

# Palm Sunday - April 13, 2025

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

(\*\*Indicates, please stand as able)

\*\*Processional Hymn "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" UMH #280

Greeting/Life of the Church

Prelude Handbell Choir  
"Praise to the Lord" arr. by Anna Laura Page

\*\*Call to Worship

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

**In great mercy God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for our sake.

**Through him we have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory.**

\*\*Opening Hymn "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" (see insert – repeat 1x)

Opening Prayer (unison)

**God of righteousness, draw near to us in this coming week. We yearn to keep singing our hosannas, but fear that we too may lose our convictions in the face of an angry mob. We long to see ourselves as your champions, but fear that we too might deny you or betray you with a kiss. Strengthen our resolve during Holy Week, that we may remain your faithful disciples. Prepare us today, O God, put your words of life in our hearts, that we may be strengthened to walk with Christ until the bitter end. Amen.**

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Go, Make of All Disciples" (v. 1-3) UMH #571

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.**

\*\*Gospel Reading "God of the Living" Matthew 22:29-33 (NIV)

Offering/Offertory Carol Stewart  
"Open the Gates of the Temple" Phoebe P. Knapp/Norman Johnson

\*\*Doxology UMH #95

\*\*Prayer of Dedication

**We thank you, O God, for your generous Spirit. We praise you for Christ's gift of self, and your never-failing love. For your many gifts, we thank you. For walking with us in our weakness, we praise you. Receive these gifts in token and thanks for the love you offer us—a love that makes us well and whole. Amen.**

\*\*Gospel Reading "No More Suffering" Luke 16:19-31 (NIV)

Ministry of Music Handbell Choir  
"There Is a Balm in Gilead" arr. by Linker and McFadden

\*\*Gospel Reading "A Place For You" John 14:1-3 (NIV)

Sermon "The Resurrection and The Life" Pastor Jeff Bandy

\*\*Affirmation of Faith

**We believe Jesus Christ brought God's Kingdom near, calling all people to repent and believe the good news. We believe his death on the cross exposes both the reality of human sin and the depths of God's selfless, sacrificial love. We believe his resurrection is God's ultimate victory over sin, hate, evil, and death. We believe that through the Holy Spirit, Jesus still calls us and all to repent and believe the gospel, yielding our hearts to God alone, embodying in our lives the justice, mercy, and love of God's rule. Amen.**

\*\*Closing Hymn "Rejoice, the Lord Is King" (v. 1-3) UMH #715

\*\*Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart  
"The Palms" Jean-Baptiste Faure/Harold De Cou



*The Altar Flowers are given by Joan, Linda, & Sharon Baxter in memory of Leonard Baxter.*

## Gospel Reading – “God of the Living” – Matthew 22:29-33 (NIV)

<sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. <sup>30</sup> At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven. <sup>31</sup> But about the resurrection of the dead—have you not read what God said to you, <sup>32</sup> ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”

<sup>33</sup> When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

## Gospel Reading – “No More Suffering” – Luke 16:19-31 (NIV)

<sup>19</sup> “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. <sup>20</sup> At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores <sup>21</sup> and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

<sup>22</sup> “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

<sup>25</sup> “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

<sup>27</sup> “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

<sup>29</sup> “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

<sup>30</sup> “‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

<sup>31</sup> “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

## Gospel Reading – “A Place For You” – John 14:1-3 (NIV)

**14** “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

# The Resurrection and The Life



THE MESSAGE OF JESUS



**Rev. Jeff Bandy**

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

Office: (937) 372-7601 ext. 13

[pastorjeff@fcum.org](mailto:pastorjeff@fcum.org) ♦ [www.fcum.org](http://www.fcum.org)

Like and Follow us on Facebook @ FCUM.Xenia

**We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation**

## Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025 Worship Team

Ushers	Chad Mossing, Will Mossing, Gerald Mahan, Jim Osburn
Greeters	Becky Cultice
Liturgist	Sandy Pramer
Organist	Carol Stewart
Chancel Choir Director	Melody Kelley
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeck



