

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Austinburg, Ohio

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 30th 2025 11 a.m.

""Be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to be submerged by trouble." - William O. Douglas -

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

LIGHTING CANDLES/ PRELUDE/ RINGING of BELL
GREETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: The God of salvation greets us here.

P: We are reminded of the promises of God

L: Hear the welcome of Gods voice.

P: Surely, God is with us.

L: All of creation proclaims the wonders of God

ALL: We come together to learn what God has in store for us. Let us give thanks for the love of God.

***HYMN: "I Need You Every Hour" (NCH/Black) # 517**

***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 watchword has become fear, instead of hope. 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: Take heart in times of distress. God makes rain to fall alike on the evil and those who are just. Know the Good News and rejoice; For the Covenant of eternal life sustains us always. We are forgiven!

* *RESPONSE: (To the tune of "Come, O Font Of Every Blessing)*

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.

FOURTH CANDLE OF LENT: PRAYER

Introduction

Lighting

Prayer

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

A MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN: "Sweet Hour Of Prayer" NCH # 505

SCRIPTURES: Matthew 6: 7-13
I Thessalonians 5: 15-22

MESSAGE: "Prayer: An Inner Light" Rev. Bill Terry

HYMN: "I Come To The Garden Alone" (NCH/Black) #237

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: One Great Hour of Sharing

A Reminder To Send Gifts, Tithes and Offerings to:

1* 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. Amen.

A Doxology: *(NCH) # 780*

L: May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: **And Also With You**

HYMN: “ Standing In The Need Of Prayer” (NCH/ Black) # 519

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.



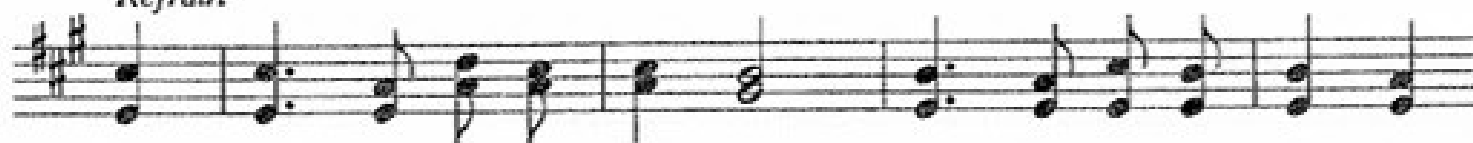
1 I need you ev - ery hour, O God of grace;
 2 I need you ev - ery hour, in faith or fear;
 3 I need you ev - ery hour, in joy or pain;
 4 I need you ev - ery hour; teach me your will,



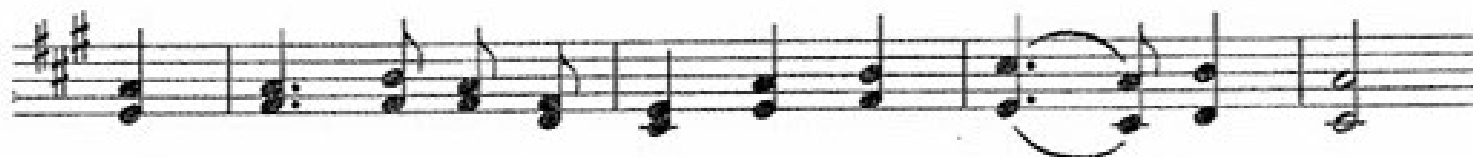
the peace your voice af - fords, I now em - brace.
 temp - ta - tions lose their power when you are near.
 come quick - ly and a - bide or life is vain.
 and your rich prom - is - es in me ful - fill.



Refrain




I need you, how I need you! Ev - ery hour I need you;





O bless me now, my Sav - ior; I come to you.



Sweet Hour of Prayer

William Walford, 1845; alt.



1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,
 2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share
 3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear

and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.
 of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re-turn!
 to One whose truth and faith-ful-ness en-gage the wait-ing soul to bless.

In sea-sons of dis-tress and grief, my soul has of-ten found re-lief,
 With them I has-ten to the place where I would know my Sav-ior's face,
 And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be-lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,




and oft es-caped the tempt-er's snare by your re-turn, sweet hour of prayer!
 And glad-ly take my sta-tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!
 I'll cast a-way my ev-ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!



Although credited to a different poet when first published in 1845, researchers believe this hymn was written by William Walford. William Bradbury, a highly trained musician, sang under Lowell Mason in Boston and also wrote "Jesus Loves Me."

