



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 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

The Triumphant Entry

Liturgical Color: Purple

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

PRELUDE

All Glory, Laud, and Honor Hannah Freeman Choi, *piano*

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shandra Summerville, *liturgist*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Today, we join Jesus in the final ascent to Jerusalem, knowing the depths we will descend on our journey through Holy Week.

Open the gates of righteousness, that we may come worship God!

We join the disciples in declaring that Jesus, riding on a donkey, is our Ruler, the One who will bring peace and salvation for all.

Open the gates of peace, that we may come worship God!

We join with the bystanders who questioned and wondered who this Jesus really is, who feared the consequences of angering the powers that be.

Open the gates of truth, that we may come worship God!

The journey through Holy Week brings us face-to-face with the stark reality of sin and God's faithfulness to save. (UMC, GBOD)

LENTEN CANDLE LIGHTING

Liturgist

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

OPENING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Liturgist

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 for ever and ever. Amen.

*All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

1. Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest, the King and Blessed One. *Refrain*
2. The company of angels are praising thee on high,
and we with all creation in chorus make reply. *Refrain*
3. The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our prayer and praise and anthems before thee we present. *Refrain*
4. To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain*
5. Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King. *Refrain*

+THE APOSTLES CREED LITANY

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

I believe.

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

I believe.

He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead.

I believe.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the (Kingdom) Universal Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting?

I believe!

OFFERTORY

Father's Eyes
(c. G. Chapman)

Suzanne DeLorica, *soloist*

+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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 11:1-11

Liturgist

CHORAL ANTHEM

Christians Arise!

Sanctuary Choir

(c. D. Lillies, arr. D. Maddox)

THE MESSAGE

The King Who Serves

Rev. Robert K. Freeman
directing pastor

TIME OF REFLECTION

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

+HYMN OF RESPONSE

He is Exalted

TFWS no. 2070

1. He is exalted, The King is exalted on high, I will praise Him! He is exalted forever exalted and I will praise His name

He is the Lord. Forever His truth shall reign. Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name! He is exalted, the King is exalted on high

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Rev. Robert K. Freeman

SENDING FORTH

Rev. Robert K. Freeman

And now, my friends, go forth to a week where transformation will meet you and guide you. Do not hide when they recognize you, do not doubt when you see Christ, do not deny when you are confronted. Do not stop until you are at the cross and there you will see the light, and the burdens of your heart will roll away. Until then God be with you! Amen.

POSTLUDE

Lift High the Cross

Hannah Freeman Choi, *piano*

+Please stand as you are able

Scripture Lesson: Mark 11:1-11, The Triumphal Entry (ESV)

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”

¹¹And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Sermon Notes



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:

Special prayers for the following people:

Homebound: Betty Newton, Nancy Moser, Gladys Baxley, Tom and Anna Engelgau, Darla Kvidera, Jean Gates, Leila Swenson-Gaines, Marjorie Mead, Joyce Smith

Prayer Concern: Marjorie Jobe, Brenda Runyon, Averie Spencer (Infant health issues) and Family, Nancy Lopeman, Pastor Freeman, Marie Govert (cancer treatments), Cynthia Jordan, Shirley Gordon, Nancy Merz, and Courtney Zech (cancer), Majorie Jobe, Family of Shandra Summerville

ALL CHURCH FELLOWSHIP MEAL TODAY!

All are welcome to join as we fellowship together with a delicious meal on this Palm Sunday, immediately following our service.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FOR THE CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

On the third Sunday of the month through April, we will be taking a special collection during our regular offering for those affected by the devastating wildfires in California. The final collection will take place on April 27th.

BUILDING UPGRADES AND REPAIRS

We are still working towards raising funds to complete the repairs needed to our historic building and Bell Tower. Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to this massive project! **Total Yet to be raised is: \$68,351**

The Administrative Council Leadership Opportunity for all Ages



The Administrative Council has the general oversight of the administration and program of our local church. Its primary work is one of leadership rather than management. Leadership being the visionary, “big picture” work within the church, whereas management is the “detail work” that occurs on a daily basis by the staff and other volunteers.

The Administrative Council works with the other committees of the church, providing guidance and direction.

The Administrative Council evaluates objectives, adopts goals, authorizes action, determines policy, evaluates and approves staffing positions, and establishes budget based on recommendations of the other committees, such as the Finance Committee, Nurture Committee, etc.

The Administrative Council is the most powerful, ongoing committee of the church. If you are asked to serve on the Administrative Council, you will have the opportunity to influence the direction taken by the Urbana First UMC Congregation.

Membership

Some members of the Administrative Council are chosen by the Lay Leadership Committee. These are considered to be the “Members at Large” of the Administrative Council. The Members at Large serve three year terms. Each year from 10 to 20 Members at Large are chosen from the Urbana First UMC congregation. Other persons are members of the Administrative Council due to the fact that they chair a committee or hold an elected position of authority within the church.

Meetings

The Administrative Council meets on the 2nd Sunday, of the month (except July). Meeting times are printed in the bulletin. Reminders via email are sent to committee members prior to each meeting.

Volunteer Hours Required:

Generally, this involves 1-2 hours per month.

How can you join this team? You can contact Shandra Summerville at manager@urbanafirstmethodist.org or by calling the office at 217-367-8384.



YOUNG ADULT GROUP PRESENTS:

CRYSTAL LAKE HIKE AND PICNIC

All are welcome! Come join us for a breath of fresh air with a small hike and a picnic lunch!

19th April 2025 | 11 a.m.
206 W Park St, Urbana, IL 61801

For more details about this event, please email:
stevenfcrook@gmail.com



This Week at Urbana First

Sunday, April 13, *Palm Sunday*

9:15 a.m.—Sunday School (*Library*)
10:00 a.m.—Fellowship (*Parlor*)
10:30 a.m.—Worship Service
10:50 a.m.—Children's Church
(Dismissed before sermon)
11:45 a.m.—All Church Meal (*FH*)
(*No All Boards Meeting Today*)

Monday, April 14

4:00 p.m.—Men's Discipleship (*Perkins*)
6:00 p.m.—Lone Star Meeting (*Parlor*)
7:00 p.m. – Finance Team Meeting
(*Zoom*)

Tuesday, April 15

5:00 p.m.—People's Chorus (*Parlor*)

Wednesday, April 16

6:30 p.m.—Men's Bible Study (*Perkins*)
6:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)

Thursday, April 17

6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts Meeting (*Parlor*)
6:00 p.m.—Maundy Thursday Service
(*Online*)

Friday, April 18, *Good Friday*

Staff Sabbath Day
6:00 p.m.—Urbana First Service (*Sanctuary*)
7:00 p.m.—Christ Community Service
(*Sanctuary*)

Sunday, April 20, *Easter Sunday*

9:15 a.m.—Sunday School (*Library*)
10:00 a.m.—Fellowship (*Parlor*)
10:30 a.m.—Worship Service
10:50 a.m.—Children's Church
(Dismissed before sermon)

Happy Birthday to:

Clara Brooks— April 13
Ed Smith— April 13
Pam Bedford— April 17

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 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

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KATIE BEAULIN, DAYCARE DIRECTOR
RACHEL HARP, ASSISTANT DAYCARE DIRECTOR