



Lake Brownwood First United Methodist Church

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Gerald Gilkey, pastor

Weekly Announcements & Worship Guide for August 23, 2026

As always, thank you for worshipping in body or spirit as a part of this congregation. Thank you for your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. This weekly mailing includes this Sunday's worship guide, announcements, and prayer lists. Please join in praying for our worship, mission, and ministries.

Who We Are & What We Do

Vision statement – *We are followers of Jesus, seeking the loving, just and free world God imagines for all people.*

Mission priorities – *Multiply Jesus followers ... Champion children and youth ... Maximize care and healing ... Pursue and embrace diversity ... Tell our story.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Projects

- **Delivered 10 boxes of school supplies and clothes** to Bangs Elementary School
- **Served 18 families** during August's Food Pantry
- **Collecting hygiene products** for the September Food Pantry

Ongoing Ministry Opportunities

- **Sunday worship:** 10:30am; **Sunday School:** 9:30am
- **Women's Group** – Next gathering: **November 9 at 2:00pm**
- **Lunch and Levity** – 12:00pm every Tuesday. Next gathering: **August 25**
- **Bridge Community** – Monthly meeting with potluck supper each second Tuesday, 6pm.
Next meeting: **September 8 at Lake Brownwood First UMC**
- **3rd Wednesday Food Pantry** – 3:30-5:30 pm (Set up at 3:00 pm).
Next food pantry: **September 16**
- **Onboarding with Rev. Al Martin** – **August 30** – with lunch following worship service

WORSHIP GUIDE for August 23, 2026

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

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?

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

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

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

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

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

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?

***OPENING PRAYER**

***HYMN – *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* UMH 514**

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross;
lift high His royal banner, it must not suffer loss.
From victory unto victory his army shall he lead,
till every foe is vanquished, and Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey;
forth to the mighty conflict, in this his glorious day.
Ye that are brave now serve him against unnumbered foes;
let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in his strength alone;
the arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armor, each piece put on with prayer;
where duty calls or danger, be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the strife will not be long;
this day the noise of battle, the next the victor's song.
To those who vanquish evil a crown of life shall be;
they with the King of Glory shall reign eternally.

*** THE APOSTLES' CREED, TRADITIONAL VERSION UMH 881**

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (*in unison*)

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.

BLESSING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory Prayer

***Doxology – UMH 95**

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

***HYMN – *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* UMH 110**

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Psalm 138

This is the Word of God

Thanks be to God

***HYMN – *The Church's One Foundation* UMH 545**

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

***GOSPEL READING – Matthew 16:13-20**

The Word of God for the People of God

Thanks be to God

NEW TESTAMENT READING – Romans 12:1-8

This is God's Word

Thanks be to God

SERMON *The Rock* Pastor Gerald Gilkey

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN – *Take My Life, and Let It Be UMH 399

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

***BENEDICTION**

References

TFWS – *The Faith We Sing*, copyright 2000, Abingdon Press

UMH – *The United Methodist Hymnal*, copyright 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House.

PRAYER LISTS as of August 20, 2026

Those in care centers: Linda Arther; Betty Cooper; Norma Jean Morgan; Virginia Fincher (Carolyn Dobbins' mother); all care facilities' residents and staff

Our world & community

- Peace to end unrest, conflict, & wars
- Our neighbors in need & those we serve
- Students, teachers, & school staff at all levels

Recent requests / updates (*bold print – new or updated*)

- Marsha Rollins - cancer
- Reta Bell – recovering from fractured hip
- Johanna Gonzales and family
- Wendi Sarto, neighbor – health issues
- Daniel Morales, neighbor – health issues
- Chip Carpenter, nephew of Betty Martin – recovery from brain surgery & radiation treatments
- Finn, great grandson of Ann Baugh – home from the hospital, getting his strength back
- Jim Summers, neighbor – lung issues
- **Rick & Tara Lange** – job opportunities; the Robertson family on the death of Mrs. Robertson

Pantry Prayers

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| • My neighbor across the street | • Benjamin Seward; Carol Seward; |
| • All to be happy and healthy | Amberlea Wilson; Shane Carwright |
| • Billy Lee – get my life in order | • Johnni Smith; Jenifer Srader |
| and ability to provide for myself | • John T Summers; Jim R Summers |
| • Dora Saucedo – in need of a job | • Prayers for me, Francine and my mom, |
| • John T. Summers – cancer | Odela |
| • J.B. Allen - chemo | • Joanna Henderson – prayers for heart and |
| | lungs to keep working |
| | • Praise God for all “He” has done for me |
| | thru Lake Brownwood FUMC, for the |
| | people whom love you! In the Holy Name |
| | of Jesus |

Ongoing prayers – A.J. (Peacock's grandson); Betty Alvey (Steve Storm's sister); Arduini Family; Keith Baldwin (Ann Baugh's grandson); Brian Campbell; Tim Campbell; Lynda Dabbs; Hood & Jo Dendy; Patsy Delarosa (niece of the Dodsons); Carolyn Jamar; Billy Lee; Ann Long; Taff Family members (neighbors); Donna & Alan Ulrich; Kathy Weatherford