

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026

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

(**Indicates, please stand as able)

Greeting/Life of the Church

Prelude Carol Stewart
"The Holy City" Stephen Adams

**Gospel Reading "Triumphal Entry" Luke 19:37-40

**Celebration Hymn "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (v 1,3,4,5) UMH #280

**Call to Worship

Give thanks to God, who is truly good.

Hosanna in the highest!

Praise Christ, whose love abounds with grace.

Hosanna in the highest!

Welcome the Spirit with songs of praise.

Hosanna in the highest!

**Opening Hymn "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" UMH #278

Opening Prayer (unison)

Christ of both celebration and sorrow, be with us in our time of worship today and in the week ahead. Help us embrace the fullness of your story, both the triumph and the tragedy. Strengthen us to proclaim blessing and hope, no matter the circumstances, that we may be children of your promise, both now and forevermore. Amen.

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" (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.

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

**Doxology UMH #95

**Prayer of Dedication

We give you thanks, Christ Jesus, for your goodness and your grace. Blessing the gifts and lives we offer to you, that they may bring goodness and grace to your world. In gratitude and joy, we pray. Amen.

**Gospel Reading Matthew 27:11-26

Ministry of Music Michaela Skaggs, vocal solo; Chancel Choir
"Lift High the Palms" Joseph M. Martin

Sermon Pastor Jeff Bandy
"Removing Barriers to Engagement: Fear of Oppressive Systems"

**Closing Hymn "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" UMH #277

**Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart
"The Palms" Jean-Baptist Faure/Harold DeCou



*The Altar flowers are given by Janet Schellin
in honor of all families.*

Gospel Reading – Luke 19:37-40 (NIV)

³⁷ When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: ³⁸ "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

⁴⁰ "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

Gospel Reading – Matthew 27:11-26 (NIV)

¹¹ Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"You have said so," Jesus replied.

¹² When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. ¹³ Then Pilate asked him, "Don't you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?" ¹⁴ But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor. ¹⁵ Now it was the governor's custom at the festival to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd. ¹⁶ At that time they had a well-known prisoner whose name was Jesus Barabbas. ¹⁷ So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, "Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" ¹⁸ For he knew it was out of self-interest that they had handed Jesus over to him. ¹⁹ While Pilate was sitting on the judge's seat, his wife sent him this message: "Don't have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him." ²⁰ But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed. ²¹ "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" asked the governor. "Barabbas," they answered. ²² "What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked. They all answered, "Crucify him!" ²³ "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" ²⁴ When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" ²⁵ All the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!" ²⁶ Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.



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

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026 - Worship Team

Ushers	Doug Wickline, Bruce Spitler, Don Wolf, Bob Whipp
Greeter	Debbie Spitler
Liturgist	Sandy Pramer
Organist	Carol Stewart
Director of Music	Teri Gray
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeek



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Monday 30	Spec. Olympics Volleyball Boy Scouts Cub Scouts	6:45 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC FH 15C FH 15A-B
Tuesday 31	Walking Tuesday Bible Study	9:00 am 10:00 am	FCC Parlor
Wednesday 1	Handbell Choir Practice Chancel Choir Practice	6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room Chapel/Sanctuary
Thursday 2	Walking Prayer Shawl Woman's Club of Xenia Magic Volleyball Practice Maundy Thursday Worship	9:00 am 11:00 am 2:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC Parlor Parlor FCC Sanctuary
Friday 3			
Saturday 4			
Sunday 5	Hospitality Time Easter Egg Hunt Worship Service	9:30 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Fellowship Hall 15A-B FCC or Outside Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Lenten Study will meet in FH 15C, Leader Suzanne Bandy, study of "**Removing Barriers to Engagement**". All are welcome; Double I will join this study.

Open Doors will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer, study of "**The History and Archaeology of the Bible**" by Jean-Pierre Isbouts, DLitt

Grades 6-12 will meet in CC 16A, Leader Carla Skaggs.

