

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Austinburg, Ohio**  
**Eighth Sunday Of Epiphany**

**March 2, 2025**

**11 am**

*"Light has come into the world, and every person must decide whether he will walk in the light of altruism, or the darkness of destructive selfishness."*

*- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr -*

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE**

CANDLES/ PRELUDE/ BELL

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PREPARATION MUSIC: *choir*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP: ( Responsively )**

**L: Arise people of faith !**

**P: We joyously anticipate the Word of God!**

**L: God is attentive to our cries and needs.**

**P: We reach out to care for each other with compassion an love.**

**L: God challenges us to engage in all areas of life.**

**P: We will share the Good News to let Jesus shine.**

**ALL: Let us sing praises to God, and renew our hearts.**

**\*HYMN: "Jesus Loves Me" (NCH/Black) # 327**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**

**O gracious God, we gather to thank you for those times when you lift us up, and we have known your healing touch. We cling to you the way a child clings to a loving mother or a father. At times we run ahead and get separated in a crowd, but you have a way of finding us, no matter what. Because; Your love is stronger than our pain; It is stronger than our the evil of this world; It is stronger than the threat of violence and war in this world. Your love is more enduring than our personal losses, doubts, and fears. So come to us, come to us now. Let us sense the larger scope of life beyond daily events. Together may we serve you purpose, and your love. Amen.**

**\*PRAISE RESPONSE: ( to be sung )**

***We are mar-ching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God. We are mar-ching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God. ( sing twice )***

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURES: Matthew 5:21-37

### BLESSING OF CHILDREN:

- *Parents are invited to come forward with children - Please stand with your children at the front of the church, facing the congregation -*

Opening Words:

Introductions

Blessings

Presentation Of Gifts:

HYMN: "Jesus Loves The Little Children" (*insert*)

ANTHEM:

MESSAGE: "From The Heart" Rev. Bill Terry

\*HYMN: "This Little Light Of Mine" (NCH/Blank) # 524 vs. 1-3

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

A TIME FOR PRAYER:

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer/ Silent Prayer /Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Prayer Response

A TIME FOR SHARING:

Friendship Folders

Mission Moment: Have A Heart- Give A Blanket

A Reminder To Send Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings To:

First UCC Church, P.O. Box 253, Austinburg, OH. 44010

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

**Eternal God of the covenant, you call us, commission us, and fill us with your Holy Spirit. We gather as Christ's people in response to your call. We seek to be faithful to your commission to make disciples of all nations. Filled with your Holy Spirit, our hearts beat with joy as our voices sing praises to you. You are the God of our faith, just, true, and righteous. Accept now our offerings in response to your love of Christ and all that he offers to us in your name. We ask that you strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and lead us in lives of freedom which praise your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

A Doxology: ( NCH # 780)

## SHARING OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Invitation*

Communion Hymn: “*Let Us Break Bread Together*” (NCH) #330 (*remain seated*)

Dedication of the Elements

**\*\*SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS\*\*** (*as music plays*)  
*While maintaining distances, each person is invited to come forward using the East aisle, and return to your seats using the West aisle.*

*Please take you individual cup and bread as instructed, eat/drink and dispose the cup and wrapper in the trash can at the front of the sanctuary.*

### **UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

**Gracious and loving God, you have made us one body in Christ, and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Thank you for feeding the hunger and relieving the thirst of our spirit. Now send us into the world to do the work you have given us to do: to find the lost and lonely, to heal broken souls, to free prisoners, and to make the powerful care. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil, and to proclaim- in all we say and do—your good news in Christ Jesus, our Savior...Amen.**

### **PASSING THE PEACE**

**L:** Jesus lifts us. The world needs us. We need each other.

**P:** Let us walk in God’s Holy name.

**L:** May the peace of God be with you.

**P:** And also with you.

\*HYMN: “*He’s Got The Whole World In His Hands*” (*see insert*)

\*BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL RESONSE:

\* POSTLUDE

1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.  
 2 Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,  
 3 Je - sus loves me! Still to - day, walk - ing with me on my way,

Lit - tle ones to him be - long; they are weak, but he is strong.  
 Tak - ing chil - dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."  
 Want - ing as a friend to give light and love to all who live.

