



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 18th, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Feeding the Multitude

Liturgical Color: White & Gold

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

PRELUDE

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Hannah Freeman-Choi, *piano*

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Paul Frank, *liturgist*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice, folks, Jesus is in our midst.

Feed us, Jesus, and fill us with hope.

Be glad, friends, Jesus has bread and fish to spare.

Free us, Jesus, from the pursuit of food that does not satisfy.

Sing for joy, people of God; God gathers up the pieces of our lives, that nothing may be lost.

Thanks be to God!

(Ministry Matters)

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 for ever and ever. Amen.

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

1. Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign.
The hosts of God in unity combine. *Refrain*
2. Each newborn servant of the Crucified
bears on the brow the seal of him who died. *Refrain*
3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw the world to thee. *Refrain*
4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

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

In Christ Alone
(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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 6:30-44

Liturgist

CHORAL ANTHEM*Gentle Shepherd* (arr. R. Powell)

Sanctuary Choir

THE MESSAGEMore Than Enough

Rev. Robert K. Freeman

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 *We Are Marching (Siyahamba)*

TFWS no. 2235-b

1. We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of, the
light of God. We are marching, Ooo, we are marching in the light of God.
(Repeat)
2. Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos', siyahambe' ekukhanyen kwenkhos.
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos', siyahambe' ekukhanyen' kwen khanyen'
kwenkhos'. Siyahamba, hamba, Siyahamba, hamba, siyahamb' ekukhanyen'
kwenkhos. (Repeat)

SENDING FORTH

Rev. Robert K. Freeman

POSTLUDE*Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*Hannah Freeman-Choi, *piano***+ *Please stand as you are able***

Scripture Lesson: Mark 6:30-44, Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand (ESV)

³⁰ The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ And he said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³² And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. ³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. ³⁵ And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. ³⁶ Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” ³⁷ But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said to him, “Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii^[a] worth of bread and give it to them to eat?” ³⁸ And he said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.” ³⁹ Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. ⁴¹ And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. ⁴² And they all ate and were satisfied. ⁴³ And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. ⁴⁴ And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

Sermon Notes

A STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF MARK

In the message last Sunday, Mark does not tell us how the disciples were in the middle of the lake and in the middle of the night. The storm had ended, the sea was glass, and the disciples were filled with questions and fear. Preface to Today's Scripture Reading.



Last week a woman's faith in Jesus healed her body which prompted Jesus to bless her. Jesus then brought a young girl back to life. Simply amazing!

We're now getting into the sixth chapter of Mark and everything to this point has been happening – to use Mark's favorite word – immediately. According to Mark, Jesus and the disciples have been on a non-stop tour of northern Galilee preaching, teaching, healing, and debating with Pharisees. Add in calming one storm, bringing one young lady back to life, as well as the unexpected execution of John the Baptizer, and what you have are a bunch of physically and emotionally exhausted guys. Showing empathy for His companions, Jesus decides they need to rest and recover.

But as Jesus sees crowds chase them seeking healing and wisdom, Jesus is moved with compassion and decides to end the day with additional teachings. But according to modern Greek scholars, the word compassion here is a woefully poor translation of the original Greek word which graphically describes someone's bowels churning. You or I might say Jesus' heart broke with compassion for the people He saw chasing them. This Greek word is used by Matthew, Mark, and Luke "to depict Christ's feelings of compassion, moved by the sight of people in distress" (Matz, Robert J., and Thornhill, A. Chadwick, eds. *Divine Impassibility: Four Views of God's Emotions and Suffering*. Westmont: InterVarsity Press, 2019. p91).

At the end of today's reading, note the similarity between how Jesus "officiates" this meal compared to the Last Supper. In both cases, Jesus looked up to heaven, gave thanks to God (i.e. said a blessing), "broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples" (v41). What strikes me about both situations is that Jesus included and blessed everyone who was present. Nobody had to qualify for the provision Jesus offered. Today's reading seems most appropriate for a Sunday that includes a faith community gathering around a common table of grace and mercy.

If we put ourselves in Jesus' shoes, we are encouraged to give ourselves and those who labor with us rest. Today's story presses us to allow ourselves to pay attention to how our bodies react to our environments. Jesus noticed and was sympathetic to the disciples' need for rest. Then Jesus' heart broke for the crowds he saw. Rather than dismiss the crowd OR his gut-wrenching feeling, Jesus let his physical response lead Him into an opportunity to share the Good News of God's love with people desperate to hear it. That opportunity led to the Jesus— providing for people's basic needs – which Jesus saw as yet another opportunity, not a burden.



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, Gary and Anna Engelgau, Darla Kvidera, Jean Gates, Leila Swenson-Gaines, Marjorie Mead, Joyce Smith

Prayer Concern: Marjorie Jobe, Brenda Runyon, Averie Spencer (Surgery) and Family, Nancy Lopeman, Pastor Freeman, Marie Govert (cancer treatments), Cynthia Jordan, Shirley Gordon, Nancy Merz, Marjorie Jobe, Fred Shep (Accolade Rehab), and Al Thomas (Clark Lindsey Rehab)

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: \$58,351**

Congratulations to the class of 2025 Graduates






YAG PRESENTS: MAY ESCAPE!

5/31/2025

*CU Adventures in Time
and Space*



Join us as we try to escape
The Forest of Fables in CU
Adventure's escape room!

Reserve your ticket by
contacting Steven Crook
by phone or email.

(stevenfcrook@gmail.com)

You MUST reserve your
ticket before **May 13th**

This Week at Urbana First

Sunday, May 18

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)

Monday, May 19

Church Office Closed
4:00 p.m.—Men's Discipleship
6:00 p.m.—Lone Star Group (*Parlor*)
6:30 p.m.—Twin City Rehearsal (*FH*)

Tuesday, May 20

Church Office Closed
5:00 p.m.—People's Chorus (*Parlor*)
6:30 p.m.—Twin City Rehearsal (*FH*)

Wednesday, May 21

Church Office Closed
10:30 a.m.—Midweek Bible Study (*Parlor*)
6:30 p.m.—Men's Bible Study
6:30 p.m.—Twin City Rehearsal (*FH*)

Thursday, May 22

6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts Meeting (*FH*)
6:30 p.m.—Twin City Rehearsal (*Parlor*)

Friday, May 23

Church Office Closed, Staff Sabbath Day

Saturday, May 24

9:00 a.m.—Girl Scouts Preparation (*FH*)
10:00 a.m.—Women of Faith Meeting
(*Parlor*)
11:00 a.m.—Girl Scouts Ceremony (*FH*)

Sunday, May 25

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)

Church Office Hours

Office is Closed this Week

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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