

"Women Who"

March 23, 2025

**Please stand as you are comfortable*
‡ UMH ~ *United Methodist Hymnal* (hard cover hymnal)
‡ FWS ~ *The Faith We Sing* (soft cover hymnal)

Announcements and greetings

*The assembly responds or joins in unison when our text is **bold**.*

Centering Words:

Open our minds and spirits to be reminded that God is always at work, making a way where there seems to be no way. Let us come with open hearts, ready to trust, believe, and follow where God leads.

Prelude

'O Mensch, bewein' dein' Sünde gross'

Pachelbel

Call to worship:

Come, let us worship the Lord who calls us to trust in God's promises.

We come in faith believing in God's divine provision.

When the world fills us with fear, God calls us to walk in faith.

We will trust in the One who holds our future.

Let us worship the Lord who is faithful in every generation!

We worship with joy, faith, and hope in God's unfailing love!

*Opening Hymn

All Creatures of Our God and King

‡ UMH # 62

1.

All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing O praise ye! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam,

O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2.

O brother wind, air, clouds, and rain, by which all creatures ye sustain, O praise ye! Alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening, find a voice.

O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3.

O sister water, flowing clear, make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother fire who lights the night, providing warmth, enhancing sight,

O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4.

Dear mother earth, who day by day, unfoldest blessings on our way, Alleluia! Alleluia!

The flowers and fruits that in the grow, let them God's glory also show!

O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5.

All ye who are of tender heart, Forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye, alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, Praise God and on him cast your care!

O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 62
Words: Frances of Assisi, ca. 1225; trans. by William H. Draper, 1925, adapt. 1987
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN; *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House
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Opening Prayer: In Unison

Gracious and Sovereign God, we gather in Your presence today, inspired by the faith of our biblical mothers and other great historical women. Like them, we long to trust You in times of uncertainty, to believe in Your provision and to surrender our fears into Your hands. Strengthen our faith so that, we too, may walk boldly in obedience to Your will. Fill this place with Your Spirit, that our worship may be pleasing to You. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

Old Testament Reading: **Exodus 2:1-10**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalter: **Psalm 112** Responsively with Sung Response

² UMH page 833

Musical Response

**Light rises in darkness
when justice rules our lives.**

¹ Praise the Lord.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord,
who greatly delight in God's commandments.

² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³ Wealth and riches are in their house,
and their righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

⁵ It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.

⁶ **For the righteous shall never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.**

Musical Response

⁷ They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, trusting in the Lord.

⁸ **When they see their adversaries,
their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid.**

⁹ They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn is exalted in honor.

¹⁰ **The wicked see it and are angry;
they gnash their teeth and melt away;
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.**

Musical Response

New Testament Reading: **Hebrews 11:1-3, 6, & 23**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Reading: **Matthew 15:21-28**

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

1.

**My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away; O let me from this day be wholly Thine.**

2.

**May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;
as Thou hast died for me, O may my love to Thee pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.**

3.

**While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be Thou my Guide;
bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.**

4.

**When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll,
blest Savior, then in love, fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 452
Words: Ray Palmer, 1875
Music: OLIVET; Lowell Mason, 1831

Message

Women Who...



***“Women Who Have
Astounding Faith”***

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession: In unison

Merciful God, too often we allow fear to overshadow our faith. Like Jochebed, we face uncertainties, yet we struggle to surrender them to God. Let us confess the moments when we have doubted God's provision, withheld trust, and allowed fear to control our decisions. You have shown us through Jochebed and the Canaanite mother that faith in You leads to life and blessing. Forgive us when we fail to believe in Your provision and protection. Strengthen our faith like these women, that we may trust You completely knowing that You hold our future. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment of quiet confession.

Words of assurance:

In Christ, we are assured that God's plans for us are good. God's love never fails, and God's grace is more than enough.

Invitation to the Offering

Please submit your offering as you feel led by placing it in the plates on the altar railing, or text your gift to 833-756-0325, or on our website: www.elyriafirstumc.org.

