

# Eyes



# Opened

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

*April 12, 2026*

Prelude

Greetings

*The assembly responds or joins in unison when our text is **bold**.*

Centering Words:

God meets us where we are, to turn our lives around. God raised Jesus to assure us of new life. God's promises are for us and those who are near to us and for all who are far away.

Call to worship:

Come, out of the darkness of doubt.

**We come seeking the Light.**

Sometimes good things are right in front of us and we don't see them.

**Our fears and our prejudices blind us.**

Open your eyes this day to see the goodness of the Lord.

**Open our hearts, gracious God, to receive your blessings.**

\*Opening Hymn

***Christ Is Alive***

♪ UMH # 318

1.

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.**

2.

**Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,  
he comes to claim the here and now, and conquer every place and time.**

3.

**Not throned above, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains  
but daily, in the midst of life, our Saviour, with the Father reigns.**

4.

**In every insult, rift and war, where color, scorn or wealth divide,  
he suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.**

5.

**Christ is alive! His Spirit burns through this and every future age,  
till all creation lives and learns his joy, his justice, love and praise.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 318

Words: Brian Wren, 1968

Music: TRURO; *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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First Reading: **Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

***He Is Not Here***

Nagy

Second Reading: **1 Peter 1:17-23**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

\*Gospel Reading: **Luke 24:13-33**

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn of Preparation

***Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus***

♪ UMH # 349

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face,  
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
in the light of his glory and grace.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 349

Words: Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

Music: Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

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Message

***“Eyes Opened”***

1.

**Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;  
place in my hands the wonderful key, that shall unclasp and set me free.**

**Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

2.

**Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear;  
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.**

**Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

3.

**Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with Thy children thus to share.**

**Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
open my mouth, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 454

Words: Clara H. Scott, 1895

Music: Clara H. Scott, 1895

## Invitation to the Offering

*As you feel led, please place your offering and/or completed connection card  
in the basket at the back of the chapel, or text your gift to 833-756-0325,  
or Contribute Now on our website: [www.elyriafirstumc.org](http://www.elyriafirstumc.org).*

## Offertory

## \*Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

♩ UMH # 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 95

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674; Music: OLD 100TH; Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

## \*Offertory Prayer:

**Astounding God of the road and the table, you walk with us even when we  
don't recognize you. You speak, and our hearts burn within us. You break the  
bread, and our eyes are opened. Today, we bring these offerings as signs of  
our gratitude and hope. May our giving reflect the joy of being found, the  
wonder of Resurrection, and the call to share good news. Use these gifts to  
kindle faith, feed the hungry, and proclaim your presence in every Emmaus  
moment. We give because we've seen you—alive, loving, and leading us still.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Announcements

\*Closing Hymn

***We Walk by Faith***

♯FWS# 2196

1.

**We walk by faith, and not by sight; No gracious words we hear  
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke, But we believe him near.**

2.

**We may not touch His hands and side, Nor follow where He trod;  
But in His promise we rejoice, And cry, "My Lord and God!"**

3.

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; And may our faith abound,  
To call on you when you are near, And seek where you are found.**

4.

**That when our lives of faith are done, In realms of clearer light,  
We may behold you as you are, With full and endless sight.**

5.

**We walk by faith, and not by sight; No gracious words we hear  
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke, But we believe him near.**

The Faith We Sing Hymnal Number 2196

Words: Henry Alford

Music: MARTYRDOM; Attr. to Hugh Wilson

Benediction

Postlude

*\*Please stand as you are comfortable*

♯UMH ~ *United Methodist Hymnal* (hard cover hymnal)

♯FWS ~ *The Faith We Sing* (soft cover hymnal)

## Worship Participants

Preaching: Rebecca Brownlee

Liturgist: Kim Foster

Media Specialists: Denise Smith and David Wilm

Musicians: Kingsley Wood, Jack Roberts and the Chancel Choir

Sound: Neal Hubbard

Ushers and Greeters: Roger & Wendy Fleming, and Mike Zahnke

This service is broadcast live on the radio station WOBL 1320 AM and 107.7 FM. Today's radio broadcast is sponsored with money given for our radio ministry. Thank you to those who donate which allows us to continue our radio ministry as we share God's love with the radio audience and the community.

The altar flowers are sponsored by the Grobe and Edwards families in loving memory of Jim Grobe in celebration of Jim's earthly birthday on April 12<sup>th</sup> and in loving memory of Anita Edward's passing on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

***If you are interested in joining our church family, or if you have any pastoral needs or prayer concerns, please call the church office at 440.322.6622.***



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035 440.322.6622

[www.elyriafirstumc.org](http://www.elyriafirstumc.org)

An equal opportunity provider

***He Is Not Here*** by Russell Nagy, ©1994 High Street Music PO Box 14273 Columbus, Ohio 43213. All songs are performed under license # 673591.

