

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Austinburg, Ohio

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 22, 2026

11 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

CANDLELIGHTING/ BELL/ PRELUDE

GREETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION SONG:

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

L: Come away from the gods of your own creation to worship the living God.

P: We leave our anxiety behind us and look with confidence to the future.

L: Turn from your preoccupation with those things which demand your time and attention, away from God.

P: We shall find a way to serve the Lord, and rise above our fears.

L: Be not afraid, for the Lord is your shield, and great is the reward to those who find comfort there.

ALL: The Lord gathers us like a mother hen.

The Lord is our God!

***HYMN:** “ *My Faith Looks Up To Thee* ” (Pilgrim/Red) # 348

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Beloved God, we are people who praise you for Jesus, and then deny you in our lives. We live as those who are enemies of the cross, without hope, joy, or unity. Remind us that the One who bore the pain of torture, did so, to expose our evil, and then remove it forever from our midst. Forgive us Holy Master, when we toil each day as if everything depends upon us. Forgive us when our zeal makes others too tense to experience your joy. Forgive us, we pray, for our failure to trust you. Teach us gratitude for this day, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

***GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS:**

L: Do not be afraid: God casts out evil, and heals those who are blind to redemption. Christ claims us, and Christ dwells with us. Because, God loves us so much.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE: Ruth 1: 6-8

Chapter 9 of the Gospel of John, told as a story

A MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN: "Be Still My Soul" (NCH/Black) # 488

MESSAGE: "Sight and Disbelief" (*He Who Was Healed*)

HYMN: "O Jesus, I Have Promised" (NCH/Black) # 493

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

A TIME FOR PRAYER:

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer: *To each line spoken please offer the response:*

"Blessed Are You, O God"

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

Prayer Response

A TIME FOR SHARING :

Friendship Folders

Mission Moment: One Great Hour Of Sharing (OGHS)

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

1st UCC Church, P.O. Box 253, Austinburg, OH. 44010

(Including our special offering for One Great Hour Of Sharing)

Unison Prayer of Dedication:

For your divine providence, we thank you, ever-generous Creator. In responsive humility, we have rendered unto you these gifts of our material possessions. We entrust them to you so that through them, your Church may live out its call of solidarity and accompaniment. May the witness and work made possible by our tithes and offerings comfort, and empower those seeking refuge, that they may be able to sing with peace and joy, "The Lord's song in a foreign land". (Psalm 137:4) Amen.

A Doxology # 780

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PASSING THE PEACE

L: May the peace of the Lord, be with you.

P: And also with you.

*HYMN: "*Be Not Afraid*" (insert)

*BENEDICTION:

(*Then all are invited to sing*)

*Blest 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.

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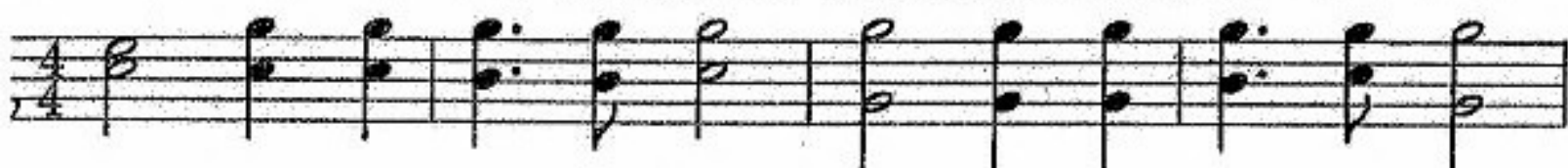


"Share The Dream"
FELLOWSHIP and LEARNING
for LENT
Last Wednesday in Lent
Join Pastor Bill, as the people of First
Congregational Church in Jefferson, create as to
Lenten Dinners, and video discussions
6 pm - 7:30 pm
We will watch a 9 part video based on the life and
teachings of Martin Luther King Jr. exploring
transforming principles to share in a world divided
*Love - Conscience - Justice -
Freedom - Perseverance - Hope*
Feb. 27th - March 27th
at 41 E. Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH

Final Week
SHARE THE DREAM
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
WITTORIO DIAMANTI / CAROL BRONKHORST



