

March 9, 2025

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

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Greeting/Life of the Church

Prelude Offertory Handbell Choir
"Tintabulation based on a Traditional Russian Tune" Douglas Wagner

**Call to Worship

Come and sing to the Lord! Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Come into God's presence with thanksgiving! Make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

We worship and bow down; we kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

ALL: The Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

**Opening Hymn

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" (v. 1-3) UMH #66

Opening Prayer (unison)

Merciful God, your ways lead to life; your light shines in our darkness. The promises you made to our ancestors continue to this day. We too share the bounty of your blessings, and the grace of eternal life in your name. May we be worthy of our calling and help others find their way. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "He Is Exalted" (repeat 1x - see insert)

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.

Responsive Psalm Reading "Psalm 99:1-5" UMH #819

Offering/Offertory

"Holy Ground" Carol Stewart
Christopher Beatty/Mark Hayes

**Doxology

UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

God of abundance, we offer these gifts, along with our praise and thanksgiving. You generously pour out your love and the gifts of this good earth to us, each and every day. Bless the gifts we return to you now, that they may bring abundant love and sustenance to many in need of your blessing. With grateful hearts, we pray. Amen.

**Gospel Reading

Mark 1:14-15

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

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Ministry of Music

Handbell Choir
"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" African American Spiritual

Sermon "The Kingdom of God Has Come Near" Pastor Jeff Bandy

**Closing Hymn "From the Rising of the Sun" (see insert)

**Sending Forth

May the God who rules all things, Jesus Christ to whom all knees shall bend, and the Holy Spirit who spreads the Kingdom of Heaven bless you and keep you, now and always.

Amen.

Postlude

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Carol Stewart
Peter C. Lutkin



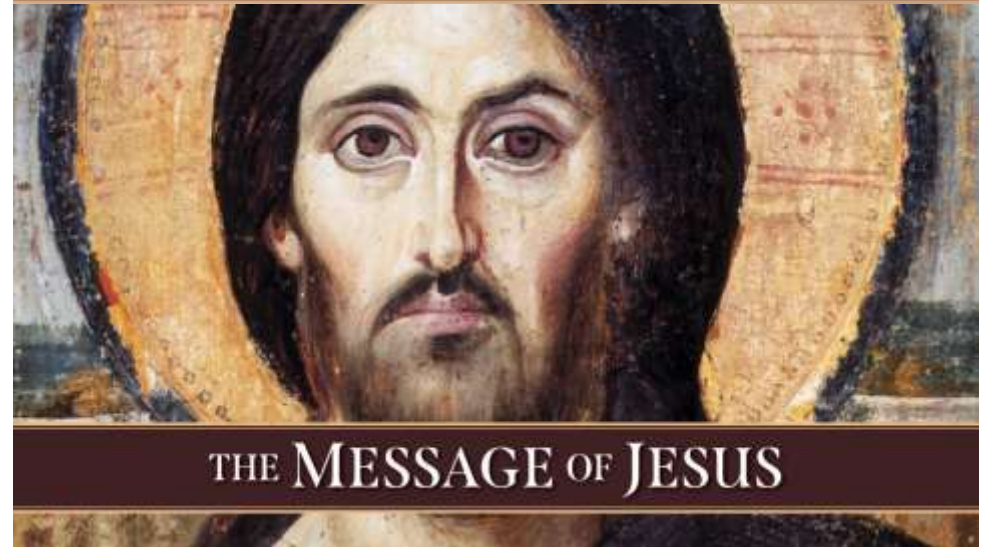
The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God.

Gospel Reading – Mark 1:14-15 (NRSVUE)

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The Kingdom of God Has Come Near



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

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.

March 9, 2025 - Worship Team

Ushers	Doug Wickline, Bruce Spitler, Don Wolf, Bob Whipp
Greeters	Debbie Spitler
Liturgist	Suzanne Bandy
Organist	Carol Stewart
Chancel Choir Director	Melody Kelley
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeck

MARCH

Monday 10	Special Olympics Basketball Boy Scouts Cub Scouts	6:45 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC FH 15C FH 15A-B
Tuesday 11	Tuesday Bible Study Winter Guard Practice Magic Volleyball Practice Girl Scouts Leaders	10:00 am 3:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:15 pm	Parlor FCC FCC FH 15C
Wednesday 12	Handbell Practice Chancel Choir Practice	6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room Sanctuary/Chapel
Thursday 13	Prayer Shawl Magic Volleyball Practice Scouts District Meeting	11:00 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Parlor FCC FH 15 A-B
Friday 14	Winter Guard Practice	3:30 pm	FCC
Saturday 15	Mary & Martha Mini Retreat	9:00 am	FCC, CC 16A
Sunday 16	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Rm 8,11,CC16A, Parlor Narthex Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Double I will meet in Rm 8, Leader Alan Barone, study of "Life Lessons from ACTS" by Max Lucado.

