Welcome to Urbana First United Methodist Church!

Our mission is to journey with people to get them connected to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; to one another; and to the community, through intentional discipleship!

November 1st, 2026
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
Liturgical Color: Green

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

PRELUDE *Softly and Tenderly* (c. W.L. Thompson) John Muir, *organ*

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve Fink, *liturgist*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord God, you made me and know me.

Convince me, O God–

that the contradictions in me are the beauty in you.

Convince me, O God–

to love all parts of me as you do.

Convince me, O God, that each and every attribute of mine, is by your grace. That even as my mind runs one way and my heart another, both are integral parts of who I am. And who I am is loved by you. *(Breakthrough Ministries)*

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

OPENING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.

+HYMN OF CELEBRATION *Holy, Holy, Holy* UMH no. 64

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
   Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
   Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
   God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
   casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
   cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
   which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
   though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
   only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
   perfect in power, in love and purity.

4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
   All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
   Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
   God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; The third day He rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY *Open the Eyes of My Heart* Caitlin Richardson, *soloist*
(arr. L. Larson)

+PRESENTATION OF GIFTS & OFFERING UMH no. 95

All: *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.*

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 12:30-31, Acts 8:26-40 Liturgist

CHORAL ANTHEM *O Give Thanks* (c. A. LaValley) Sanctuary Choir
Davion Williams, *music director*

THE MESSAGE Rev. Robert K. Freeman,
directing pastor

TIME OF COMMUNION, REFLECTION, & PRAYER p.5

You are invited to come pray at the altar, receive communion, light a candle to illuminate your prayers before God, come forward to one of our liturgists for a blessing, or remain where you are for a time of contemplation and reflection during the musical selection.

+HYMN OF RESPONSE *Jesu, Jesu* UMH no. 432

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
   Master who acts as a slave to them. *Refrain*

3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love;
   all these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain*

5. Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet,
   this is the way we should live with you. *Refrain*

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE *Fanfare and March* (c. H. Purcell) John Muir, *organ*

+*Please stand as you are able*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Mark 12:30-31

30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'You shall
love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than
these."

Acts 8:26-40, Philip and the Eunuch

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the
road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. 27 And he rose
and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen
of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem
to worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet
Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." 30 So Philip
ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand
what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And
he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture
that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.
33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this,
about himself or about someone else?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and
beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. 36 And as they
were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here
is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" 38 And he commanded the chariot
to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he
baptized him. 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord
carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way
rejoicing. 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he
preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

COMMUNION LITURGY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to you, Lord**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to praise you, Lord.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
You have made from one every nation and people to live on all the face of the earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all nations, and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world, and strengthen it in every nation and among every people to witness faithfully in your name.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

United Methodist Hymnal p. 9-10

Urbana First UMC News and Announcements

WEEKLY PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer is how we communicate with God. In prayer, we share our hearts. We also pause to listen for wisdom and guidance. As John Wesley wrote, "All that a Christian does, even in eating and sleeping, is prayer, when it is done in simplicity, according to the order of God." Please be in prayer for these members & friends of the Urbana First Community:

- Prayers for Urbana First to continue our mission of helping people to get connected to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to one another, and to the community
- For God's healing Spirit to move in our nation amid division and violence
- For God's peace in regions of the world affected by conflict and war
- For those who are ill or hospitalized, that they may receive healing and comfort
    - Lindsey Rivest, Averie Spencer and Family, Pastor Freeman, Darla Kvidera, Shirley and Tom Gordon, Nancy and Steve Moser, Nancy Lopeman, Cynde Jordan (knee surgery), Linda Bailey.
- For those who are unable to join us in person, that they may feel God's presence, and remain connected through the love and prayers of the church family
    - Ruth Abbott, Gladys Baxley, Anne Brown, Bob Burnett, Judith Cramer, Joyce Dilley, Gary and Anna Engelgau, Mary Lou Fisher, Jodie Frink, Tom & Shirley Gordon, Kenneth Johnson, Darla Kvidera, Marjorie Mead, Nancy Merz, Peggy Pennell, Mary Jane Ross, Fred Shep, Joyce Smith, Rev. Dick McGuire.
- For those celebrating new life through births, that families may be blessed with joy, health, and God's abiding presence
- For loved ones and friends in hospice care or nearing the end of life, that they may know God's presence and peace
- For those grieving a loss of a loved one, either through death or a broken relationship, that they may find comfort and hope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Rev. Dick McGuire (November 7), Emma Kolakowski (November 8), Jackson Diedrich (November 13), Skylar Sieving (November 15), MaryLee Krumins (November 16), Rick Borup (November 17)

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY: All are invited!

When: Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
Where: Atherton Parlor

Midweek Bible Study is back for the fall semester! All are invited to join us as we fellowship together and dive deeper into Christ's teachings. Join us for a time of fellowship and a delicious soup and sandwich meal!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Packing Party for Operation Christmas Child!

When: Monday, November 9th at 5:30 p.m.
Where: Atherton Parlor

You're invited to join us for our annual Operation Christmas Child Packing Party! We can't wait to join together in a fun evening of good food and great fellowship as we prepare these boxes to be sent to children around the world.

MEAL TRAIN FOR THE FREEMANS

We are so grateful that Pastor Freeman and Felecia are back home after being away during Pastor's time at rehab. Over the next few weeks, we are asking members to share their favorite meal (or gift card to their favorite restaurant) to help them with meals as they adjust to being back home. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Freeman or Paige.

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM!

Hannah Freeman-Choi (Pianist), Steve Fink (Liturgist), Joseph Tingling (Usher), Peggy Buck and Kathy York (Children's Church), Johnie Wilson, Jack Marshall, & Joseph Tingling (Tech & Stage Team), Paige Banovz (PowerPoint & Bulletin)

This Week at Urbana First

Sunday, November 1
8:45 a.m.—Corporate Prayer *(Sanctuary)*
9:15 a.m.—Adult Sunday School *(Library)*
9:30 a.m.—Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m.—Fellowship *(Parlor)*
10:15 a.m.—Children's Church, Toddler-2nd
10:30 a.m.— Worship Service *(Sanctuary)*
10:50 a.m.—Children's Church, 3rd-5th
11:45 a.m.—All Boards Meeting *(Library)*

Monday, November 2
5:45 p.m.—Dance Rehearsal *(FH)*
6:00 p.m.—Community Group *(Parlor)*

Tuesday, November 3
6:00 p.m.—People's Chorus *(FH)*
6:45 p.m.—Community Group *(Parlor)*

Wednesday, November 4
10:30 a.m.—Midweek Bible Study *(Parlor)*
6:00 p.m.—GSA Brownie Troop *(FH)*
6:30 p.m.— Choir Rehearsal *(Sanctuary)*

Thursday, November 5
6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts *(Fellowship Hall)*
6:00 p.m.—Theater Rehearsal *(Jr/Sr. Room)*

Friday, November 6
Office Closed, Staff Sabbath Day

Sunday, November 8
8:45 a.m.—Corporate Prayer *(Sanctuary)*
9:15 a.m.—Adult Sunday School *(Library)*
9:30 a.m.—Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m.—Fellowship *(Parlor)*
10:15 a.m.—Children's Church, Toddler-2nd
10:30 a.m.— Worship Service *(Sanctuary)*
10:50 a.m.—Children's Church, 3rd-5th

Connect With Us!

If you're visiting with us today, please let us know! We'd love to connect with you and share more about our church.

Church Office Hours

Tuesday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Daycare Hours: 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

"Helping people to get connected to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to one another, and to the community!"

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