

4th Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

Announcements and greetings

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

Centering Words:

Be bold before God, for Christ, the rejected one, has become the cornerstone of our faith. Through the Good Shepherd, you are found, comforted, and loved.

Prelude

Call to worship: Psalm 23 Responsively

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

You spread a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

Leader: You anoint my head with oil, my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

Unison: And we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever

*Opening hymn

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

^J UMH # 559

1.

**Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone;
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.**

2.

**To this temple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of Hosts, today!
With thy faithful loving-kindness hear thy people as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction shed within its walls away.**

3.

**Here vouchsafe to all thy servants what they ask of thee to gain;
what they gain from thee forever with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory evermore with thee to reign.**

4.

**Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one;
one in might and one in glory, while unending ages run.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 559

Words: 7th cent. Latin; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1851

Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY; Henry Purcell, ca. 1680;

adapt. by Ernest Hawkins, 1842

Opening Prayer: In Unison

**Christ is the door by which we enter your new order, O God; he is the source of our comfort and the anchor of our faith. Through him you have shown us the way unto the land of your promise, where peace is eternal and grace has no bounds. As we enter the courts of your sanctuary may we know you are with us, and give you all honor due your glorious name.
Amen.**

First Reading: **Acts 4:5-12**

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

The Gift of Love

arr. Hopson

Duet: Kristen Jones and Joel Schmittgen

New Testament Reading: **1 John 3:18-24**

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading: **John 10:11-18**

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn of Preparation

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

UMH # 557

1.

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

2.

**Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.**

3.

**We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.**

4.

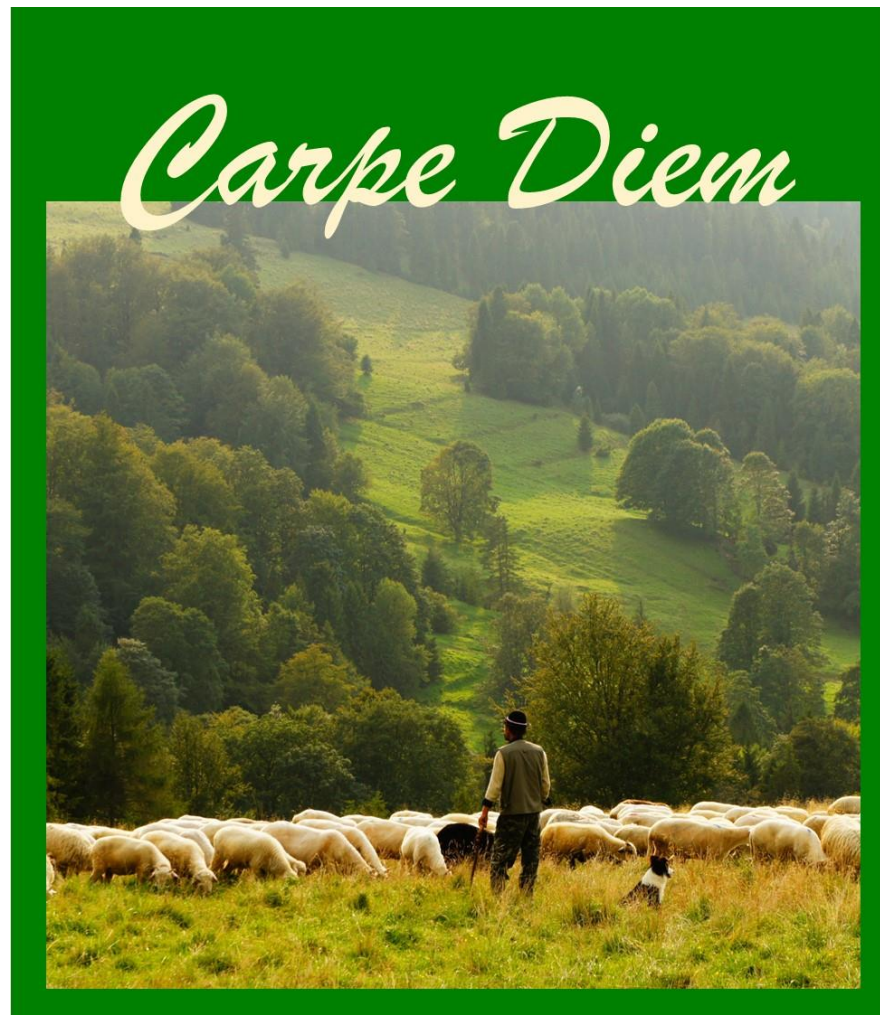
**When we are called to part, it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 557

Words: John Fawcett, 1782

Music: Johann G. Nægeli; arr. by Lowell Mason, 1845

Message



1.