Open Doors will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer, study of "Troublesome Bible Passages" by Douglas E. Wingeier and David Lowes Watson.

Grades 6-12 will meet in CC 16A-B, Leaders Vic Hess, Erika Stone and Joyce Smith.

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

Next Sermon - Sunday, March 16

"The World's Most Important Sermon"
Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
Matthew 5: 1-16 (CEB)

SAVE-THE-DATE

Mary & Martha/Men of Faith host the Xenia H.S. Jazz Ensemble: Monday, Apr. 7, 6pm

Vacation Bible School: Monday, Jul. 14 - Friday, Jul. 18

March 9, 2025 Announcements

TODAY IS COINS FOR MISSIONS SUNDAY: Coins will go to the following Ministries: Bridges of Hope, Fish Pantry and Family Promise.



Join us this Lent for a sermon series that discusses a wide variety of topics in Jesus's own preaching, based on the book *The Message of Jesus* by Adam Hamilton. Through this series, we will explore Jesus's preaching on the kingdom of God, the Sermon on the Mount, the parables, the I Am sayings in John, the significance of Jesus's words during his final days, and his teaching throughout the Gospels on heaven, the afterlife, and his own resurrection.

This series begins TODAY, and in association with the sermon series, our **Adult Sunday school classes beginning Mar. 16** will be using this book and an accompanying video from Adam Hamilton to further the study of The Message of Jesus.

LENTEN OFFERING FOR VBS: During the season of Lent through **Easter Sunday, Apr. 20**, 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 appx. \$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.

MARY & MARTHA WOMEN'S MINI-RETREAT: Join us **Saturday, Mar. 15, 9:00am-3:00pm in FCC.** The day will include a continental breakfast, music, a creative project, lunch, and scripture reflection. The cost is \$25 per person and reservations are required. Open to all women regardless of any church affiliation. Registration forms are available in the narthex and in the office. **There is still time to register, please call Suzanne Bandy (740) 412-2195. (Please Note: There will NOT be a Mary & Martha gathering on March 10.)**

WOMEN'S GROUPS: WOMEN UNITED CIRCLE will meet on **Monday, Mar. 17 at 1:00pm** in the Parlor. DORCAS CIRCLE will not meet in March.

MEN OF FAITH: The Men of Faith will meet on **Monday, Mar. 17 at 6:00pm in CC 16A.** All men are invited to join us. Dinner will be served. We will have social time during the meal followed by a Bible devotional. After a presentation on planning, we will then plan our 2025 projects. Watch your email for more information.

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. 9 - Sunday, Apr. 13.**

UMCOR SUNDAY, MAR 30: The UMCOR Sunday offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable.

SUNDAY NURSERY WORKER NEEDED: Candidates must be 18 or older and must have a background check as well as receive Safe Sanctuary training. The nursery worker is expected to be available Sundays from 8:45-11:45am. If you are interested or have any questions, please talk to Chad Mossier or Pastor Jeff or send an email to pastorjeff@fcum.org.

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	Cub Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15A-B
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	Hospitality Time	10:00 am	Narthex
	Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary

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2024 From the Rising of the Sun

From the ris - ing of the sun — to the
 go - ing down of the same, — the name of the
 Lord shall be praised. — From the
 ris - ing of the sun — to the go - ing down of the same, —
 — the name of the Lord shall be
 praised. — So praise ye the
 Lord. — Praise ye the
 Lord. — From the ris - ing of the sun —

Over →

— to the go - ing down of the same, — the
 name of the Lord shall be praised. —

WORDS: Anon. (Ps. 113:3)
 MUSIC: Anon.

RIISING SUN
 Irregular

IN PRAISE OF CHRIST
 He Is Exalted 2070

He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high; I will
 praise him. He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed and I will
 praise his name! — He is the Lord, for - ev - er his truth shall
 reign; heav - en and earth re - joice in his ho - ly name.
 He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high. —

WORDS: Twila Paris (1 Chron. 29:11; Eph. 2:19-22)
 MUSIC: Twila Paris

HE IS EXALTED
 Irregular

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From the ris - ing of the sun — to the
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