*Refrain*

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

*"Suffer little children . . . to come unto Me." — Matthew 19:14*CHILDREN  
George F. Root

Unknown

Je - sus loves the lit - tle chil - dren, All the chil-dren of the  
world. Red and yel-low, black and white, They are pre-cious in His sight —  
Je - sus loves the lit - tle chil - dren of the world.

The musical score consists of six systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The music is in 4/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the treble clef staves.

Jesus died for all the children  
All the children of the world  
Red, brown, yellow  
Black and white  
They are precious in His sight.  
Jesus died for all the children  
Of the world.

Jesus rose for all the children  
All the children of the world  
Red, brown, yellow  
Black and white  
They are precious in His sight.  
Jesus rose for all the children  
Of the world.

Matt. 5:14-16

African-American spiritual

1 This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine. . . . .  
 1 This . . . joy I have, the world did-n't give to me. . . . .

I am gon - na let it, let it shine,  
 oh, the world did not give to me,

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine,  
 This joy . . . I have, the world did-n't give to me.

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine,  
 This . . . joy I have, the world did-n't give to me.

Hal - le - lu - jah,  
 Hal - le - lu, the

let it shine, . . . . let it shine, . . . . let it shine, (oh let it shine.)  
 No, the world did-n't give it, the world can't take it a - way.



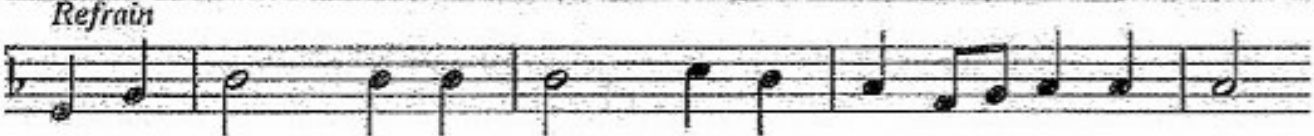
# Let Us Break Bread Together NCH 330 large print



- 1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
\* 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

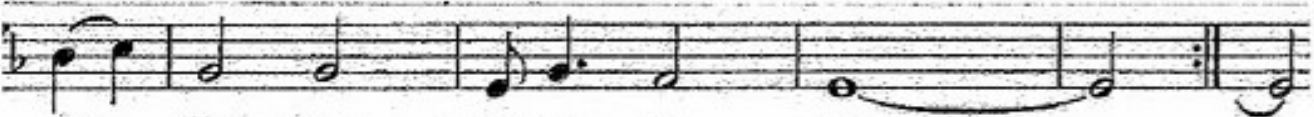


let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



My God, have mer - cy on me.

# He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

Traditional Spiritual

1. He's got the whole wide world in His hands, He's got the  
2. He's got wind and the rain in His hands, He's got wind  
3. He's got the tiny little baby in His hands, He's got the  
4. He's go - t you and me, brother, in His hands, He's go - t

whole wide world in His hands, He's got the whole wide world  
and the rain in His hands, He's got wind and the rain  
tiny little baby in His hands, He's got the tiny little baby  
you and me, brother, in His hands, He's go - t you and me, brother,

in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.  
in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.  
in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.  
in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.



# *In Our Prayers*

Please remember in your prayers: Rev. Allison Milligan, Karen Taylor, Judy Williams, Maranda Rabenold, Randy Tackett, Sandy Fitzhugh Wagner, Rob Harrison, Zach Wilson, George Richards, Jinny Young, Eileen Kusar, Tony Schommer, Pat Yarbrough, Kris Tetrick, Rev. Frank Walford, Clayton Warner, Kathy Kline,

Please keep our service members in prayer: Robert "Nick" Grandy, and all our service members in the military.

