



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!

March 1, 2026
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Second Sunday in Lent
Liturgical Color: Purple

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

PRELUDE

Old Rugged Cross
(arr. D. Wood)

John Muir, *organ*

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve Fink, *liturgist*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

We walk our path to you.

Sometimes we do not see...

The roads that we follow and the people we pass.

Sometimes we do not hear...

Your voice urging us to lift our gaze and see, open our ears and hear.

Sometimes we miss it all...

As we forget to follow you.

Lord God, help us to experience the journey as we walk beside you, for it is in those steps that we are closest to you. Amen.

(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.

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning
bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.
God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds.
Hast thou not known his sustaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth
befriend thee.
4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.
5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.

+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

We Remember You
(arr. L. Larson; CCLI 7150303)

Suzanne Runyard, *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 LESSONS

Deuteronomy 32:1-10

Liturgist

CHORAL ANTHEM

Oh Give Thanks
(c J.A. LaValley)

Sanctuary Choir
Davion Williams, *music director*

THE MESSAGE

Shandra Summerville, *lay speaker*

COMMUNION, TIME OF REFLECTION & PRAYER

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Rev. Robert K. Freeman, *directing 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

Great is the Lord

TFWS no.2022

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just; by his power we trust in his love.

Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true; by his mercy he proves he is love.

1. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise. Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord! *Refrain*
2. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise. Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord! *Refrain*
3. Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise. Great are you, Lord; I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice: Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord! *Refrain*

SENDING FORTH

Shandra Summerville

POSTLUDE

Toccata Giocosa (c. G.M. Martin)

John Muir, *organ*

+ Please stand as you are able

Scripture Lesson: Deuteronomy 32:1-10, 44-52 (ESV)

“Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak, and let the earth hear the words of my mouth. ² May my teaching drop as the rain, my speech distill as the dew, like gentle rain upon the tender grass, and like showers upon the herb. ³ For I will proclaim the name of the Lord; ascribe greatness to our God! ⁴ “The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he. ⁵ They have dealt corruptly with him; they are no longer his children because they are blemished; they are a crooked and twisted generation. ⁶ Do you thus repay the Lord, you foolish and senseless people? Is not he your father, who created you, who made you and established you? ⁷ Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you. ⁸ When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. ⁹ But the Lord's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage. ¹⁰ “He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; he encircled him, he cared for him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

⁴⁴ Moses came and recited all the words of this song in the hearing of the people, he and Joshua the son of Nun. ⁴⁵ And when Moses had finished speaking all these words to all Israel, ⁴⁶ he said to them, “Take to heart all the words by which I am warning you today, that you may command them to your children, that they may be careful to do all the words of this law. ⁴⁷ For it is no empty word for you, but your very life, and by this word you shall live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.”

⁴⁸ That very day the Lord spoke to Moses, ⁴⁹ “Go up this mountain of the Abarim, Mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, opposite Jericho, and view the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel for a possession. ⁵⁰ And die on the mountain which you go up, and be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother died in Mount Hor and was gathered to his people, ⁵¹ because you broke faith with me in the midst of the people of Israel at the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin, and because you did not treat me as holy in the midst of the people of Israel. ⁵² For you shall see the land before you, but you shall not go there, into the land that I am giving to the people of Israel.”

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), the Family of Gerald Ross (passing).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Suellen Fink (March 5), Bill Carter (March 14), Marie Bohl (March 16), Leila Swenson-Gaines (March 16), Hannah Freeman-Choi (March 18), Nancy Merz (March 18), Joyce Dilley (March 24), Stella Sieving (March 29), Wyatt Olivero (March 31)

CHURCH VOLUNTEER NEEDS FOR MARCH

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 bulletins
- Small Group Leader: Persons to lead a new discipleship group for young women and men.

LENTEN PRAYER HOUR

When: Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.

Where: Urbana First UMC Library

All are welcome to join together an hour of prayer Wednesday evenings during Lent led by Peggy Buck and Shandra Summerville.

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!



NEW YOUTH GROUP MEETING DAY

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, with the exception of the month of February; we will be meeting on **March 1** instead, as well as March 22.

MIDWEST MISSION BLESSING BAG PACKING

When: March 8 at following service

Where: Urbana First UMC Fellowship Hall

We have a great opportunity to support our friends at Midwest Mission with helping to pack their “Blessing Bags” with rice and soy. This year our goal is to pack 1200 blessing bags. There are multiple areas to volunteer for this event and open to everyone! Please RSVP to the office if you would like to volunteer!



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, March 1

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

2:00 p.m.—Community Group (*FH*)

4:00 p.m.—Jr./Sr. High Youth Group

Monday, March 2

5:30 p.m.—Dance Rehearsal (*FH*)

7:00 p.m.—Community Group (*Parlor*)

Tuesday, March 3

5:30 p.m.—People's Chorus (*FH*)

Wednesday, March 4

10:30 a.m.—Bible Study (*Parlor*)

5:00 p.m.—Lenten Prayer Hour (*Library*)

6:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, March 5

6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts (*FH*)

Friday, March 6

Church Office Closed, Staff Sabbath Day

Sunday, March 8

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

2:00 p.m.—Community Group (*FH*)

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

Liturgist: Steve Fink

Speaker: Shandra Summerville

Ushers: Rich Govert, Joseph Tingling

Children's Church: Linda Bailey

Tech & Stage Team: Johnie Wilson,

Jack Marshall, Joseph Tingling

PowerPoint & Bulletin: Paige Banovz