



July 20, 2025 9:30 am

Co-Pastors: Rev. Ross Baker and Rev. Amanda Baker

Worship Musicians: Cheryl Doty, Abby Worley, & Sue Woods

Musical Offering: Pastor Ross Baker

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

Welcome

Welcome to our KVOE listeners and to those watching online.

My name is **Margaret Wright**, and I am your worship reader this morning.

Welcome to Emporia First United Methodist Church. We are all beloved children of God.

Together, we are a Christian community committed to accepting, valuing, and loving all.

We seek to live, grow, and serve as Jesus taught us: loving one another, transforming lives, and making disciples.

Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Margaret Wright

One: Good and merciful God, you call us to gather along the road we know as community,

All: With our neighbors all around, speak to us in these complicated times.

One: We are people of the covenant, called to care for one another without exception.

All: Within and beyond our walls, our neighbors are struggling. Within and beyond these walls, we may be the one who is struggling.

One: Just as Jesus lived a commitment of coming near, abide in with and through us. Send us. Encourage us to come near in your name.

All: We are ready to open our hearts to receive new strength and to open our lives to new understanding. Gather us near, as we worship the Lord. Amen!

Opening Prayer

Holy God, as we come together in this house of prayer, we open ourselves to your spirit.

Who is our neighbor and who was this Samaritan called good? Bring fresh understanding to why he alone drew near to danger, unafraid, giving compassion, and bringing hope. Guide us in being open to helping the stranger, the outcast, and the one without community. **Amen.**

Passing the Peace

Opening Hymn

[“Standing on the Promises” UMH 374](#)

Proclamation

The Children Show Us the Way

[“Jesus Loves Me”](#)

Children’s Time- Rev. Ross Baker

Scripture Reading

Luke 10:25-37 NRSVUE

[Margaret Wright](#)

25 An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” **26** He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” **27** He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” **28** And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

29 But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” **30** Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. **31** Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. **32** So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. **33** But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him

he was moved with compassion. **34** He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. **35** The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' **36** Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" **37** He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The Word in Music

Pastor Ross Baker

Sermon

[Rev. Amanda Baker]

"A Road Less Traveled"

Response

Prayer Song- "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" UMH 402 (vs. 1 & 3)

Prayers of Intercession- Rev. Ross Baker]

God of love, give us a deep love for you, so that we can see the world as you see it, feel the compassion you feel, and be a people whose lives mediate your love to others. God in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

Open our eyes that we might see what the Good Samaritan saw. Grant us the insight to see the need in others, the wisdom to know what to do, and the will to do it. God in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

We pray for all those people, who in many and various ways, have been stripped, beaten and left for dead. We pray for children who are growing up in the most awful of circumstances, especially for those starved of love or food, shelter or security. May they receive the future you have planned for them. God in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

We pray for those we might cross the road to avoid, those who have been excluded socially because of their race, financial status, or history. May the dignity that is theirs be restored to them. God in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

God give us a deep love for you, that we might see your love at work in this world, and that we might go and do likewise. God in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

Credit to the original author (Prayers written by Rev. Dr. Robyn Provis).
<https://katyandtheword.com/2017/02/19/the-good-samaritan-narrative-lectionary-lesson-prayers/>

Lord's Prayer

Offering

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow **UMH #95**

Prayer of Dedication

Gathered, we have given in your name— blessed to be a blessing. Generous God, bless and consecrate these gifts and use them to bring hope and healing to our community and beyond. Enliven us to share even ourselves with the world you love.

Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism UMH 33

Rosalind Rees Worley

Closing Song

"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry" **TFWS 2051**

Benediction

Sending Forth Song

"Trees of the Field"

TFWS 2279

Postlude - Sue Woods