Weekly Prayer: Pastor Bill Terry

## *~~~~~ Calendar Notes ~~~~~*

**Sun. March 2nd 11 AM — Worship &  
Communion**

**Tues. March 3rd— 10 am Bible Study  
5:30 pm Yoga**

**Wed. March 5th—7 pm Ash**

**Wednesday Service in Jefferson**

**Thurs. March 6th—5:30 pm Yoga**

**Sat. March 8th—9:30 am Yoga**

**Sun. Feb 23rd 11 AM — Worship**

**First United Church of Christ  
Austinburg, Ohio  
March 2nd, 2025**

**Rev. Bill Terry, Pastor**

**Musician: Cindy Luoma  
Choir Director: Bridget Sherman**

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**Stewardship: Our financial needs for the Church remain. Please mail in your offerings to P.O. Box 253, Austinburg OH 44010. You also can sign-up for online giving at [app.easytith.com/App/Giving/austinburgucc](http://app.easytith.com/App/Giving/austinburgucc) or *sign up via our website.***

**Please maintain your stewardship so we can continue to reach out in Christ's name. Thank you!**

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**Previous Sunday's attendance: 33**

**Total Online Attendance for the February 9<sup>th</sup> service is 38**

General Fund Giving for Feb: \$ 5,923.29

General Fund Budget for Feb: \$ 10,059.38

Rev. William Terry ~ (440) 335-4031 ~ [gintex4@twc.com](mailto:gintex4@twc.com)

Check out our church website at [austinburgfirstucc.org](http://austinburgfirstucc.org)

Visit our Facebook page at

[facebook.com/AustinburgFirstUCC](https://facebook.com/AustinburgFirstUCC)

or email [austinburgucc@windstream.net](mailto:austinburgucc@windstream.net)

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday, Thurs, and Friday : 8 am—11 am

# Announcements

**Welcome to First UCC-Austinburg.** No matter who you are, or where you are in life, you are welcome here. We welcome all ages, races, genders and orientations – because we welcome all who love the Lord with no exceptions. Please keep spreading the word we have something to share.

**Prayers for the Church:** Please submit any prayer requests directly to Pastor Bill. He will lift you in prayer each day and share with the Church Council and our Prayer Chain.

**Counseling and Conversation:** As always, you can call Pastor Bill directly at (440)335-4031.

**Red Wagon Donations for the Geneva Food Pantry for March:** We are collecting toilet paper

**Donations for the Blessing Box** can go directly into the Box by our back door. Personal toiletries and feminine hygiene products are always needed.

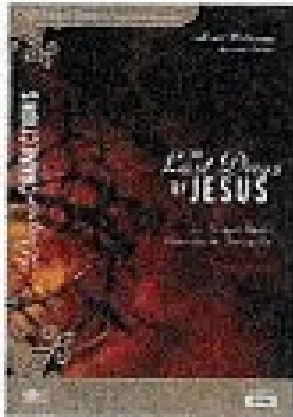
**Bible Study** We are studying the Book of John. Due to Construction, Bible Study will be in Fellowship Hall. Tuesdays at 10 am.

**Yoga with Shanti Yoga Love:** Yoga expert Leah from "Shanti Yoga Love" is now offering classes in the Upper Annex Classes are Tues.at 5:30 pm and 6 pm. Leah will also be here on Saturday Mornings at 9 am. There is a nominal fee for each class. \$15 for a single session/ \$8 if one becomes a regular.

**Easter Flower Orders:** Order forms for Easter Flowers are now available. There will be more in the back of the sanctuary

