

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Austinburg, Ohio
First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

11 am.

" Kindness in Giving Creates Love " - Lau Tzu -

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

CANDLE LIGHTING/ PRELUDE/ BELL
GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

L: The God of salvation greets us here.

P: We are reminded of the promises of God

L: Hear the welcome of God's voice.

P: Surely, God is with us.

L: All of creation proclaims the wonders of God.

P: We come together to learn what God has in store for us.

ALL: Let us give thanks for the love of God.

***HYMN: " Just As I Am " (NCH/Black) # 207**

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Have mercy upon us, and hear our prayer, O God. We have failed to live in the light of your covenant. You set your rainbow above us, yet the clouds of unbelief darken our days. Distrust wells within us; Our watchwords have become fear, instead of hope; Anger, instead of kindness. We build walls instead of Good deeds. Jesus bids us to follow, but we are slow to obey. Without your grace, we are fruitless and inert. In mercy, Lord, we ask that you renew us and bring us to new life, through Jesus our Christ. Amen.

*** GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS:**

L: Christ has died for all, to clean us our sins away. So, remember your Baptisms, and live a new life each day in the assurance that we are forgiven.

P: Praise be to God.

* *RESPONSE: (To tune of Sunday's Palms/ Wednesday' Ashes)*

*We are has-ty to judge o-thers, blind to proof of hu-man need;
And our lack of under-stan-ding demon-strates our in-ner
greed. We have wast-ed earth's resour-ces, want and
suf-fering we've ignor-ed. Come and cleanse us, then re-store
us. Make new hearts with-in us Lord.*

1st CANDLE Of LENT: Kindness/ Good Deeds

Introduction

Lighting

Prayer

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING: James 1: 17-25 Liturgist

MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN: "*Christ For The World We Sing*" (Pilgrim/Red) # 295

MESSAGE: " A Light of Kindness and Good Deeds" Rev. Bill Terry

HYMN: "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed And Burning" (NCH) # 369

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:

We thank you, God, for the gift of faith that you share with all of creation . Thank you for the covenant given to us in Jesus Christ. Help us to do our part to share your love with all the world. Use our offerings and our lives to bring a realization of your reign among us. Extend your realm by re-creating the church as a true representation of Jesus Christ. Teach us to serve with a humble spirit; Teachable, and faithful to you. men.

A Doxology # 780 (NCH/Black)

***PASSING THE PEACE**

L: May God's Spirit of abundant grace be with you..

P: And, also with you!

***HYMN: " *Amazing Grace*" (NCH/ Black) # 547**

***BENEDICTION**

(Then all are invited to sing)

***Blessed be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian Love.
The fellowship of kindred minds, is like to that above.***

***POSTLUDE**

*** = Those who are comfortable are invited to stand.**

Unison Prayer of Dedication:

You are worthy O God, of more honor than we can hope to bestow upon you. You are God of all creation, and the source of all things. We offer you these gifts of thanksgiving. Please receive them as symbols of whole hearted praise. Not, because this church needs money, but rather because , it is right to give you thanks and praise. So take what we bring, and convert them to actions which are according to your divine will. Amen.

A Doxology - (NCH/Black) # 780

Unison Prayer of Dedication:

We thank you, God, for the gift of faith that you share with all of creation . Thank you for the covenant given to us in Jesus Christ. Help us to do our part to share your love with all the world. Use our offerings and our lives to bring a realization of your reign among us. Extend your realm by re-creating the church as a true representation of Jesus Christ. Teach us to serve with a humble spirit; Teachable, and faithful to you. Amen.

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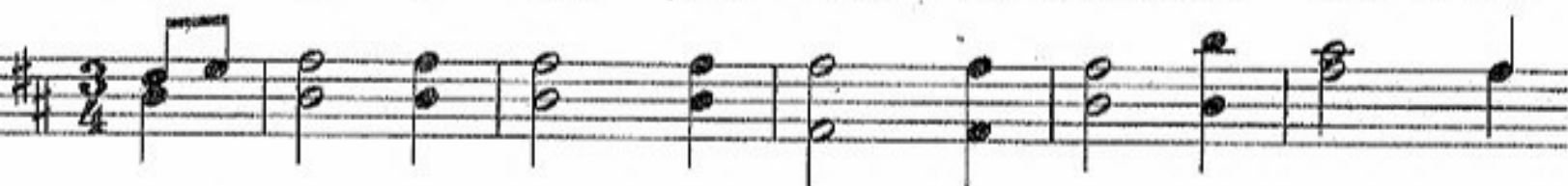
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*POSTLUDE