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain:

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.**

2.

**When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.**

Refrain

3.

**His oath, his covenant, his blood, support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.**

Refrain

4.

**When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found:
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.**

Refrain

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 368

Words: Edward Mote, 1834

Music: William B. Bradbury, 1863

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession: In unison

O God, like bones in the desert our faith is dried up and lifeless. The winds of false doctrine sear our spirit; the heat of conflict saps our strength. We seek an oasis to escape your judgment; we wander aimlessly in search of direction. Have mercy upon us, and fill us anew with your Spirit. Give us counsel and guidance, and forgive us our waywardness. Amen.

Let us pause for a moment of quiet confession.

Words of assurance:

The prophet Joel declares that in the last days God's Spirit will be poured out upon all flesh. "All it shall be that whoever calls on God shall be saved." Know that as you call on God's name, Christ intercedes on your behalf to deliver you in his righteousness, blameless before God.

Invitation to the Offering

Please submit your offering as you feel lead by placing it in the plates on the altar railing, or text your gift to 833-756-0325, or on our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.

Offertory

Offertory Prayer: In Unison

Source of healing, Bringer of wholeness, you enter the world and cause the light to shine, the lame to walk, the sins of all to be forgiven. Whatever we bring you is a gift of your graciousness. All that we offer, you have poured out upon us. Use us and mold us to conform to your will for all people. Take our talents and apply them to spread the truth of your love. Amen.

1.

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.

2.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

3.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love,
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.

4.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on;
renew us with your Spirit, Lord, free us, make us one!

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 560

Words: Fred Kaan, 1974

Music: John Beck Ness, 1977

Words © 1975 Hope Publishing Co.

Music © 1977 Hope Publishing Co.

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Please be seated for closing announcements and the Benediction.

Benediction: Responsively

May you show boldness before God in all you do.

We will follow Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd.

Act with kindness, love, and humility.

We will bring comfort to others.

Act with love and truth. Amen,

and Amen!

Postlude

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

[†] UMH ~ *United Methodist Hymnal*

[‡] FWS ~ *The Faith We Sing* (softcover hymnal)

Worship Participants

Preaching: Rev. Kurt Walker

Liturgist: Kristen Jones

Media: David Wilm

Musicians: Evan deJong, Jack Roberts, and the Chancel Choir

Sound room: Neal Hubbard, Bob Rice, and Cole Winslow

Ushers and Greeters: Bill Buga, Roger and Janice McFrederick, and Mike Zahnke

Each week, this service is broadcast live on radio station WEOL 930 AM/100.3 FM. Today's radio broadcast and altar flowers are sponsored by Jane Philpott in honor of her step-grandson, Jim, and great granddaughters, Allison and Kaitlyn, to celebrate their spring birthdays.

If you are interested in joining our church family, please call the church office at 440.322.6622 or email our pastor at tennillep@elyriafirstumc.org.

If you have any pastoral needs or prayer concerns, please call the church office, 440.322.6622.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

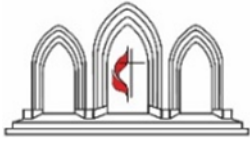
312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

440.322.6622

www.elyriafirstumc.org

The Gift of Love Traditional English Melody; words by Hal H. Hopson; arranged by Hal H. Hopson; © 2015 Hope Publishing Company. All songs are performed under license # 673591.

Third Street Review



April 21, 2024

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440.322.6622

Email: church@elyriafirstumc.org

April Mission Focus:

Peace with Justice

United Methodists relate to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating, and supporting peace-related ministries in our conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world.

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.