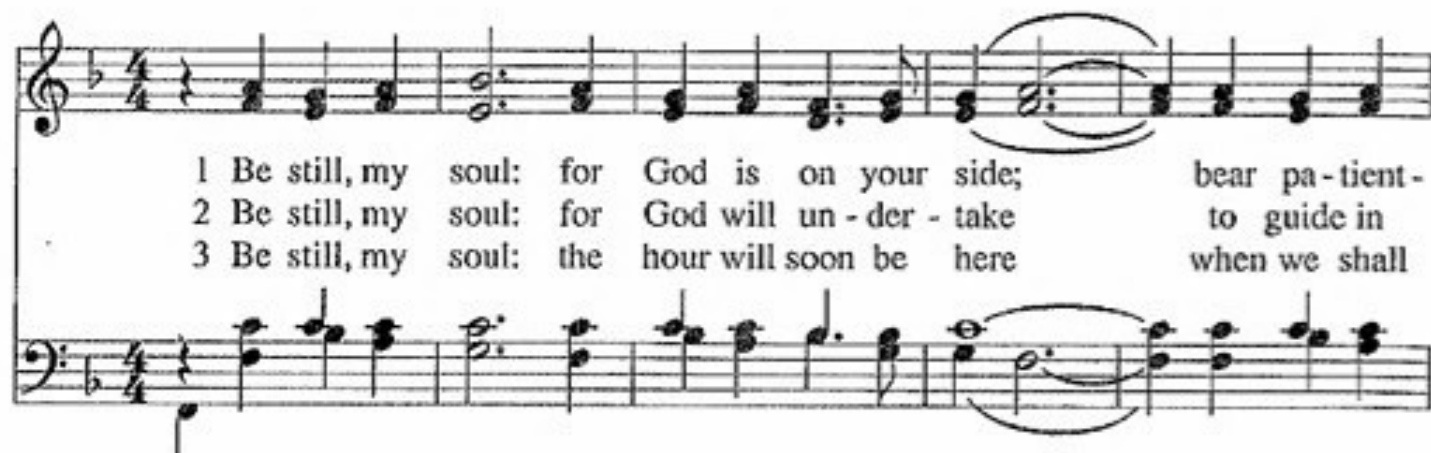
1 My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold; sul - len stream



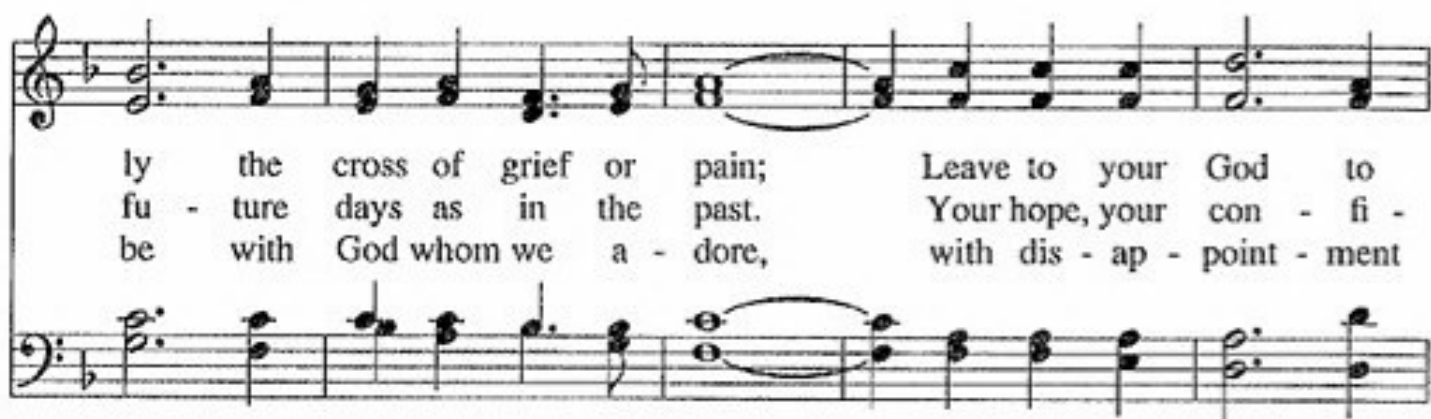
Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
 My zeal in - spire; As thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
 Be thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day; Wipe sor - row's
 Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; Oh, let me from this day Be whol - ly thine.
 love to thee Pure, warm, and changeless be, A liv - ing fire.
 tears a - way; Nor let me ev - er stray From thee a - side.
 trust re - move; Oh, bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul. A - men.