# **\*\* Upcoming \*\***

## **FELLOWSHIP and STUDY for LENT**



### Each Wednesday in Lent

Join Pastor Bill

as the people of

First Congregational Church in Jefferson

invite us to Lenten Dinner and Videos

6 pm – 7:30 pm

March 12th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd, and 9th

Each day a meal will be shared

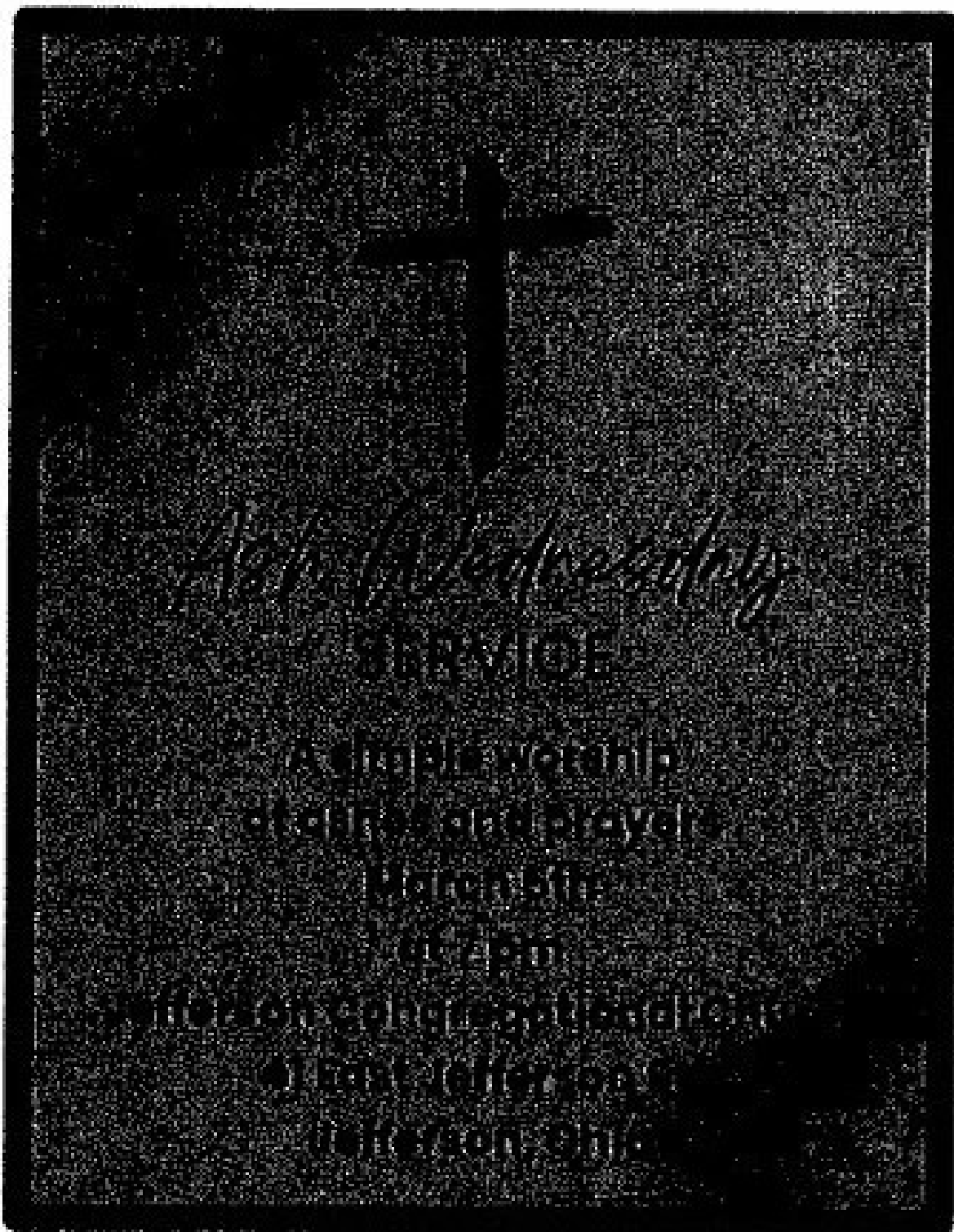
stay for "The Last Days of Jesus"

a video examination of Holy Week

with author Matt Williams

at 41 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson, OH

**\*\* Upcoming \*\***



**\*\* Upcoming \*\***

*Free Community  
Outreach Meal*



**4:30-6:00 PM**

**March 20th**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**First United Church of Christ, Austinburg**

2870 Rt 307 \* (440) 275-5125

[Austinburgfirstucc.org](http://Austinburgfirstucc.org)

Thank you to those who came to the Dixieland Concert and Pancake Dinner last night. We appreciate those who help to make the dinner and those who greeted at the door to help set up this event.



**Thank You!**

