Faith United Methodist Church



Welcome & Opening Prayer

Hymn

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Scripture Reading

Genesis 23

#127

23 ¹⁻² Sarah lived 127 years. Sarah died in Kiriath Arba, present-day Hebron, in the land of Canaan. Abraham mourned for Sarah and wept.

³⁻⁴ Then Abraham got up from mourning his dead wife and spoke to the Hittites: "I know I'm only an outsider here among you, but sell me a burial plot so that I can bury my dead decently."

⁵⁻⁶ The Hittites responded, "Why, you're no mere outsider here with us, you're a prince of God! Bury your dead wife in the best of our burial sites. None of us will refuse you a place for burial."

7-9 Then Abraham got up, bowed respectfully to the people of the land, the Hittites, and said, "If you're serious about helping me give my wife a proper burial, intercede for me with Ephron son of Zohar. Ask him to sell me the cave of Machpelah that he owns, the one at the end of his land. Ask him to sell it to me at its full price for a burial plot, with you as witnesses."

¹⁰⁻¹¹ Ephron was part of the local Hittite community. Then Ephron the Hittite spoke up, answering Abraham with all the Hittites who were part of the town council listening: "Oh no, my master! I couldn't do that. The field is yours—a gift. I'll give it and the cave to you. With my people as witnesses, I give it to you. Bury your deceased wife."

¹²⁻¹³ Abraham bowed respectfully before the assembled council and answered Ephron: "Please allow me—I want to pay the price of the land; take my money so that I can go ahead and bury my wife."

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ Then Ephron answered Abraham, "If you insist, master. What's four hundred silver shekels between us? Now go ahead and bury your wife."

¹⁶ Abraham accepted Ephron's offer and paid out the sum that Ephron had named before the town council of Hittites—four hundred silver shekels at the current exchange rate.

¹⁷⁻²⁰ That's how Ephron's field next to Mamre—the field, its cave, and all the trees within its borders—became Abraham's property. The town council of Hittites witnessed the transaction. Abraham then proceeded to bury his wife Sarah in the cave in the field of Machpelah that is next to Mamre, present-day Hebron, in the land of Canaan. The field and its cave went from the Hittites into Abraham's possession as a burial plot.

Hymn

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy There's a wideness in God's Mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

Scripture Reading

Genesis 25:1-11

#121

25 1-2 Abraham married a second time; his new wife was named Keturah. She gave birth to Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah.

3 Jokshan had Sheba and Dedan.

Dedan's descendants were the Asshurim, the Letushim, and the Leummim.

4 Midian had Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abida, and Eldaah—all from the line of Keturah.

5-6 But Abraham gave everything he possessed to Isaac. While he was still living, he gave gifts to the sons he had by his concubines, but then sent them away to the country of the east, putting a good distance between them and his son Isaac.

7-11 Abraham lived 175 years. Then he took his final breath. He died happy at a ripe old age, full of years, and was buried with his family. His sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah in the field of Ephron son of Zohar the Hittite, next to Mamre. It was the field that Abraham had bought from the Hittites. Abraham was buried next to his wife Sarah. After Abraham's death, God blessed his son Isaac. Isaac lived at Beer Lahai Roi.

Leader: The Word of God, for the People of God **Response:** Thanks Be to God. Amen.

Children's Time

Special Music Pass

Witness What's Next

Response to the Word –

Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light to be the body of Christ in the World.

Now with the Holy Spirit may we live our faith as we tell our story.

Prayers for the World & the Gifts of the Community

Hymn He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Though

He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught! Whate'er I do, where'er I be,

whate er 1 do, where er 1 be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain: He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me; his faithful follower I would be, for byhis hand he leadeth me.

Benediction

#128

Margaret Arceneaux Paul Arceneaux, Jr. Sidney Arceneaux Kim Craigen Ard Lucian Adams **Dolores Anderson** Natalie Avery Johnny & Ovelia Battaglio Family of Shirley Battaglio Linda Bergen Robert & Alicia Besser Lloyd Betar Mary Bevil Bonnie Blankenship Donna Suppa Bolton Io Bordeaux Pat Borel Glenda Brooks **Jean Brooks** Ann Campbell Norma Campbell Robert & Roxie Castilaw **Jared Castolenia** Tana Champeau Rebecca Chance Billie Cherry Kim Wilber Conn **Derick Cooper** Kyle & Beth Craigen Dakota Crutchfield

Jimmy & Emily Davis

Prayer List
Paula Davis
Bobbye Dean
Mary Delafosse
Tammy Dufour
Family of Lane Duhe
Julie Duplichan
Joe Floyd
Lorene Green
Rachel Grimmett
Connie Hebert
MaryJo Hebert
Christie Hale

Edna & Raymond Jones Alice Kethley Family of Shirley Kethley

Kristie Key
Clyde Landry
Gail Lauve
Christi Leblanc
Family of Jim Leblanc
Fred Ledesma
Alice & Louis Loftin

Matt Markos Barbara Martin Lloyd Martin Linda Meyers Maribeth Moore

Orianna Marchand

Ron & Michelle Mueller Joyce Murphy

Jimmy Mott

Arnold Northcut Kelly Simmons Owens Jim Padgett John & Candance Perkins Melva Phillips Harlan Phipps Alfred Pierson Mercedes Pierson **Justin Plake** John Pool Kenny Puckett **Buddy Renkema** Nikki Castilaw Rice **Edward Rivet** Randy & Darlene Rivett **Betty Romero** Ezekiel Romero Joann Savelle Jim & Loretta Shearer

Brooke Simon
Harriet Simpson
James Sowell
Kim Streed
Bob Taylor

Family of Loretta Thibodeaux
Family of June Waits
Sadina Hammock Ward
Mary Alice Weitzel
Mary Rose Williams
Gail Wright
Greta Zeralsky



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We are called to be:

Transformed by God's love, Christ's sacrifice and the Spirit's work in our lives.Engaged with all of God's children from the small to the tall, the near and the far.Celebrate, worship & praise God as we care for each other.Share the Good News of God's love in our thoughts, words and deeds.

Attributes

Hymns: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" words by William Williams, 1745, music by John Hughes, 1907, in public domain. "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" words by: Frederick, 1854 & music by Lizzie S. Tourjee, 1877, in public domain. "He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought" words: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862 music by: William B. Bradbury, 1864 in public domain. Special Music: "Steal Away to Jesus" words: Afro-American spiritual & music: Afro-American spiritual and arrangement by William Farley Smith, 1986 "United Methodist congregations may reproduce for worship or educational purposes any item from The United Methodist Book of Worship for one-time use, as in a bulletin, special program, or lesson resource, provided that the copyright notice and acknowledgement is included in the reproduction." Scripture are from "Scripture taken from The Message. Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group." Response to the Word, The United Methodist Book of Worship ©1992, United Methodist Publishing House, used with permission, CCLI License #3821436 One License A-733754 used by permission.