

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering of God’s People

Welcome

*Passing of the Peace

Prelude

Baptism of Jack Corbin Merriott

UMH 39

Call to Worship

L: In a world where powerful people make decisions to lift themselves up and cast others aside, how does God teach us to use our power?

P: God teaches us to protect the vulnerable, resist the oppressors, and persist in doing good.

L: In a world where power means might, how does God show us what power means?

P: God shows us through the midwives’ daring, Peter’s truth-telling, and Jesus’ humility.

L: In a world where power is held over people’s heads, how does God exercise power?

P: God exercises power with—with the oppressed, with the outcasts, with the poor and downtrodden.

L: Beloved, we gather to recognize our world as it is and to grow as disciples and imitators of Christ. So, how will you use your power today?

ALL: We will side with the vulnerable, build community in the margins, and love all of our neighbors with the exuberant and all-encompassing love of Christ. Amen.

Opening Prayer

*Hymn of Praise
My Hope Is Built

UMH 368

***Affirmation of Faith**
I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from
thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe
in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and
the life everlasting. Amen.

***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. World
without end. Amen. Amen.*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology**
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Children’s Sermon

Proclamation of the Word

Anthem

I Can Do All Things
Chancel Choir

Callaway

Epistle Lesson Matthew 16:13-20
This is the Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Series: Unlikely Leaders

Sermon

“Peter, leading by faith”

Pastor Ryan

Sending Forth

*Hymn of Invitation and Dedication
I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

FWS 2129

***Benediction**
Beloved, God calls us to use our power wisely and in the
service of those the world has disempowered. May God bless
you with the courage to notice injustices in the world and the
perseverance to keep showing up with God and one another as
we empower one another to set the world aright. Amen.

***Congregational Choral Response**
*Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.*

***Postlude**
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Liturgist: Mike Murphree

*Prayers for...*  
*the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza.*  
*our men and women serving in harm’s way.*  
*neighbors served by our ministries*

**our church family...** Bonnie House,  
Rhonda Shirey, Wanda Shambley, Verna Riley,  
Fred Dietrich, Brenda Grimes, Joe Hirsch, Ron Randolph,  
Neelie Dobbins, Sue Gregory, Bill Gibbs, Joan Coffey,  
Mari Weidmann Sutterfield, Tina Freeman,  
Joann Newcomb, Bernie Dickson, Earl Crumpler, Dick  
Dickson, Dick Newcomb, Ed House

**extended family...**Charlotte Williams, Bobby  
Clayborn, Charlie Atkins, Greg Nettles, Jay Williams, Robyn  
Yarbro, Willie Gibson, Elizabeth Rowlett, Anita Walker,  
Allen Dawson, James Louviere, Judy Bethea, Paige Carey,  
Chandlr Mitchell, Darleen Wheelington

**homebound or assisted living** ...Joyce Mann,  
Danny Barnes, Sarah Shirey, Ruth Dempsey, Pat Beasley,  
Ann Ellen, Fay Kendrick, Pat Stringfellow

**South District Prayer Partner...**Wiley Chapel Ozan, AR

*Happy 98<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Amy Womack on August 21, 2026!!*  
*Happy 94<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Sally Graves on August 28, 2026!!*  
*Happy 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday to Sue Gregory on August 29, 2026!!*

**Camden First United Methodist Church Staff**  
Pastor.....Rev. Ryan Bachuss  
Administrator.....Erin McAllister  
Choir Director/Organist.....Cynthia Outlaw  
Director of Missions.....Tate Wunnenberg  
Director of Preschool.....Jill Daugherty  
Asst. Director of Preschool....Kyla Pace

**This Week at Church**

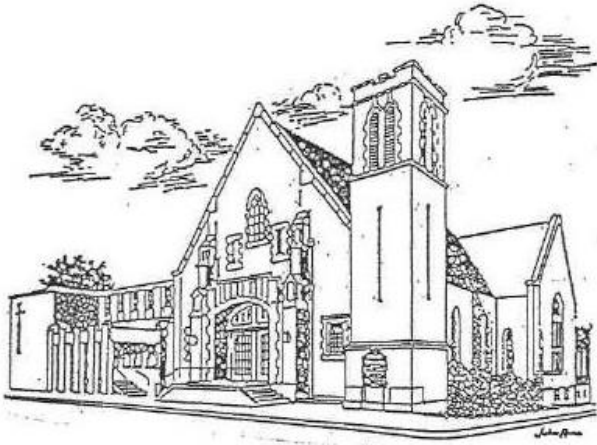
- Sunday, August 23, 2026**  
9:00am           Worship Broadcast on FM 97.1  
9:30am           Sunday School  
10:30am          Worship
- Monday, August 24, 2026**  
9:00am           Food Pantry  
11:00am          Strong Women  
2:30pm          Great Hall Doors Open  
4:45pm          Sue’s Table  
6:00pm          Bible Study
- Tuesday, August 25, 2026**  
9:00am           Food Pantry
- Wednesday, August 26, 2026**  
11:00am         Strong Women  
7:00pm          Choir Practice
- Friday, August 28, 2026**  
9:00am           Food Pantry  
11:00am          Strong Women

**The full worship service is broadcast on FM 97.1 on  
Sunday mornings at 9:00am. The Worship Service is available  
on our YouTube channel -**

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**Facebook: First United Methodist Church Camden AR**  
**Instagram: fumccamden**

**First United Methodist Church**  
**Camden, Arkansas**



***Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost***

**August 23, 2026**

***Following Jesus***  
***Loving People***