1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear pa-tient-
 2 Be still, my soul: for God will un-der-take to guide in
 3 Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall




ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to
 fu-ture days as in the past. Your hope, your con-fi-
 be with God whom we a-dore, with dis-ap-point-ment



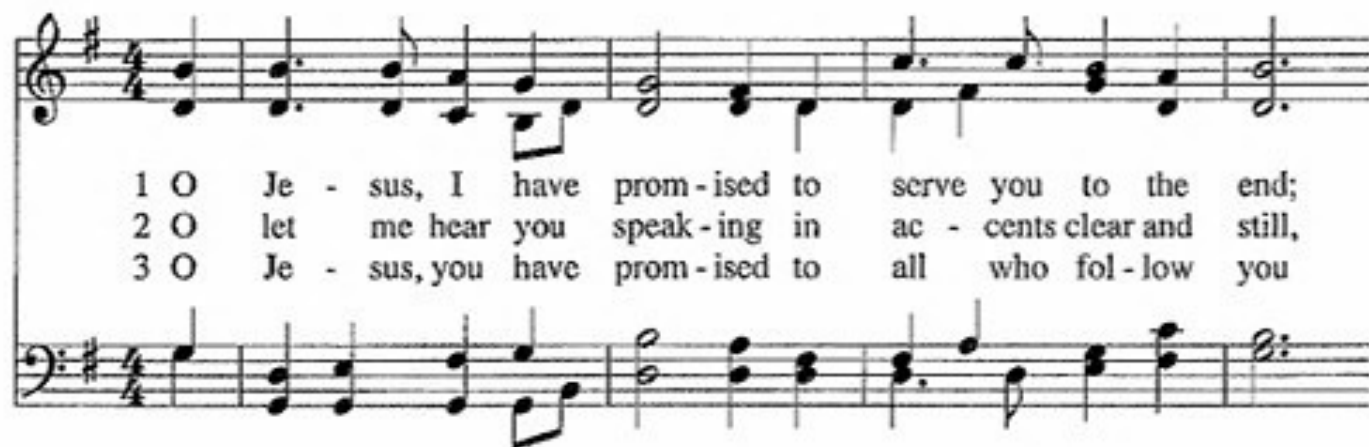
or-der and pro-vide; in ev-ery change God
 dence let noth-ing shake; all now mys-te-rious
 gone, no grief nor fear, sor-row re-placed with



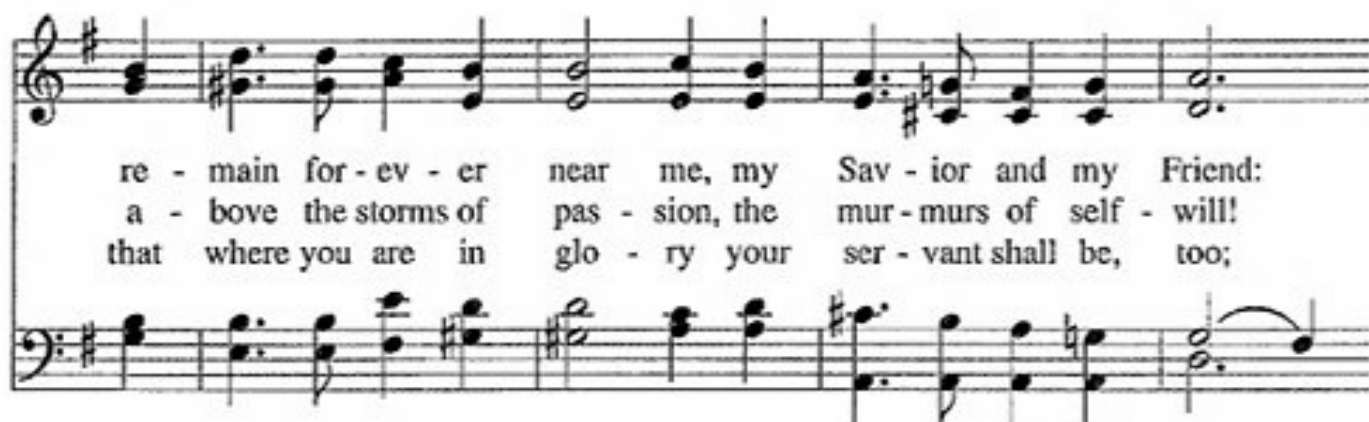
faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul: your best e-ter-nal
 shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still
 joy for-ev-er-more. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are