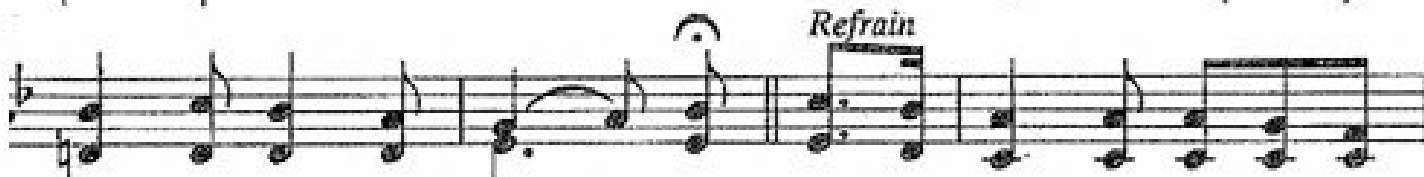
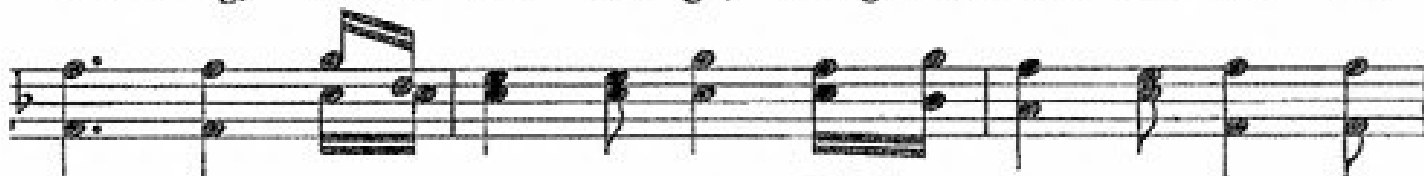
Tune: SWEET HOUR L.M.D.
 William B. Bradbury, 1861



1 I come to the gar - den a - lone, while the dew is still on the
 2 He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their
 3 I'd stay in the gar - den with him, though the night a - round me be



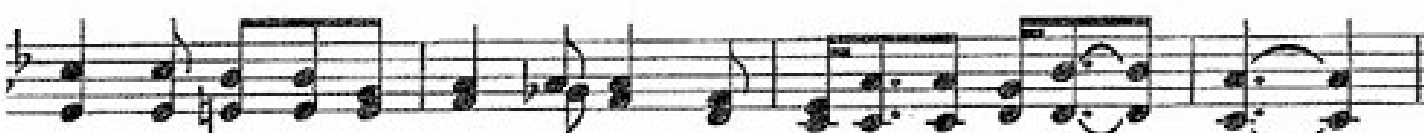
ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear, the
 sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that he gave to me with -
 fall - ing; But he bids me go; through the voice of woe his



Son of God dis - clos - es.
 in my heart is ring - ing. And he walks with me, and he
 voice to me is call - ing.



talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, And the



joy we share as we tar - ry there, none oth - er has ev - er known.

Leader

1 Not my broth - er, nor my sis - ter, but it's me, O God,
 2 Not the preach - er, nor the dea - con, but it's me, O God,
 3 Not my fa - ther, nor my moth - er, but it's me, O God,
 4 Not the strang - er, nor my neigh - bor, but it's me, O God,

All *Leader*

stand - ing in the need of prayer; Not my broth - er, nor my sis - ter, but it's
 stand - ing in the need of prayer; Not the preach - er, nor the dea - con, but it's
 stand - ing in the need of prayer; Not my fa - ther, nor my moth - er, but it's
 stand - ing in the need of prayer; Not the strang - er, nor my neigh - bor, but it's

All *Refrain*

me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer.
 me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer. It's
 me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer.
 me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer.

me, it's me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer;
 it's me,

Leader

1 Not my broth - er, nor my sis - ter, but it's me, O God,
 2 Not the preach - er, nor the dea - con, but it's me, O God,
 3 Not my fa - ther, nor my moth - er, but it's me, O God,
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All *Refrain*

me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer.
 me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer. It's
 me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer.
 me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer.

me, it's me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer;
 it's me,

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, Jinny Young, Eileen Kusar, Tony Schommer, Pat Yarbrough, Kris Tetrick, Rev. Frank Walford, Clayton Warner, Kathy Kline, Rory Luoma. The Williams Family

Weekley Prayer: First Congregational UCC Andover

Please keep our service members in prayer: Robert “Nick” Grandy, and all our service members in the

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

Sun. March 30th: 11 AM—Worship

Tues. April 1st : 10 AM—Bible Study

5:30 PM—Yoga

Thurs. April 3rd: 5:30 PM—Yoga

Sat. April 5th : 9:30 AM—Yoga

Sun. April 6th: 11 AM—Worship

**First United Church of Christ
Austinburg, Ohio
March 30th, 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.easytithe.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: 33

Total Online Attendance for the March 9th service is 9 (no
Facebook)

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.