Monday 14	Women United Circle	1:00 pm	Parlor
	Special Olympics Volleyball	6:45 pm	FCC
	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15C
	Cub Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15A-B
Tuesday 15	Tuesday Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
	Dorcas Circle	1:00 pm	FH 15A-B
	Mission Outreach	3:30 pm	Parlor
	Investment Working Group	4:30 pm	Library
	Girl Scouts	6:00 pm	FH 15 A,B,C, CC 16A
Wednesday 16	Handbell Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
	Chancel Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Sanctuary/Chapel
Thursday 17	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>		
	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
	Magic Volleyball Practice	6:00 pm	FCC
	Maundy Thursday Worship	7:00 pm	Sanctuary
Friday 18			
Saturday 19	Boy Scouts Syrup Bottling	9:00 am	Kitchen
Sunday 20	<b>HAPPY EASTER</b>		
	Hospitality Time	9:30 am	Narthex
	Easter Egg Hunt	10:00 am	Outside/FCC
	Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary

### April 13 - Sunday School Studies (No classes April 20)

**Double I** will meet in Rm 8, Leader Lucy Parsons, study "The Message of Jesus" by Adam Hamilton.

**Open Doors** will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer, study "The Message of Jesus" by Adam Hamilton.

**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 Mousing for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.

### Next Service – Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 7:00pm

#### Next Sermon – Easter Sunday, April 20

"Jesus: The Risen Lord!"  
Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy  
John 20:1-18 (NIV)

## Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025 Announcements

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

**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. **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY** to make a donation (mark checks J.A.M. project) and place in the offering plate or drop seed packets into the basket in the narthex.

**WOMEN'S GROUPS:** WOMEN UNITED CIRCLE will meet **Monday, Apr. 14 at 1:00pm in the Parlor.** DORCAS CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, Apr. 15 at 1:00pm in FH 15A.**

**LAST CHANCE TO ORDER YOUR EASTER FLOWERS:** Please place the order form and payment in the offering plate or return to the church office by **TOMORROW, Monday, Apr. 14.**

**EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION:** Please join us for an Easter Celebration **Sunday, Apr. 20.** We will have Hospitality time 9:30–10:30am in the Narthex, at 10:00am there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids and Worship service will begin at 10:30am. (Please note there will be no Sunday School classes.)

**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.

**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 2025 as well as to upper classmen currently enrolled in college. These forms must be completed and returned to the church office by **Sunday, Apr. 20.**

**MEN OF FAITH:** The Men of Faith will meet **on Monday, Apr. 21 at 6:00pm in CC 16A.** All men are invited to join us. Grilled Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be served. We will have social time during the meal followed by a Bible devotional. After a presentation on planning, we will then focus on our 2025 projects. Watch your email for more information.

**VIOLENCE FREE FUTURES IS HOLDING A CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS 5K HERE AT FAITH COMMUNITY:** Join us on **Saturday, April 26, 9:00-11:00am** and dress up as your favorite superhero and run, walk, or stroll in our Superhero 5K. This family-friendly event is perfect for all ages and even welcomes your furry friends. The cost is \$30 and you can register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Xenia/SuperheroCAPE5kWalkRun>. Sponsorship packets are on the table in the narthex. Race or Sponsorship Inquiries: Heather Culbreath (937) 376-8526.

**VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE:** We will have a blood drive in the Community Center on **Monday, Apr. 28, 2:00pm to 6:00pm.** You can make a reservation for your preferred appointment time to donate by going to [www.donortime.com](http://www.donortime.com) or (937) 461-3220. A light meal will be provided for all donors. Remember that your donation can save as many as THREE lives!

### 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.





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## 2088 Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift your name on high;

Lord, I love to sing your prais - es.

I'm so glad you're in my life;

I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heav - en to earth \_ to show the way, -

\_ from the earth \_ to the cross \_ my debt to pay; -

\_ from the cross to the grave, \_ from the grave to the sky; -

\_ Lord, I lift your name on high.

WORDS: Rick Founds (1 Cor. 15:3-4)

MUSIC: Rick Founds

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LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH

Irregular

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