



Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024

Please take a moment to sign our attendance register located in each pew.

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Prelude Jim McPeek
"Amazing Grace" Jack Shrader
 **Gospel Lesson - Mark 16:1-8 Liturgist/Pastor Jeff Bandy

**Call to Worship
 We no longer need to respond with fear to the realization that the tomb stands empty. Jesus has risen!
Jesus has risen for us all!
 Jesus lives so we may have new life!
Jesus has risen and we live in Him!
 Jesus is risen!
Jesus is risen indeed!

**Opening Hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (v.1-4) UMH #302

Opening Prayer (unison)
God, just as you raised Jesus from the dead, you offer us new and transformed lives in the risen Christ. We rejoice and give thanks for this good news, which has been handed down to us from generation to generation. May we be witnesses of the resurrection, sharing your promise of forgiveness and grace with all people. This is your doing, O God. It is marvelous in our eyes. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "He Lives" UMH #310

Prayers of the Faithful
 Let our voices ring out to rejoice with all our hearts! Let us offer our prayers and thanksgivings with one voice, calling out the good news.
The tomb stands empty!

We look for our Savior among the living. Jesus Christ is alive and, in our midst, today.

We pray for all faithful people for every human soul that turns to God in longing and in love. Today and every day, pull us out of our graves and into your life. *The tomb stands empty!*

We look for our Redeemer among the living. Jesus Christ is alive and among us today.

We pray for the nations of the earth, for those in authority, and for those under authority. Come from the four winds, O Breath of Life, and we shall live together in peace. *The tomb stands empty!*

We look for our Mediator among the living. Jesus Christ is alive and within us today.

We pray for those who are sick or suffering for anyone who needs extra help just now. We pray especially for those in our community and close to our hearts. Living Lord, renew them in Your love. *The tomb stands empty!*

We look for our Sustainer among the living. Jesus Christ is alive and with us today.

We pray for those who have died, and for all who mourn. Those who we do not know as well as those who we can name and miss dearly. Eternal One, bring them home and gather them in. *The tomb stands empty!*

We look for our Beloved among the living. Jesus Christ is alive and in the midst of us today.

With joy and grateful hearts, we give thanks for the triumph of life over death, offering special thanks for those joys, sorrows, challenges, and delights that have amazed us in this past year. *The tomb stands empty!*

We look for our Creator among the living. Jesus Christ is alive and, in our hearts, today.

Holy One, even before we call, you answer, while we are yet speaking, you hear. We offer up these prayers in the name of the Risen Christ, our Savior, Redeemer, and Friend.

Amen.

Offering/Offertory Jim McPeek
"Abide With Me" William Monk

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication
God of the victory of life over death; on this glorious Easter Sunday, we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. Bless our giving and help us discover the transformative power of the living Jesus in our lives. In the holy name of our risen Savior, we pray. Amen.

Ministry of Music Chancel Choir
"Arise and Shine! Your Light Has Come!" Joseph Martin

Sermon "Fear to Proclamation" Pastor Jeff Bandy

Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Closing Hymn "Crown Him with Many Crowns" (v.1,2,4) UMH #327

**Sending Forth

Postlude Jim McPeek
"For the Beauty of the Earth" Joel Raney



Gospel Reading – Mark 16: 1-8 (NIV)

Jesus Has Risen

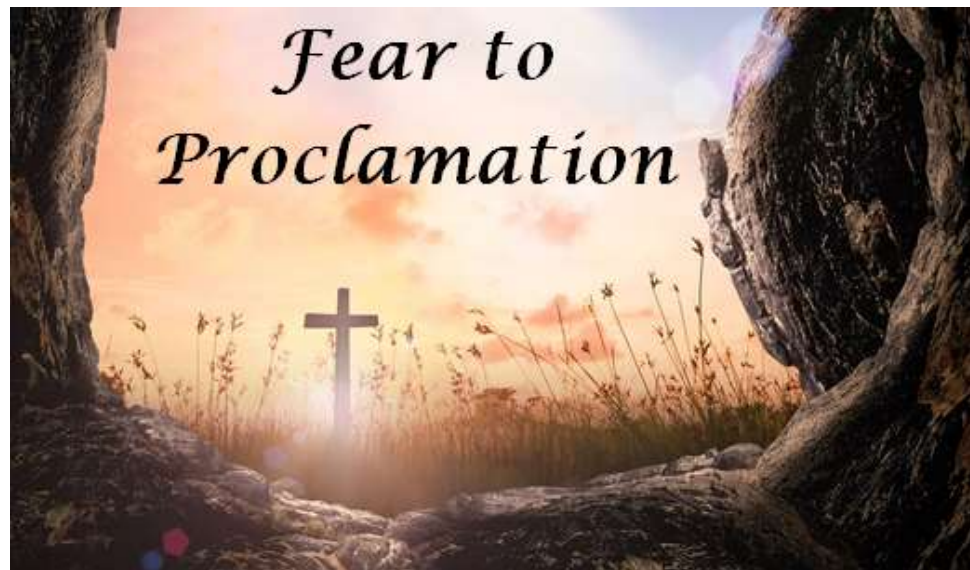
16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. **2** Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb **3** and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

