April 06, 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 Ken Clark, violin solo "Gabriel's Oboe" Ennio Morricone

**Call to Worship

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave.

Being found in human likeness, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every name.

And at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend and every tongue confess: Jesus Christ is Lord!

**Opening Hymn

"Jesu, Jesu"

UMH #432

Opening Prayer (unison)

Holy One of God, come to this sanctuary, and to our homes, and let us receive you with lavish welcome. You are the Restorer of our fortunes, the Promise of new life —we pour out our praise to you. Fill this space with your Spirit and fill our hearts with your compassion, not just in this time and place, but in all times and in all places, so that as we celebrate the great things you have done for us, we may also embody the love you give to all. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "In Remembrance of Me"

(see back page)

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 & Epistle Readings "Final Words: At the Last Supper" (see insert)
John 13:34-35, Luke 22:24-27, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NIV)

Offering/Offertory Carol Stewart
"Were You There?" arr. by Marilynn Ham

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

Dearest Lord Jesus, you chose a path of suffering to reach out to us in our suffering. Use us and our gifts to extend your love and comfort to reach people in places of loss and grief. Use us and our gifts this day to bring hope and compassion to those who weep, that they may know your miraculous power and your fullness of life. Amen.

**Gospel Readings "Final Words: From the Cross" (see insert)
Luke 23:33-34a & 39-43, Mark 15:33-34, John 19:26-30 (NIV)

Ministry of Music Ken Clark, violin solo

"Ashokan Farewell" Jay Unger

Sermon "Final Words" Pastor Jeff Bandy

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Closing Hymn "What Wondrous Love Is This" (v.1-3) UMH #292

**Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart

"God So Loved the World" John Stainer



The Altar Flowers are given by Joyce Smith in memory of her sister Sheila Fauble's birthday on April 5th. EUCHARIST (HOLY COMMUNION, LORD'S SUPPER)



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Final Words



THE MESSAGE OF JESUS



Sharing Faith, Building Community

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

April 06, 2025 - Worship Team

Ushers Chad Mossing, Will Mossing,

Gerald Mahan, Jim Osburn

Greeters Judy Mahan

Liturgist Elaine Hughes

Organist Carol Stewart

Chancel Choir Director Melody Kelley



Monday	Mary & Martha/ Xenia Band	6:00 pm	FCC
7	Boy Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15C
	Cub Scouts	7:00 pm	FH 15A-B
Tuesday	Tuesday Bible Study	10:00 am	Parlor
8	Girl Scouts Leaders	6:15 pm	FH 15C
Wednesday	Handbell Practice	6:15 pm	Music Room
9	Chancel Choir Practice	7:30 pm	Sanctuary/Chapel
Thursday	Prayer Shawl	11:00 am	Parlor
10	Magic Volleyball Practice	6:00 pm	FCC
	Scouting America Dist Mtg	6:30 pm	FH 15 A-B
	Christian Education	7:00 pm	Rm 8
Friday			
11			
Saturday			
12			
Sunday 13	Sunday School	9:00 am	Rm 8,11,CC16A, Parlor
MAN	Hospitality Time	10:00 am	Narthex
Palm Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

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

Next Sermon - Sunday, April 13

"The Resurrection and The Life" Rev. Jeff Bandy Gospel Lesson Matthew 22:29-33, Luke 16:19-31, John 14:1-3 (NIV)

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.

April 06, 2025 Announcements

XENIA HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ ENSEMBLE: All women, men and children are invited to this extra special evening sponsored by the Mary & Martha Gathering and the United Methodist Men of Faith. The Xenia High School Jazz Ensemble will share their musical talents for a toe-tapping, joy-inspired evening of entertainment on **Monday, Apr. 7 at 6:00pm in FCC.** Potluck, as always, will be provided by the women – with a return of our signature church ham loafs! Questions, call Laurie Krakowiak at 937-694-8114 or the church office at 937-372-7601.

BRING YOUR COINS NEXT WEEK: Coins for missions Sunday is **Sunday, Apr. 13**. Coins will go to the following Ministries supported by the FCUMC mission and outreach team: 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. Please mark checks J.A.M. project and place in the offering plate or drop seed packets into the basket in the narthex through **Sunday, Apr. 13.**

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**.

EASTER FLOWERS: It is time to order your Tulips or Lilies for Easter Sunday. Order forms are in the narthex and church office, please place the order form and payment in the offering plate or return to the church office by **Monday, Apr. 14.** You can order tulips or lilies and the cost is \$11.00 per plant. Make checks payable to Faith Community UMC and mark your check "Easter Flowers".

EASTER SUNDAY: 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. (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.**

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 at (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 or (937) 461-3220. A light meal will be provided for all donors. Remember that your donation can save as many as THREE lives!

SAVE-THE-DATE — details to come:

Church Hawaiian Dinner: Saturday, Jun. 28 at 4:30pm Vacation Bible School: Monday, Jul. 14-Friday, Jul. 18 Shoes 4 the Shoeless: Measure Saturday, Aug. 2 & Pick Up Saturday, Aug. 16



Monday	Mary & Martha/ Xenia Band	6:00 pm	FCC
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Gospel & Epistle Reading – "Final Words: At the Last Supper" NIV

John 13:34-35

³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Luke 22:24-27

²⁴ A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. ²⁵ Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. ²⁶ But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. ²⁷ For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Gospel Reading – "Final Words: From the Cross" NIV

Luke 23:33-34a & 39-43

- ³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."
- ³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"
- ⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."
- ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
- ⁴³ Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Mark 15:33-34

³³ At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, *"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"* (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").

John 19:26-30

When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son,"
and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

The Death of Jesus

²⁸ Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹ A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. ³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

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