



*You Know the Way*

## 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!*

**May 3, 2026**

**10:30 a.m. Worship Service**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Liturgical Color: White**

### APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

**PRELUDE**

*Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling* (c. D.Wood)

John Muir, *organ*

**GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Steve Fink, *liturgist*

**+CALL TO WORSHIP**

Easter people, in the midst of our questions and doubts, Jesus answers:

**I am the way, the truth, and the life.**

In the midst of our worry and distress, Jesus assures us:

**I am the way, the truth, and the life.**

In the midst of misinformation, confusion, and distrust, Jesus reminds us:

**I am the way, the truth, and the life.**

In the midst of dead ends and impossible challenges, Jesus shows us:

**I am the way, the truth, and the life.**

Come, let us worship as we learn to follow Christ, our way, our truth, and our life.

**Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God! Amen.** *(Dr. L. Hancock, Discipleship 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** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

UMH no. 154,  
v.1,2,4, & 6

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
4. Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball,  
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.  
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.
6. O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

**+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*  
(arr. L. Larson)

Steven Crook, *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.

**HEARING GOD'S VOICE**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

1 Peter 2:2-10

Liturgist

**CHORAL ANTHEM**

*Soon and Very Soon*  
(c. A. Crouch)

Sanctuary Choir  
Davion Williams, *music director*

**THE MESSAGE**

Shandra Summerville, *lay speaker*

**TIME OF COMMUNION, REFLECTION & PRAYER**

Rev. Dick McGuire,  
*former FUMCU pastor*

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**

*Sanctuary*

TFWS no. 2164

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy, tried and true  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for You

**SENDING FORTH**

Shandra Summerville

**POSTLUDE**

*The Heavens are Telling* (c. L. van Beethoven)

John Muir, *organ*

*+Please stand as you are able*

**Scripture Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” <sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” <sup>8</sup>and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

## 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:

- 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!
- God's Spirit of healing as our country continues to experience division and violence
- Guidance for leaders at all levels in the world to serve with compassion and justice
- God's peace for those areas in the world dealing with conflict and war
- Individuals who are struggling with illness or are in the hospital
- Loved ones/friends who are on hospice care/facing end-of-life
- Those serving as caregivers for loved ones with physical/cognitive challenges
- Those grieving a loss of a loved one, either through death or a broken relationship

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:** Anne Brown (May 6), Steven Crook (May 14), Cindy Duffy (May 16), Scott Lopeman (May 28), Greg Hazel (May 29)

## RSVP FOR OUR NEXT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES!

For the season of Pentecost, we will be holding a special bible study series called "Building Beloved Community" beginning on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to join us, please RSVP to the church office ([office@urbanafirstmethodist.org](mailto:office@urbanafirstmethodist.org)) or let your Sunday School teacher know you would like to attend.

## 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!

## CORPORATE PRAYER SUNDAY MORNINGS

Beginning May 3, we will have Corporate Prayer every Sunday in the Sanctuary from 8:45 to 9:00 a.m. The prayer services will not be streamed live, they will meet in person each Sunday and online one Sunday per month. This will be an opportunity for anyone with a prayer request to pray with our church family; you can also email your requests.

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, we will offer prayer for our online community from 8:45-9:00 am.

If you are interested in joining the prayer team, please email the church office at [office@urbanafirstmethodist.org](mailto:office@urbanafirstmethodist.org)

## FLOWERS FOR MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 10

If you would like a flower in honor or memory of the mother or mother-figure in your life on our Mother's Day service, please contact Paige in the church office ([office@urbanafirstmethodist.org](mailto:office@urbanafirstmethodist.org)), filling out the insert on the table outside the sanctuary and drop off in the office, or visit

[www.urbanafirstmethodist.org/mothersday2026](http://www.urbanafirstmethodist.org/mothersday2026) and order your plant online!



## 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

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Young Adult Group is looking to expand! But to do that, we need to form a committee. We are looking for a group of one to two people from our church to help Steven plan and execute events for YAG. If you are interested in a committee position, please contact Steven at [YAG@urbanafirstmethodist.org](mailto:YAG@urbanafirstmethodist.org)

## **ANNUAL CONFERENCE COLLECTION FOR MIDWEST MISSION**

We will be having a collection beginning this Sunday until the end of May for gently used bibles and feminine hygiene pads (both overnight and daytime). We will be bringing this collection to the donation site during the Annual Conference. For more information or questions, please see Suellen Fink.

## **THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM**

Hannah Freeman-Choi (Pianist), John Muir (Organist), Steve Fink (Liturgist), Shandra Summerville (lay speaker), Rich Govert, David Gordon (Ushers), Linda Bailey (Children's Church) Johnie Wilson, Jack Marshall, Joseph Tingling (Tech & Stage Team), Paige Banovz (PowerPoint & Bulletin)

## This Week at Urbana First

### Sunday, May 3

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  
10:50 a.m.—Children’s Church, 3rd-5<sup>th</sup>

### Monday, May 4

5:30 p.m.—Dance Rehearsal (*FH*)  
6:00 p.m.—Twin City Rehearsal (*3<sup>rd</sup> Floor*)

### Tuesday, May 5

5:30 p.m.—People’s Chorus (*FH*)  
6:00 p.m.—Twin City Rehearsal (*3<sup>rd</sup> Floor*)

### Wednesday, May 6

10:30 a.m.—Bible Study (*Parlor*)  
6:00 p.m.—Twin City Rehearsal (*3<sup>rd</sup> Floor*)  
6:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir

### Thursday, May 7

6:00 p.m.—Girl Scout Troop Meeting, *FH*  
6:00 p.m.—Twin City Rehearsal (*3<sup>rd</sup> Floor*)

### Friday, May 8

*Church Office Closed, Staff Sabbath Day*

### Sunday, May 10

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  
10:50 a.m.—Children’s Church, 3rd-5<sup>th</sup>

## 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

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!”*

304 South Race Street, Urbana, Illinois  
217.367.8384—[office@urbanafirstmethodist.org](mailto:office@urbanafirstmethodist.org)  
[WWW.URBANAFIRSTMETHODIST.ORG](http://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