

Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Prelude
"Psalm Nine"
Handbell Choir
Carl Wiltse

****Call to Worship with Procession of Palms**

(All who are willing to participate in the palm procession gather in the Narthex before the service with your palm branch. The pastor and liturgist will begin the call to worship at the entry to the sanctuary.)

Liturgist: Open to me the gates of righteousness that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

Pastor: This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

****Processional Hymn** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" (v. 1-2) UMH #278

Liturgist: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

People: This is the Lord's doing. It is marvelous in our eyes!

Liturgist: This is the day that the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Pastor: Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

**People: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
We bless you from the house of the Lord.**

Liturgist: The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches up to the altar. (Children may place palm branches immediately in front of the Lord's Table.)

Pastor: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

People: God's steadfast love endures forever!

****Opening Hymn** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" (v.3) UMH #278

****Opening Prayer (unison)**

O Lord our God, whose Son followed your will, both as Servant and Savior, and now rules in the hearts of those who accept him as King: Open our hearts to his rule, that we may rejoice in the blessings of his kingdom and share with those who honor him with their lives. In his name, we pray. Amen.

Greeting/Life of the Church

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" UMH #140

Prayers of the Faithful & the 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.

Offering/Offertory

****Doxology** UMH #95

****Prayer of Dedication**

Thank you, O God, for coming to us in Christ Jesus. Work through these gifts, that the world might know the breadth of your mercy and your grace. Bless our very lives, that we might be faithful disciples and stewards of your love. With gratitude and joy, we pray. Amen.

****Gospel Lesson** Matthew 21:1-11

Liturgist: The Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Ministry of Music
"This is My Father's World"
Handbell Choir
John Carter

Sermon "Giving It Up: Popularity" Pastor Jeff Bandy

The Sacrament of Holy Communion UMH #13

****Closing Hymn** "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" UMH #277

****Sending Forth**

Postlude



The Altar Flowers are given in honor of all those who help with the Family Outreach dinners.

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 21:1-11 (NIV)

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

21 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵ "Say to Daughter Zion,

'See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

¹¹ The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are visiting with us today, please take a moment to sign our attendance register located in each pew. We welcome you and hope you will come back and worship with us again soon.



Rev. Jeff Bandy

Office Hours M, T, TH 9:00am-3:00pm & by Appt.

Office: (937) 372-7601 ext. 13

pastorjeff@fcum.org ♦ www.fcum.org

Like and Follow us on Facebook @ FCUM.Xenia

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Palm Sunday April 2, 2023

Worship Team

Ushers

Chad Mossing, Gerald Mahan,
Will Mossing, Jim Osburn

Greeters

Bob Whipp, Pam Whipp

Liturgist

Julie Wickline

Guest Organist

Jim McPeck

Choir Director

Glen Shaw

Bells Director

Jim McPeck



Monday 3	Community Blood Drive	2:00 pm	FCC
	Cub Scouts	6:30 pm	FH 15 A-B
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15 C
	Stephen Ministry	7:00 pm	Library
Tuesday 4	Lenten Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
	Magic Volleyball Practice	5:30 pm	FCC
	Girl Scouts	6:00 pm	FH 15 A,B,C, 16A
	Trustees	6:30 pm	Parlor
	SPRC	7:00 pm	Library
Wednesday 5			
Thursday 6 	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
	Woman's Club of Xenia	1:30 pm	Parlor
	Worship Service	7:00 pm	Sanctuary
	Choir Practice	8:00 pm	Sanctuary
Friday 7	Magic Volleyball Practice	5:30 pm	FCC
Saturday 8			
Easter Sunday 9 	(No Sunday School)		
	Light Breakfast	9:00 am	FH 15 A-B, Kitchen
	Easter Egg Hunt	10:00 am	FCC or Front Lawn
	Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Double I meet in 15C, Leader Wayne Cook, will watch "Is It I?" video.

Open Doors meet in Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer study of "The Final Week" by John Birch.

Grades 6-12 will meet in Rm 16 A-B, Leader Julie Wickline.

Preschool – Grade 5 Join the children in Rm 11 under the leadership of Kiley Fleming and Karen Mossing for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.

Next Sermon – Easter Sunday, April 9

"Giving It Up: Death"
Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
John 20: 1-20

April 2, 2023 Announcements

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE: We will have a blood drive in the Community Center on **Monday, April 3, 2:00pm to 6:00pm**. You can make a reservation for your preferred appointment time to donate by going to www.donortime.com or (937) 461-3220. Remember that your donation can save as many as THREE lives!

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: There will be a worship service in the Sanctuary on **Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 pm**. The Choir will be singing and we will receive The Lord's Supper together. Join us as we remember the momentous events of Holy Week and prepare for the celebration of Easter.

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION: Please join us **Easter Sunday, April 9**. A light breakfast will be served from 9:00 –10:00 am in Fellowship Hall. At 10:00 am there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids. Worship service begins at 10:30 am.

BRING YOUR COINS NEXT WEEK: Coins for missions Sunday is **Easter Sunday, April 9**. Coins will go to the following Ministries supported by the FCUMC mission and outreach team: Bridges of Hope, Fish Pantry and Family Promise.

LENTEN OFFERING FOR VBS: The church will be collecting a special offering through **Easter Sunday, April 9**, to support Vacation Bible School. The cost is approximately \$30 per child and our goal is to raise \$3000. VBS Offering Envelopes will be available on the table in the narthex or in the office. Please mark your check VBS. Thank you for your prayers and support as we prepare to explore God's goodness.



JACKSON AREA MINISTRIES: Spring is arriving soon! The "JAM" program provides garden plants and seeds for the residents in need so they can provide veggies and fruits for their family. Please consider making a donation (mark checks J.A.M. project) and place in the offering plate or drop seed packets into the basket in the narthex through **Easter Sunday, April 9**.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS: Guidelines and application forms for FCUMC's Educational Assistance are available in the narthex and church office. This year assistance will be offered to graduating high school seniors who are contemplating entering a college or technical school in the fall of 2023 as well as to upper classmen currently enrolled in college. These forms must be completed and returned to the church office by the **April 16** deadline.

OFFICE CLOSURES: Due to Vacation schedules the office will be closed **Friday, April 21 and Friday, April 28** we're sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

OUR PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY IS EXPANDING AND WE NEED YOUR HELP: Besides the prayer shawls and lap blankets, we are now also making chemo hats for those suffering hair loss due to treatments. Please let the office know of anyone who is going through serious injuries, surgeries, illnesses or grief of death, divorce, job loss, depression or loneliness. We will see that they receive our gift. We are also asking for more volunteers who knit or crochet to join our group (**Thursdays 11-12:30 in the Parlor**) or would like to do projects at home. We very much would appreciate those who can teach these skills or can help problem-shoot for new members wanting to learn these skills. Please leave a message for Judy Mahan at (937) 372-5711 or (937) 416-4015.



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