She 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. .

Spring Clean-up Day April 12th—The Administration Board invites all available helpers to come Saturday April 12th to clean up the church and parsonage yards. Come dressed for the weather and the work beginning at 9 am.

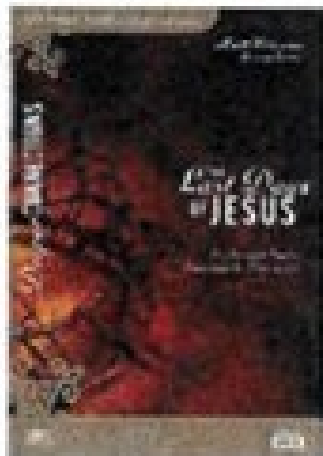
Announcements

Volunteers Needed! - The Administration board is looking for some volunteers to cover for Dwaine from April 23rd to June 23rd while he is on leave recovering from surgery. Basic job duties can be shared between volunteers: vacuuming/sweeping, taking out trash. If interested please contact Bob Thayer at 440-391-7213

Confirmation Class— Classes will begin on Sunday April 6th . This will be after church and lunch in Fellowship Hall will be provided. Classes will generally meet twice a month with occasional scheduled events

Game Nights— Join us on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month (4/9,4/23,5/14,5/28) for Game Night. We will be playing Mexican Train a Dominos

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

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sunday April 6th



One Great
HOURLY
OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It connects you to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery.

Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities. As always, clearly mark your special gift for OGHS. If Writing a check; Please make it out to First UCC Church, and clearly place OGHS on the Memo line, as well.

SPRING SING CELEBRATION

At the Geneva Senior Center

Tuesday, April 15th

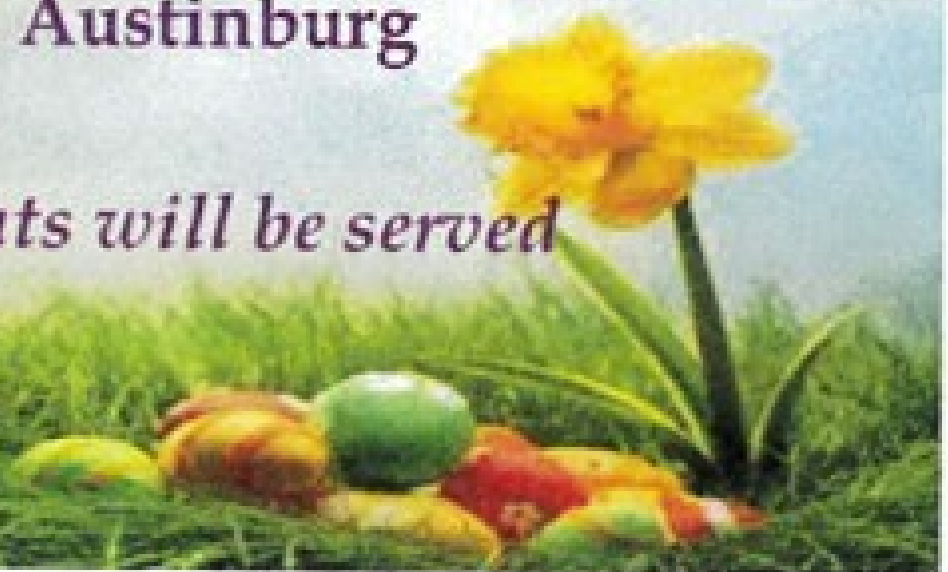
11:30 AM

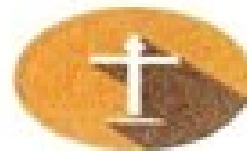
62 W Main St, Geneva

Hosted by

First United Church of Christ,
Austinburg

Refreshments will be served





HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday:

April 13th - Worship with Palms

11am at First U.C.C., Austinburg

Maundy Thursday:

April 17th, 7pm worship

“The Drama of Holy Week”

at First Congregational Church U.C.C. in
Jefferson, Ohio

Good Friday:

April 18th, The Walk Of The Cross
through the town of Jefferson. Beginning

at 6 pm at the First Baptist Church on
West Jefferson St.