4 But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. **5** As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

6 "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. **7** But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'" **8** Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are visiting with us today, we welcome you and hope you will come back and worship with us again soon. We would love to get to know you, please take a moment to provide your information in the attendance register located in each pew.



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

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024 - Worship Team

Ushers	Doug Wickline, Bruce Spitler, Don Wolf, Bob Whipp
Greeters	FCUM College Crew
Liturgist	Julie Wickline
Guest Organist	Jim McPeek
Bells Director	Jim McPeek
Choir Director	Melody Kelley



	EASTER MONDAY	OFFICE	CLOSED
Monday 1	Cub Scouts Boy Scouts Stephen Ministry	6:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FH 15 A-B FH 15 C Library
Tuesday 2	Bible Study Winter Guard Practice Magic Volleyball Practice Girl Scouts	10:00 am 4:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:00 pm	Parlor FCC FCC FH 15 A,B,C, 16 A
Wednesday 3	Handbell Practice Choir Practice	6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room Sanctuary/Chapel
Thursday 4	Prayer Shawl Woman's Club of Xenia Magic Volleyball Practice	11:00 am 1:30 pm 6:00 pm	Parlor Parlor FCC
Friday 5	Winter Guard Practice	4:00 pm	FCC
Saturday 6			
Sunday 7	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Parlor, 8,11, 16A Narthex Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Double I meet in Rm 8, Leader Wayne Cook, study of **"Ecclesiastes, Chasing After Meaning"** by **Bill and Teresa Syrios**.

Open Doors will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer study of **"Ten Women of the Bible"** by **Max Lucado**.

Grades 6-12 will meet in Rm 16 A, Leader Julie Wickline and Joyce Smith.

Preschool – Grade 5 will meet 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 – April 7, 2024

"How Shall We Live"
Gospel Lesson

Guest Speaker, Victor Hess
John 20: 19-31 (NIV)

March 31, 2024 Announcements

RENEWAL LEAVE: Pastor Jeff has been granted a one-month renewal and spiritual formation leave during the month of April. The pulpit will be covered by Victor Hess on April 7; Rev. Jenn Lucas, Great Miami River District Superintendent, on April 14; Our Youth with assistance from the worship and education committees on April 21; and Wendy Lybarger, a West Ohio Conference Regional Missional Specialist on April 28. For all pastoral care matters in Pastor Jeff's absence, please contact the office at (937) 372-7601 to share your needs and you will be cared for.

LENTEN OFFERING FOR VBS: During the season of Lent through **Easter Sunday, Mar. 31**, the church will be collecting a special offering to support Vacation Bible School. Your gift will help provide for children participating in this year's program. 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 SEED PROGRAM: 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 **Sunday, Mar. 3 - Sunday, Apr. 7**.

OFFICE CLOSED: The office will be closed all day **Easter Monday, Apr. 1 and Monday, Apr. 8 12:00-3:00pm** so everyone can observe the Solar Eclipse.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE: Guidelines and application forms 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 2024 as well as to upper classmen currently enrolled in college. These forms must be completed and returned to the church office by **Sunday, Apr. 14**.

BLOOD DRIVE: We will have a blood drive in the Community Center on **Monday, Apr. 29, 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!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: (more info to come at a later date)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WEEK: Monday, Jul. 15-Friday, Jul. 19

SHOES 4 THE SHOELESS: Measuring Day is Saturday, Aug. 3 and Pickup Day is Saturday, Aug. 17.

MEN OF FAITH GARAGE SALE: Friday, Sep. 6, and Saturday, Sep. 7



	EASTER MONDAY	OFFICE	CLOSED
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