

Easter Sunday

April 5, 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 Mary Ann Spahr, harp solo
"Morning Has Broken" arr. by A. Bemiss

Introit Chancel Choir
"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing" Brian Wren

**Call to Worship

Easter people, Christ is risen! God is doing a new thing!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Life has conquered death! Love has overcome fear!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

God has transformed a dead end into a new start!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Easter people, raise your voices! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

**Opening Hymn

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" UMH #302 (v 1,2,3,5)

Opening Prayer (unison)

God of mystery and might, on a dawn shrouded in grief and pain, you surprise us with the light of your wondrous love. We come to the tomb expecting death, but find life instead. Take us back to that moment, when fear was healed by hope and death was banished by life. In the holy awe of Easter morning, may we sing out with joy, for Christ, our Lord, has risen today! Amen.

Special Music Steve Mackey and Teri Gray, vocal duet
"Lord of the Dance" Sydney Carter

Children's Moments

Special Music Mary Ann Spahr, harp solo
"Garden Psalm" arr. by K. Cater

Easter Revelation Matthew 28:1-8

"The Revelation of the Risen Christ" Pastor Jeff Bandy

Hymn "Up from the Grave He Arose" UMH #322

Discerning Easter's Revelation John 20:1-10

"From Discernment to Belief" Pastor Jeff Bandy

Hymn "Easter People Raise Your Voices" UMH #304 (v 1,2)

Encountering the Risen Jesus John 20:11-18

"From Belief to Faith" Pastor Jeff Bandy

Hymn "Thine Be the Glory" UMH #308

Raised With Christ Colossians 3:1-4

"New Life in Christ" Pastor Jeff Bandy

Ministry of Music Chancel Choir

"Hallelujah! Resurrection Day!" Larry Shacky

Offering/Offertory Carol Stewart

"Because He Lives" Bill & Gloria Gaither/Dick Torrans

**Doxology "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" UMH #139 (v 5)

**Prayer of Dedication

God of New Beginnings, you roll away more than stones. You roll away despair and doubt, fear and failure. On this Resurrection morning, we offer our gifts in gratitude for the new life we have found in Christ. Let these offerings be signs of our commitment to live differently -- eyes open, hearts awakened, hands ready to serve. May what we give today help announce to the world that hope is alive, love has triumphed, and joy cannot be contained. Use us and what we offer to keep telling the story: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Closing Hymn "He Lives" UMH #310

**Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart

"The Strife Is O'er" Palestrina/Norman Johnson



*If you ordered Easter Flowers,
you may pick them up after the service today.*

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.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 28:1-8 (NIV)

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ²There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

Gospel Reading – John 20:1-10 (NIV)

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ²So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

³So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹(They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Gospel Reading – John 20:11-18 (NIV)

¹¹Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹²and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary."

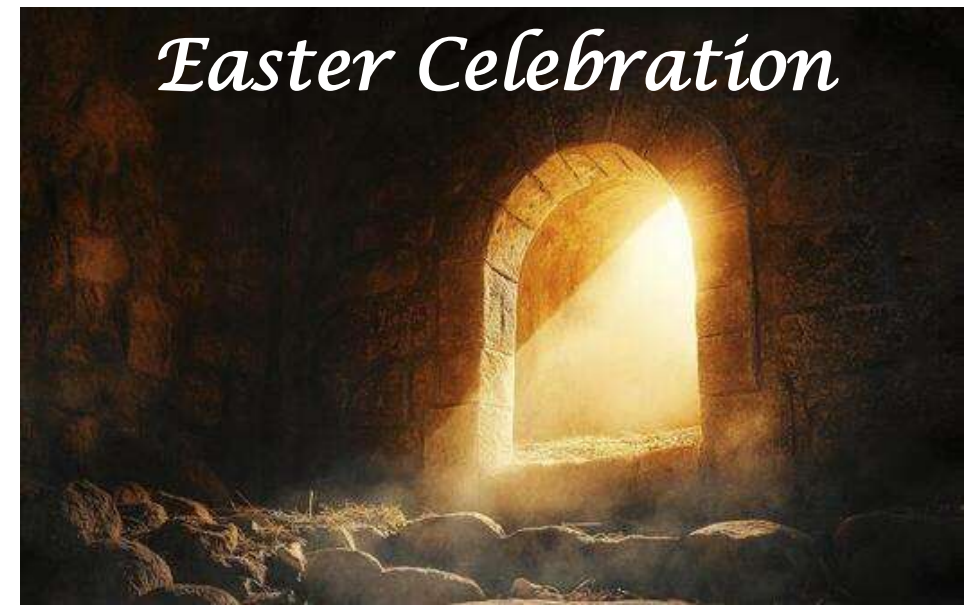
She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

¹⁷Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

¹⁸Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Scripture Reading – Colossians 3:1-4 (NIV)

3 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.



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 April 5, 2026 - Worship Team

Ushers	Chad Mossing, Will Mossing, Gerald Mahan, Jim Osburn
Greeters	Kirk Henning, Jane Henning
Liturgist	Suzanne Bandy
Organist	Carol Stewart
Director of Music	Teri Gray
Handbell Choir Director	Jim McPeek



	EASTER MONDAY	OFFICE	CLOSED
Monday 6	Spec. Olympics Volleyball Boy Scouts Cub Scouts Stephen Ministry	6:45 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC FH 15C FH 15A-B OFFSITE
Tuesday 7	Walking Tuesday Bible Study Congregational & Community Engagement Girl Scouts Trustees	9:00 am 10:00 am 5:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	FCC Parlor Library FH 15A,B,C, CC 16A Parlor
Wednesday 8	Handbell Choir Practice Chancel Choir Practice	6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Music Room Chapel/Sanctuary
Thursday 9	Walking Prayer Shawl Magic Volleyball Practice Scouts District Council	9:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	FCC Parlor FCC FH 15A-B
Friday 10	Visitation for Flo Harner	4:00 pm	Narthex
Saturday 11	Visitation for Flo Harner Service for Flo Harner	10:00 am 11:00 am	Narthex Sanctuary
Sunday 12	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Rm 11, 15C, 16A, Parlor Narthex Sanctuary

Sunday School Studies

Double I will meet in the Library, Leader Lucy Parsons, study of **"New Testament Characters"** by Carolyn Nystrom.

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 Amy Cyr.

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 12

"Believe in Jesus"
Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy
John 20:19-31 (NIV)

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026 Announcements

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.

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**.

MEN OF FAITH: All Christian men are invited to join us on **Monday, Apr. 20 at 6:00pm in CC 16A**. Dinner will be served. We will have social time during the meal followed by a short Bible devotional from the book "God calls you to more". After the meeting we will have fellowship with board games and popcorn. Bring the game that you like to play with others. Look for reminder emails or have me ballcardkirk@gmail.com add your address to our list.

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 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.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID: On **Sunday, Apr. 26, 2:30-4:30 at Fairhaven Church, 637 E. Whipp Road, Centerville**, the Greater Dayton Stephen Ministry Network is sponsoring a free presentation, open to all, on the topic of Mental Health First Aid. The speaker will be from New Creation Counseling. To learn more, contact Becky Cultice at culticer@sbcglobal.net or 937-376-5747.

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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