

May 21, 2023

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Prelude "Morning Has Risen" Handbell Choir
arr. by Mary Lou Fast

Greeting/Life of the Church

Introit Chancel Choir

**Call to Worship

Liturgist: Let us gather in this space.

People: We gather from many places.

Liturgist: Let us center ourselves for worship.

People: We are one in the Spirit with joy in our hearts.

Liturgist: Let us receive God's blessing.

People: God's blessing is ours. We are God's beloved! Amen!

**Opening Hymn "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" UMH #103

Opening Prayer (unison)

Breath of God, renew us in this time of worship. Help us set aside thoughts that trouble us. Help us pause the challenges of the world that taunt us. Pour your spirit within each one of us, that we may be re-spirited in this hour by your power and your grace. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" (v.1,3,4) UMH #500

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 "Holy is the Lord" Handbell Choir
Franz Schubert

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

Endless source of life, pour your blessing upon the gifts we bring before you. Bless our giving in your abundance for the restoration of all people. Through our offering, may those who are weary be energized; may those who feel forgotten find a home. With the joy of your grace filling our hearts, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading Acts 1:6-14

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

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Ministry of Music "Seek The Lord" Chancel Choir
John Carter

Sermon "Ascending Roles" Pastor Jeff Bandy

Graduate Recognition Grace Smith High School Graduate

**Closing Hymn "How Firm a Foundation" UMH #529

Sending Forth

Choral Benediction

Postlude



*The Altar Flowers are given by Jerry & Judy Mahan
in honor of their 56th Wedding Anniversary.*

Gospel Reading – Acts 1:6-14 (NRSV)

The Ascension of Jesus

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

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We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

May 21, 2023 - Worship Team

Ushers	Eric Fleming, Mike Tittle, Butch Smith, Don Wolf
Greeters	Dr. Dillaplain, Elaine Hughes
Liturgist	Chad Mossing
Guest Organist	Jim McPeek
Choir Director	Glen Shaw
Bells Director	Jim McPeek



Monday 22	Bible Study Cooking Cub Scouts Boy Scouts	9:00 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Kitchen FH 15 A-B FH 15 C
Tuesday 23	Bible Study Cooking Magic Volleyball Practice Private Event SPRC	9:00 am 5:30 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Kitchen FCC FH 15 C Library
Wednesday 24	Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Sanctuary
Thursday 25	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
Friday 26	Magic Volleyball Practice	5:30 pm	FCC
Saturday 27			
Sunday 28	Sunday School Fellowship Time Worship Service	9:15 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Parlor, 11, 15C, 16A FH 15 A-B Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Double I meet in 15C, Leader Wayne Cook, study of **"The Minor Prophets."**

Open Doors meet in Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer study of **"What's So Amazing About Grace?" by Philip Yancey.**

Grades 6-12 will meet in Rm 16 A-B, Leader Joyce Smith.

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 – Sunday, May 28

"A Spirit-Filled Life"
Scripture Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
Acts 2: 1-21

May 21, 2023 Announcements

CONFERENCE COLLECTION: During this year's in-person West Ohio Annual Conference, a truck will be on-site to collect items for Midwest Mission Distribution Center, our North Central Jurisdiction UMCOR Depot. Midwest Mission distributes supplies to people in need across the U.S., especially in the wake of a disaster. This year's collection will focus on two items: Laundry Detergent (100-150 oz. size) and Shampoo (12-19 oz. bottles). Please place your donations on the table in the narthex on **Sunday, May 21 and Sunday, May 28.** If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Murray (937) 372-8376.

WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK IN A SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY: The Gift of Empathy is a newly published book by Stephen Ministries. They are also working on a discussion guide and we have been asked to participate in their pilot program. We are very excited to share in this opportunity. The Gift of Empathy Pilot Group will run as an 8 week Sunday School class beginning on **Sunday, June 4.** Class members are asked to read the book (this is a compact book and the reading is less than an hour per week) and provide feedback during the class. This feedback will be shared with the publisher so that a discussion guide can be published next year. You do not need to be in Stephen Ministries to participate. If you would like to join us, please call or text Lynn Engle at (937) 409-0667 or you can sign up for the class in the Narthex on **Sunday, May 21 and Sunday, May 28.**

EMPTY CONTAINERS: The Family Outreach Committee is requesting cleaned, empty containers **with** lids to use for leftovers etc. for funeral dinners. Please bring to the church office or contact Margaret Stidham with any questions (937) 376-1803.

DO YOU LIKE TO GARDEN?: The Men of Faith are planning to plant a garden this year to help supply fresh vegetables to the Xenia Food Pantry. If you can volunteer to help, please contact Bob (Butch) Smith at (937) 532-6164.

CASSEROLE CARE-A-VAN: Do you know of someone connected to our church who could benefit from our Casserole Care-a-van providing them with a few meals? If so, get with me so that I can let you know the information that I will need to get this set up with our amazing Casserole Care-a-van volunteers. Julie Wickline (937) 207-8289.



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