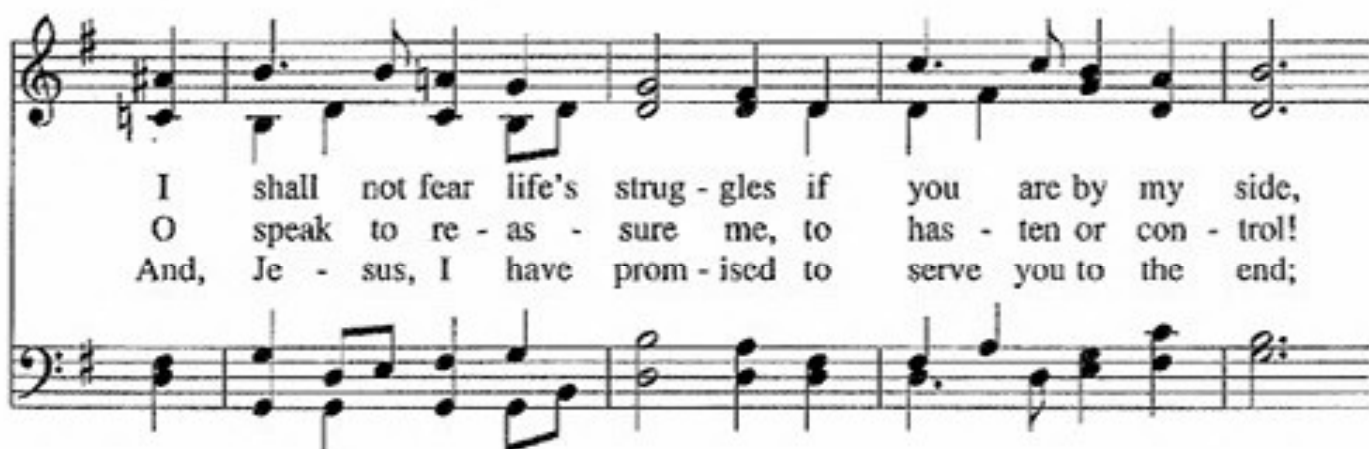
friend through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
know how Je - sus' pow - er ruled them long a - go.
past, all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.



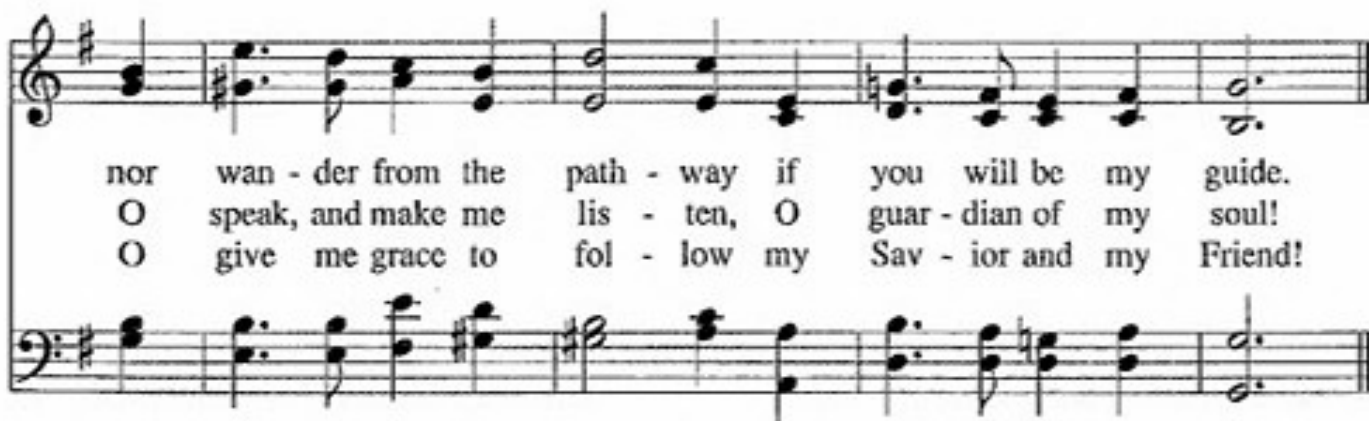
1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 O let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
 3 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my Sav - ior and my Friend:
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will!
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be, too;



