



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!

April 5, 2026

Easter Sunday

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Liturgical Color: Gold & White

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

PRELUDE

Prelude on Bunesan (Morning Has Broken)
(c. G.M. Martin)

John Muir, organ

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shandra Summerville, *liturgist*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

The stone is rolled away. The women have seen him!

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

The good news is spreading to all who will hear!

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

Will you believe the news they share?

We believe in a risen Christ!

Will you walk in the way of Christ?

We will follow his path to goodness and righteousness!

Come and see! Come and hear! Come and worship at his feet!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

(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 *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* UMH no. 302, v.1-3,6

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!
2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!
3. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!
6. King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

+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

Again I Say, Rejoice
(c. I. Houghton; CCLI 4302823)

Sanctuary Choir Quintet

+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 Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20 Liturgist

CHORAL ANTHEM *He is Exalted* Sanctuary Choir
(arr. L. Larson) Davion Williams, *music director*

THE MESSAGE Rev. Robert K. Freeman, *directing pastor*

TIME OF COMMUNION, REFLECTION & PRAYER p.5

You are invited to come and pray at the altar, light a candle to illuminate your prayers before God, come forward for 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 *He Lives* UMH no. 310

1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
and just the time I need him, he's always near.

*He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me
along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I
know he lives? He lives within my heart.*

2. In all the world around me I see his loving care,
and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;
the day of his appearing will come at last. *Refrain*
3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;
none other is so loving, so good and kind. *Refrain*

SENDING FORTH Shandra Summerville

POSTLUDE *Gloria from Twelfth Mass* John Muir, *organ*
(c. W.A. Mozart)

+ Please stand as you are able

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20; The Resurrection and The Great Commission(ESV)

¹Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” ⁸So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Sermon Notes

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.



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:

Homebound: Gladys Baxley, Gary and Anna Engelgau, Darla Kvidera, Marjorie Mead, Joyce Smith, Mrs. Mary Ross

Prayer Concern: Shirley and Tom Gordon, Nancy Moser, Averie Spencer (Infant health issues) and Family, Nancy Lopeman, Pastor Freeman, Nancy Merz, Steve Moser (knee surgery), Darla Kvidera (Broken Hip).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Ryker Spencer (April 2), Clara Brooks (April 13). Ed Smith (April 13), Pam Bedford (April 17), Marie Govert (April 21), Judy Smith (April 26), Brenda Carter (April 27)

CHURCH VOLUNTEER NEEDS FOR APRIL

We are looking for volunteers to help us in the life of the church in March. Each volunteer position would take one to two hours of service. Please see the list below and contact Paige in the church office via email if you are willing to assist.

- **Leaders:** Persons to help lead the Adult Sunday School class and the Midweek Bible Study on Wednesdays
- **Church Office:** Light cleaning and dusting
- **Sunday Morning Hospitality:** Setting up parlor, making coffee
- **Ushers:** Assist with collecting offering during service
- **Greeters:** Welcome people and visitors to our church, set out the bulletin

SANDWICHES, SOUP, AND SHARING (Bible Study)

When: Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Where: Urbana First UMC Parlor Join us on Wednesdays for a time of fellowship, faith building, and food. This group is open for all to attend!

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

When: Fourth Sundays at 4:00 p.m.

Our Jr. & Sr. High youth group will now be meeting on the fourth Sunday of the month. Our next meeting is on Sunday, April 26



NOISY OFFERING FOR MARCH & APRIL: Courage Connection



"Courage Connection showed me that I wasn't alone. I found strength in the stories of others---and in myself."

Courage Connection is here to help those who face domestic violence and encourage their success. Their mission is to ensure everyone in our community has the education, support and resources to live in safe, healthy relationships. The number of folks they serve in Champaign County continues to rise. The Courage Connection organization is trained to respond to domestic violence situations. They are focused on providing the best assistance possible, capable of stepping in immediately to support the victims. Please open your hearts to the victimized.

This Week at Urbana First

Sunday, April 5, *Easter Sunday*

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

10:50 a.m.—Children's Church, 3rd-5th

Monday, April 6

6:00 p.m.—Community Group (*Parlor*)

Tuesday, April 7

5:30 p.m.—People's Chorus (*FH*)

6:30 p.m.—OES Deborah Group (*Parlor*)

Wednesday, April 8

10:30 a.m.—Bible Study (*Parlor*)

6:00 p.m.—Brownie Troop Meeting (*FH*)

6:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, April 9

6:00 p.m.—Girl Scout Troop Meeting (*FH*)

Friday, April 10

Church Office Closed, Staff Sabbath Day

Sunday, April 12

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

10:50 a.m.—Children's Church, 3rd-5th

Church Office Hours

Monday-Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 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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WWW.URBANAFIRSTMETHODIST.ORG

REV. ROBERT K. FREEMAN, DIRECTING PASTOR

Parsonage: 217-607-8113

CHILDREN'S CENTER DAYCARE: (217) 367-0842

KATIE BEAULIN, DAYCARE DIRECTOR

RACHEL HARP, ASSISTANT DAYCARE DIRECTOR

Today's Worship Team

Pianist: Hannah Freeman-Choi

Organist: John Muir

Liturgists: Shandra Summerville

Ushers: Rich Govert

Children's Church: Linda Bailey

Tech & Stage Team: Johnie Wilson,

Jack Marshall, Joseph Tingling

PowerPoint & Bulletin: Paige Banovz