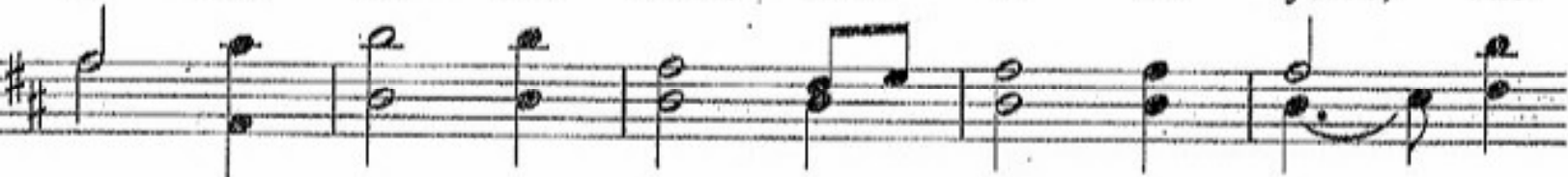
*** = Those who are comfortable are invited to stand.**



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that your
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
 3 Just as I am, you will re - ceive, will wel - come,
 4 Just as I am, your love un - known has bro - ken



blood was shed for me, And that you called in -
 con - flict, many a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with -
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause your prom - ise
 ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be yours, and



vit - ing me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 yours a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Christ for the World We Sing!

Samuel Wolcott, 1813-1886

ITALIAN HYMN 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.
Adapted from Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring
 2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring
 3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring
 4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring

With lov - ing zeal: The poor, and them that mourn, The faint and
 With fer - vent prayer: The way - ward and the lost, By rest - less
 With one ac - cord: With us the work to share, With us re -
 With joy - ful song: The new - born souls, whose days, Re - claimed from

o - ver - borne, Sin - sick and sor - row - worn, Whom Christ doth heal.
 pas - sions tossed, Re - deemed at count - less cost From dark de - spair.
 proach to dare, With us the cross to bear, For Christ our Lord.
 er - ror's ways, In - spired with hope and praise, To Christ be - long. A - men.

Matt. 25:1-13; Gal. 6:9

African-American spiritual

1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn-ing, keep your lamps trimmed and burn-
 2 It's our faith makes us hap-py, it's our faith makes us hap-
 3 We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, we are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-
 4 Ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er, ev-ery round goes high-er, high-

Last time, end

-ing, keep your lamps trimmed and burn-ing, for this work's al-most done.
 -py, it's our faith makes us hap-py, for this work's al-most done.
 -der, we are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, for this work's al-most done.
 -er ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er, for this work's al-most done.

Refrain

Sis-ters, don't grow wear-y, broth-ers, don't grow

wear-y, chil-dren, don't grow wear-y, for this work's al-most done.



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

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 April Osbourn—Conneaut UCC

~~~~~ Calendar Notes ~~~~~

Sun. March 9th: 11 AM—Worship

Tues. March 11th: 10 AM—Bible Study

5:30 PM—Yoga

Thurs. March 13th: 5:30 PM—Yoga

7 PM—Administration Board meeting

Sat. March 15th: 9:30 AM—Yoga

Sun. March 16th: 11 AM—Worship

**First United Church of Christ
Austinburg, Ohio
March 9th, 2025**

Rev. Bill Terry, Pastor

Musician: Cindi Luoma

Choir Director: Bridget Sherman

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.easytithes.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!

~ ~ ~

Previous Sunday's attendance: 14

Total Online Attendance for the March : 31

General Fund Giving for March: \$1,633.29

General Fund Budget for March: \$12,574.23

Rev. William Terry ~ (440) 335-4031 ~ gintex4@twc.com

Check out our church website at austinburgfirstucc.org

Visit our Facebook page at

facebook.com/AustinburgFirstUCC

or email 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

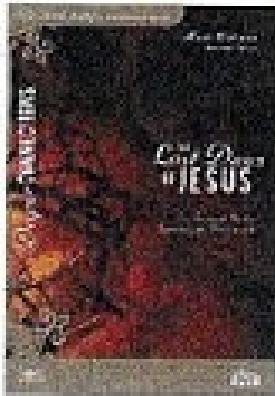
Donations for the Blessing Box can go directly into the Box by our back door. Personal toiletries and feminine hygiene products are always needed.

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.

**** Upcoming ****

FELLOWSHIP and STUDY for LENT



Each Wednesday in Lent

Join Pastor Bill

and 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

and you will stay for "The Last Days of Jesus"

a video examination of Holy Week

with author Matt Williams

at 41 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson, OH

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