All In Community Ministry's

Second Chance Sunday April 28th

"Do not forget those who are in prison. Remember them as if you were in prison with them. Remember those who are suffering as if you were suffering with them." - Hebrews 13:3

One in 31 Ohioans is in jail or prison or out on probation and last year 18,000 people returned to Ohio communities after being released from prison. All In Community Ministry, a *partnership ministry of the East Ohio Conference and the West Ohio Conference*, is a modern-day, Biblical response to the impact and aftermath of incarceration. Donations can be made by cash, checks (indicate **Second Chance** on the memo line) or online.

Community Breakfast Needs

Thank you for your continued support of this most needed ministry in our community. Praise God for the gracious faithful volunteers who make our work possible every Sunday!

We are looking for someone to help on the **2nd Sunday of the month** to assist with sorting Panera goodies. If you would like more information on how you can help, please call the church office, or contact Linda Purdey, Community Breakfast Coordinator.

We continue to need **plastic cutlery and plastic bags**.

Donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Free Clothing Store

The Free Clothing Store is a labor of love! For our community to shop with dignity we need **hangers, clothing racks and kind spirits** who are willing to donate time. Please place any kind of hangers in the bin on the main level. The store will be open on **Saturday, April 27th 10 am-12 pm**, please contact the church office at 440.322.6622 with questions or to volunteer.

Happy Hour

Happy Hour is a luncheon held on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays** at **noon** in **Fellowship Hall** for a great meal and fellowship! Join us this Tuesday, **April 23rd!** Invite others into our church family!

Free Hygiene Store

Each month we serve an average of 40 families. Each Hygiene bag has: shampoo, conditioner, hand soap, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, paper towels, razors, deodorant, body wash, and cleaning products. Families with little ones receive diapers, wipes, baby wash, and baby lotion. Every 3 months, they can receive a new toothbrush and toothpaste.

Each month we need to have these items available.

Our needs for April include the following items:

- **Shampoo & Conditioner** (dry shampoo too)
- **Dish and Hand Soap**
- **Toothbrushes and toothpaste for Kids**
- **Women's and men's Body wash, Deodorant, and Razors**
- **Tampons**
- **Diapers** (size 4, 5, 6, 7)
- **Pull-ups** (size 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T)
- **Baby wash and lotion**
- **Cleaning Supplies** (glass, bathroom, and toilet bowl cleaners)

Please place these items in the box located on the main level. Bless you! The Free Store is open on **Saturday, April 27th** from **10 am-12 pm**.

Ask the Pastor!

Thanks to all who joined Rev. Tennille last week for the inaugural Ask the Pastor! conversation. Another zoom dialogue will be in the near future. Gather your questions and curiosities about church, God, scripture, joining a church, any questions you have.

Open Sponsorship Dates

Altar Flower dates:

May 26

Cost \$22

Radio Broadcast dates:

May 12, 19, and 26

Cost \$300.00 full, \$150.00 half

Or you can simply contribute any amount
to our Radio Fund!

***“The Christian life
is a journey of transformation,
where God’s love molds us
into vessels of His grace.”***

~ John Newton

Scholarship Applications

It is now time to apply for the First United Methodist Church Scholarships. Please contact the church office for your application forms. These scholarships are available to qualified high school seniors who plan to further their education via any accredited technical school or college. All college students or graduate students are encouraged to apply as well. Applications are **due no later than May 23, 2024**.

Scripture readings for the week:

Sunday, April 21: **Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18**

Monday, April 22: **Psalm 95; 1 Samuel 16:1-13; 1 Peter 5:1-5**

Tuesday, April 23: **Psalm 95; 1 Chronicles 11:1-9; Revelation 7:13-17**

Wednesday, April 24: **Psalm 95; Micah 7:8-20; Mark 14:26-31**

Thursday, April 25: **Psalm 22:25-31; Amos 8:1-7; Acts 8:1**b**-8**

Friday, April 26: **Psalm 22:25-31; Amos 8:11-13; Acts 8:9-25**

Saturday, April 27: **Psalm 22:25-31; Amos 9:7-15; Mark 4:30-32**

Sunday, April 28: **Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8**