I shall not fear life's strug - gles if you are by my side,
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol!
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, O guar - dian of my soul!
 O give me grace to fol - low my Sav - ior and my Friend!

Be Not Afraid

1. You shall cross the barren desert,
but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety,
Though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in
foreign lands and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain:

Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come follow Me, and
I will give you rest.

2. If you pass through raging waters
in the sea you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the pow'r of hell
and death is at your side,
know that I am with you
through it all.

Refrain

3. Bless-ed are your poor,
for the Kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
For one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked men insult and
hate you all because of Me,
bless-ed, bless-ed are you!

Refrain

In Our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers: Rev. Allison Milligan, Karen Taylor, Maranda Rabenold, Randy Tackett, Sandy Fitzhugh Wagner, Rob Harrison, Zach Wilson, Jinny Young, Tony Schommer, Pat Yarbrough, Caroline Holden, Charlotte Carter, Margie Heino, Colleen Carrahar , Clayton Warner

Weekley Prayer: Pastor April Osbourn and Conneaut UCC

Please keep our service members in prayer: Robert "Nick" Grandy, John Jackam, Dan Jackam, Andrew White and all our service members.

~~~~ Calendar Notes ~~~~

Sunday, March 22nd : 11 am Worship Service

Sunday, March 24th: 12 pm Bible Study

4 pm Yoga

8 pm AA

Wend. March 25th 6 pm Last Lenten Supper & Study at Jefferson

7 pm: Game Night

Thurs. March 26th : 7 pm Council (rescheduled)

Fri. March 27th : 8 pm GRMC

Sat March 28th : 9 am Yoga

Sunday, March 29th 11 am Worship Service,

First United Church of Christ Austinburg, Ohio March 22nd, 2026

Rev. Bill Terry

Musician: Cindy Luoma

Choir Director: Bridget Sherman

Stewardship: 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 attendance 37

Total Online Attendance for the March 1st service is

Check out our church website at austinburgfirstucc.org Visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/AustinburgFirstUCC or email austinburgucc@windstream.net

Pastor Bill's Contact Information

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

Office Hours:

Office Phone: 440-275-5125

Tues, Thurs, Fri: 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

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.

Red Wagon Donations for the Geneva Food

Pantry for March: ***Bars of Soap for the Geneva Food Pantry (Goal donation: 225 bars)***

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

Yoga Classes: will be on Tuesdays from 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm, Saturdays from 9:00am to 11am in the Upper Annex

Lent Devotionals: Be sure to pick up your copy of the Lent Devotional Books “Love Outpoured” in the back of the sanctuary. There is a collection basket there for a voluntary \$3 donation for each book!

RAM Free Medical Clinic: Will be April 11-12 2026. at Lakeside Jr Highschool in Ashtabula. Parking lot opens at 12 am. Clinic opens at 6 AM . It is free, and is first come first serve until capacity is met. No ID required

Thank you to all who helped with the free community dinner. From those who made the food, to serving and cleaning up after. Without you we could not have made
This possible.
Thank You!



Holy Week

Palm Sunday March 29th

*Followed by a parade of Palms around
the park with a miniature horse*

**Maundy Thursday April 2nd
at 7 pm**



Here in Austinburg



Good Friday April 3rd

Easter April 5th

Son - Rise Service at 7:30 am

Breakfast at 8:15 am

Worship at 11 am