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 Services:

Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 7:00pm
Easter Sunday, April 5 at 10:30am

March 29, 2026 Announcements

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 **TODAY, Mar. 29**.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: There will be a worship service in the Sanctuary on **Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 7:00pm**. Our worship will include Choir anthems, hymns, and the Lord's Supper, as we remember the momentous events of Holy Week and prepare for the celebration of Easter.

LENTEN OFFERING: During the season of Lent through **Easter Sunday, Apr. 5**, we will be collecting a special offering to support the Mongolia Mission Initiative. Throughout the year we will continue our support to Mongolia.

EASTER SUNDAY: Please join us for an Easter Celebration **Sunday, Apr. 5**. We will have Hospitality time 9:30–10:30am in the Fellowship Hall, at 10:00am there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids and Worship service will begin at 10:30am. (No Sunday School)

VACATION: Our Office Administrator, Deb Klaty will be on vacation **April 7-April 17**. Please be patient with our volunteers in her absence. The bulletins have been printed ahead of time so if you have any announcements please give them to Pastor Jeff.

MARY & MARTHA GATHERING: We are so fortunate to have the Xenia High School Jazz Band, directed by Greg Sell, join the church for their 3rd annual performance. This extra special event, sponsored by Mary & Martha and jointly supported by the United Methodist Men of Faith, will take place **Monday, Apr. 13, 6:00-8:00pm, with the program starting at 7:00pm**. All women, men and children are welcome to join this joy-inspired evening! Potluck will be provided by the women-with return of our signature church ham loafs. Let's show our support for these talented young people in our neighborhood while reminding ourselves of the loving community here at FCUM! Questions, call Laurie Krakowiak at (937) 694-8114 or the church office at (937) 372-7601.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE: Guidelines and application forms are available in the narthex and church office. Please complete and return to the office by **Thursday, Apr.16**.

VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE: We will have a blood drive in the Community Center on **Monday, Apr. 20, 2:00pm to 6:00pm**. You can make an appointment to donate by going to www.VersitiDayton.org or call 800-388-GIVE (4483). A light meal will be provided for all donors. Remember that your donation can save as many as THREE lives!

VIOLENCE FREE FUTURES IS HOLDING A CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS 5K HERE AT FAITH COMMUNITY: Join us on **Saturday, April 25, 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>. We will have prizes for best costume for individual and team! Race or Sponsorship Inquiries: Heather Culbreath (937) 376-8526.

WESLEY CAMP & RETREAT CENTER: Adventure awaits for kids ages 7-17! Come unplug, unwind and experience God. Flyers are available on the table in the narthex.

SAVE THE DATE: Vacation Bible School will be on **Saturday, Jun. 13**



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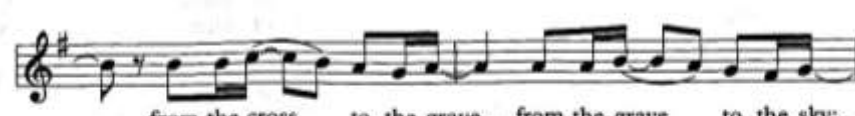
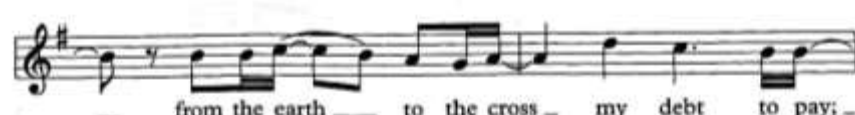
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2088 Lord, I Lift Your Name on High



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

MUSIC: Rick Founds

LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH

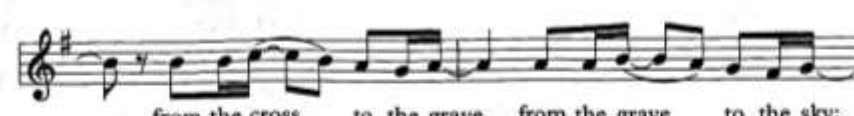
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