# Third Street Review



April Mission focus:

April 12, 2026

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440.322.6622

Email: [church@elyriafirstumc.org](mailto:church@elyriafirstumc.org)

## ***Peace with Justice***

United Methodists relate by seeking peaceful solutions, creating, and supporting peace-related ministries in our conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world. Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice and serve as reconcilers of conflict. Donations for this support programs and ministries to educate, equip, and mobilize actions in support of identified Economic, Health, and Gender Justice Priorities. Half of the funds collected on this Special Sunday remain in the Annual Conference to strengthen social justice ministries within the local conference.

Donations will be collected all month and can be made by cash, checks (indicate ***Peace with Justice*** on the memo line) or online on-line via our website: [elyriafirstumc.org](http://elyriafirstumc.org).

## ***Fellowship Time***

Come, enjoy goodies and wonderful fellowship in the **Parlor** after worship next **Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**.

**"Blessed are those who have not seen  
and yet have believed."**

~ John 20:29

## ***from East Ohio Conference:***

Big news out of the East Ohio Conference. We are excited to share that East Ohio has identified our first Greenhouse | Semillero de Líderes "Apprentice."

Karson Collins, a current Greenhouse | Semillero de Líderes participant and student at MTSO in Ohio has been appointed to serve alongside experienced church planter Rev. Marcus Atha as they begin the work of starting a new "open and affirming" church in downtown Elyria.

This apprenticeship is designed to help equip emerging leaders for the work of planting new faith communities by inviting them to be part of the 6-month Greenhouse to work on vision, sustainability, and other skills while also receiving hands on, real-time experience with a veteran planter. With this opportunity, Karson will get formation and practice, learning and leading, discernment and action.

Elyria will be a "new wineskins" church plant. *Jesus says in Luke 5:37, "No one puts new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins. No, new wine must be put into new wineskins."* This new faith community will reimagine and transform existing spaces to make room for new people, new possibilities, and a new expression of church.

## ***Free Clothing Store***

We are accepting clothing, coats, blankets, and linens. Please place items in the box on the main level. The store will be open to the community next on **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> 10 am-12 pm.**

## ***New Church Plan***

In May and June, we will continue with regular Sunday services (*no first Sunday service*) while also beginning to communicate more clearly about what is coming next.

Communion will be served on the 2<sup>nd</sup> instead of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday.

We will host a **Spring Open House on May 16<sup>th</sup>**, and volunteers are needed to help make this a welcoming and successful event. If you would like to

volunteer, please contact Julie Joy in the church office. **Call Julie at 440.322.6622**

**Tuesday-Thursday 9 am - 4 pm.**

## ***Free Hygiene Store***

We are grateful for your continued support of this much needed ministry. Being open to the community and filling in the gap for many families is a blessing!

Our needs for April include:

- **Baby Wash and Lotion**
- **Cleaning Supplies** (glass, bathroom, and toilet bowl cleaners)
- **Laundry & Dish Soap**
- **Shampoo & Conditioner** (dry shampoo too)
- **Women's and Men's Body Wash**

Please place these items in the box located on the main level. The store will be open on **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 10 am-12 pm!**

## ***312 Happy Hour***

Join us for a great meal, fun, and fellowship on **April 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at noon in Fellowship Hall!**

## ***Open Sponsorship Dates***

Altar Flower dates: **Cost \$22**

**May 17, 24, and 31**

Radio dates: **Cost \$300 (includes advertising!)**

**April 12 and 19**

Please call the church office at 440.322.6622 to reserve your special date!

## ***Attention Parents and Grandparents***

Summer is approaching and East Ohio Camps are opening their doors for visits. Open houses and **Summer Camp Preview Days** will take place **April 25<sup>th</sup> at Camp Wanake from 2-6 pm, and May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2-5 pm Camp Aldersgate.**

## ***Scripture readings for the week:***

Sunday, April 12: **Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31**

Monday, April 13: **Psalm 114; Judges 6:36-40; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20**

Tuesday, April 14: **Psalm 114; Jonah 1:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:19-28**

Wednesday, April 15: **Psalm 114; Jonah 2:1-10; Matthew 12:38-42**

Thursday, April 16: **Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:1-5; 1 Peter 1:8b-12**

Friday, April 17: **Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 26:1-4; 1 Peter 1:13-16**

Saturday, April 18: **Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:6-9; Luke 14:12-14**

Sunday, April 19: **Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23;  
Luke 24:13-35**