

A Litany of Thanks for First Responders

L: You saw the need and you decided to do something.

P: You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

L: You signed up for training and education. You studied and learned; sweated through exams. You showed up for drills, when you might have spent the time with friends.

P: You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

L: You made the grade. You took on the responsibility to respond when neighbors, friends, and even strangers needed help.

P: You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

L: You were called, and no matter what you were involved in you got up and went to that place where you could offer someone else life, or hope, or comfort.

P: You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

L: You dealt with those who were too young, involved in the unimaginable. You tried, gave your best, then went home to hug your family and wonder if there was more you could have done.

P: You are a blessing, and we thank God for you.

L: We do give thanks to God for you. You represent the best in courage, service, and commitment. Each day you strive to make our community, our world safer and stronger.

P: You are a blessing and we thank God for you.

***Closing Music:** "A Song For The Unsung Hero" (Martin) Voices In Praise

***A Closing Blessing**

***Postlude** "Rejoice in the Lord" (Prentiss)

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The flowers on the altar today are given by Meredith & Susan Page in grateful appreciation of all who serve – the military, first responders, police, the medical personnel and all their families

FRIENDSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, September 30, 2018

11:00 am Worship Service



EVERYDAY HEROES

Our Mission: "Grow as Disciples, Serve as Friends.
Love All; Serve All; Follow One!"

Our Motto: "Each One, Reach One!"

FIRST RESPONDERS SUNDAY
September 30, 2018 11:00 a.m.

First Responders, whether paid or volunteer, are people in service to other people. Without their dedication and willingness to serve our society and our world would be a much sadder place.

Words of Greeting, Announcements, Joys, Concerns, and Prayer

Prelude "I Sing Because I'm Happy" (Dilworth) Voices In Praise
You are asked to fill in the requested information and then pass to the next person the attendance registration pad found in each pew for that person to fill out.

***Opening Hymn:** UMH 577 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

Prayer For First Responders (Unison)

Merciful God, we thank You for the people who serve as first responders. Thank You for empowering them spiritually, mentally, psychologically, and physically for the happenings that they face daily. Thank You for being their strength and their hope.

We ask, Almighty God, that you give all first responders protection and provision. We ask that no weapon turned against them will succeed; that every angry voice that rises up to accuse them be silenced; that as they go out in response to calls, your angels will protect them; that you will give them your knowledge as they deal with a multiple of situations. Help them to work with all other first responders as one team, protecting and watching out for each other.

This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Please rise either in posture or in spirit.*

The Gathering of our Tithes, Gifts, and Offerings

The Offertory "Andante" (Jacques-François Gallay) Joel & Jackie Wealer

***The Doxology:** UMH 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*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*

***Prayer of Dedication & Lord's Prayer**

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen*

***Hymn of Preparation:** UMH 591 "Rescue The Perishing"

Scripture: Mark 9:38-50 (New Testament Page 42-43 in your pew Bible)

L: This is the word of God for the people of God.

P: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Message: "Healing and Holiness" – Rev. Thomas E. Young, Jr.