy Communion

*Closing hymn

More Love to Thee, O Christ

¹ UMH # 453

1.

**More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee;
This is my earnest plea: More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!**

2.

**Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek, give what is best;
This all my prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!**

3.

**Let sorrow do its work, come grief and pain;
Sweet are Thy messengers, sweet their refrain,
When they can sing with me: More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!**

4.

**Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise;
This be the parting cry my heart shall raise;
This still its prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 140

Words: Elizabeth P. Prentiss, 1856

Music: William H. Doane, 1870

Please be seated for closing announcements and the Benediction.

Benediction: Responsively

To give of ourselves completely is breathtaking.

**As Mary anointed Jesus with sweet smelling perfume, may we anoint others with the
sweetness of God's love.**

May your service to others become a fragrant gift in God's name.

We go with God, who is about to do a new thing in and through us.

Go with God's blessings. Amen,

and Amen!

Postlude

For All the Saints

arr. Ryland

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

¹ UMH ~ *United Methodist Hymnal* (hard cover hymnal)

² FWS ~ *The Faith We Sing* (soft cover hymnal)

Worship Participants

Preaching: Rev. Tennille Power

Liturgist: Sheila André de la Porte

Media: David Wilm

Musicians: Nathan Hensley and the Chancel Choir

Sound room: Neal Hubbard

Ushers and Greeters: Bill Buga, Mike Gebhardt, Garry Gibbs, Bruce Schneider, and Mike Zahnke

Each week, this service is broadcast live on radio station WEOL 930 AM/100.3 FM. Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Helen Mengle in loving memory of husband Vary Mengle in celebration of Vary's September 2nd earthly birthday.

The flowers are sponsored by Annette Grobe and family in loving memory of Jim Grobe, who passed away September 1, 1997.

The additional altar spray is given by Helen Mengle in honor of Claire Isabella, Helen's newest great granddaughter born July 16th.

If you are interested in joining our church family, please call the church office at 440.322.6622 or email our pastor at tennillep@elyriafirstumc.org.

If you have any pastoral needs or prayer concerns, please call the church office, 440.322.6622.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

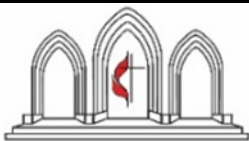
440.322.6622

www.elyriafirstumc.org

An equal opportunity provider

"Father Abraham" from 8 Biblical Vignettes by Robert Nathaniel Dett, Mills Music, 1941-1943. ***Come, Labor On*** by Thomas Noble, 1953; arranged by Samuel Wellman 1905. ***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*** by Percy Fletcher. ***For All the Saints*** arranged by Nathan Ryland. All songs are performed under license # 673591.

Third Street Review



September 1, 2024

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440.322.6622

Email: church@elyriafirstumc.org

September Mission focus:

Hunger Action Month

This September, every action—big or small—is one step closer to an America where no one is hungry. We will collect funds all September with the culmination of **World Communion Sunday on October 1st**! Your gifts for *Feed America* will help our neighbors who are struggling with hunger. In fact, your donation will go even further and provide a simple and immediate way to help end hunger in North Central Ohio. *World Communion Sunday* supports racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals while also transforming communities.

Cash or checks made payable to: **First United Methodist Church**, (indicate **Feed America** or **WCS** on the memo line). Donate online via our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.

Conference Book Study:

Our Hearts Were Strangely Lukewarm

We are joining together with our sister churches for an all-conference read and unpacking of *Our Hearts Were Strangely Lukewarm* by John Elford, a United Methodist pastor with a background in history. Pastor Tennille will lead the Zoom study on **Wednesday evenings at 7 pm** beginning **September 11th**. **John Elford will be with us in worship on Sunday, September 22nd**! Books have been ordered and will arrive by next week. The cost is **\$23.00**. If you have any additional questions, please contact the church office.

Community Breakfast

As our capacity for meals expands, our need for more volunteers expands! **We need a few more volunteers for the Sunday breakfast crews**. Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping us serve in this vital ministry. We are always in need of **plastic cutlery and plastic bags**. We are excited about how we serve the community and looking for **YOU** to join our team!

Happy Tuesdays

Tuesdays will be our time for fellowship, fun and lunch! Our traditional Happy Hour returns this fall on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays at noon** in **Fellowship Hall**. Here a meal will be prepared, and we welcome all to come and fellowship! On the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays**, we will gather as **BYOL-Bring Your Own Lunch** and fun and fellowship will be supplied!

Free Clothing Store

The Free Clothing Store is a labor of love! For our community to shop with dignity we need **hangers, clothing racks and kind spirits** who are willing to donate time. Please place any kind of hangers in the bin on the main level. The store will be open next **Saturday, September 28th 10 am-12 pm**, please contact the church office at 440.322.6622 with questions or to volunteer.

Fellowship at Wesleyan Village

Gather with Pastor Tennille at the Wesleyan Village for lunch and fellowship on the last Wednesday of the month. Join Pastor Tennille **September 25th at 12:00 pm**. All are welcome!

Church Financial Update

As part of being good stewards of our church and the gifts and treasures brought in, we will provide monthly updates to our congregation. Our Finance Committee wants to thank each of you for your continued support of our church and its programs. We believe in transparency, and we are all in this together!

July Income: 24,263.00

July Expenses: 26,394.00

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Free Hygiene Store

Once again, our shelves were emptied! We are grateful for your continued support of this much needed ministry. Our needs for July include the following items:

- **Cleaning Supplies** (glass, bathroom, and toilet bowl cleaners)
- **Paper towels & Toilet paper**
- **Kids Toothbrush and toothpaste**
- **Shampoo & Conditioner** (dry shampoo too)
- **Laundry & Dish Soap**
- **Women's and men's Body wash, Deodorant, and Razors**
- **Diapers** (size 4, 5, 6, 7)
- **Pull-ups** (size 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T)
- **Baby wash and lotion**

Please place these items in the box located on the main level. Bless you!

The Free Store is open next on

Saturday, September 28th from 10 am-12 pm.

Open Sponsorship Dates

Altar Flower dates:

September 15, 22, and 29

Cost \$22

Radio Broadcast dates:

September 8, 15, and 22

Cost \$300.00 full, \$150.00 half

Or you can contribute any amount to our Radio Fund!

Sacred Landmarks Tour

September 8th 2-4 pm

We will participate in the **free** tour as historic churches are open for the community to marvel at the statements of faith expressed through stone, stained glass, and carved wood. There will be a special exhibit and presentation by the Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative where the tour begins at the Lorain County History Center. The History Center will be open beginning at 1 pm.

We will need 2-3 folks in our Sanctuary to address questions the community may have. Information sheets will be available.

Scripture readings for the week:

Sunday, September 1: **Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 and**

Psalm 15; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Monday, September 2: **Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 3:6-11; 1 Timothy 4:6-16**

Tuesday, September 3: **Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 5:2-6:3; 1 Peter 2:19-25**

Wednesday, September 4: **Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 8:5-7; Mark 7:9-23**

Thursday, September 5: **Psalm 125; Proverbs 1:1-19; Romans 2:1-11**

Friday, September 6: **Psalm 125; Proverbs 4:10-27; Romans 2:12-16**

Saturday, September 7: **Psalm 125; Proverbs 8:1-31; Matthew 15:21-31**

Sunday, September 8: **Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125; Isaiah 35:4-7a;**

James 2:1-17; Mark 7:24-37