Offertory

'Magnificat I'

Dandrieu

Offertory Prayer: In Unison

Radiant One, we offer these gifts in faith, knowing that You are the God who provides, sustains, and multiplies. Bless these offerings that they may be used to bring hope, freedom, and life to those in need. May our giving reflect our trust in You and our desire to see Your kingdom flourish. Strengthen our faith, O Lord, that we may give with joyful hearts, knowing that You are always at work, making a way where there seems to be none. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

UMH # 383 v. 1-4

1.

**This is a day of new beginnings, Time to remember and move on,
Time to believe what love is bringing, Laying to rest the pain that's gone.**

2.

**For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
Can make for us a world of difference, As faith and hope are born again.**

3.

**Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, Step from the past and leave behind
Our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, Seeking new paths, and sure to find.**

4.

**Christ is alive, and goes before us To show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings; Our God is making all things new.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 383

Words: Brian Wren, 1978; alt. 1987

Music: Carlton R. Young, 1984

Words © 1983, 1987 Hope Publishing Co.;

Music © 1987 Hope Publishing Co.

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Please be seated for closing announcements and the Benediction.

Benediction: Responsively

Go forth in faith, trusting in the God that provides.

We go in faith, believing that God is always at work.

May you surrender your fears, knowing that God holds your future.

We walk in faith, knowing that God's plan is greater than our own.

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

We go forth in the strength of the Lord!

Postlude

'Attende Domine'

Demessieux

Worship Participants

Preaching: Rev. Tennille Power

Liturgist: Pat Skinner

Media: David Wilm

Musicians: Kingsley Wood, Jack Roberts, and the Chancel Choir

Sound room: Neal Hubbard

Ushers and Greeters: John Borer, Bill Buga, Kris Long, and Mike Zahnke

Each week, this service is broadcast live on the radio station WEOL 930 AM/100.3 FM. Today's radio broadcast is sponsored with money given for our radio ministry. Thank you to those who donate which allows us to continue our radio ministry as we share God's love with the radio audience and the community.

The altar flowers are sponsored to honor all women of faith who gave examples on how we are to live out our lives.

If you are interested in joining our church family, please call the church office at 440.322.6622 or email our pastor at tennillep@elyriafirstumc.org.

If you have any pastoral needs or prayer concerns, please call the church office, 440.322.6622.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

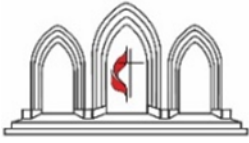
312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035 440.322.6622

www.elyriafirstumc.org

An equal opportunity provider

'O Mensch, bewein' dein' Sünde gross' by Johann Pachelbel. **Faith of Our Mothers** by Henri Frederick Hemy, 1818-1888
'Magnificat I' by Jean-François Dandrieu. **'Attende Domine'** by Jeanne Demessieux All songs are performed under license # 73591.

Third Street Review



March 23, 2025

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440.322.6622

Email: church@elyriafirstumc.org

Lunch at Wesleyan Village

Join the residents and pastor at the Wesleyan Village on **Wednesday, March 26th at 12:00 noon**. We will gather in the *Rose Room* for a fellowship and a dine in luncheon experience. Bring a friend and join us!

March Mission focus:

UMCOR

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) provides resources to those who suffer from natural or human-caused disasters: famine, hurricane, war, flood, fire or other events-to alleviate suffering and serve as a source of help and hope for the vulnerable. Gifts given play a vital role in enhancing the Church's global humanitarian response because these funds cover UMCOR's administrative costs. This support ensures that 100% of donations given to UMCOR throughout the year can be directed toward on-the-ground relief and recovery efforts, allowing UMCOR to effectively respond to crises and provide assistance where it's needed most. Donations will be collected all month. You may give on-line via our website: elyriafirstumc.org or submit a check to: ***Elyria First United Methodist Church***, indicate *UMCOR* on the memo line.

"The desire to reach the stars is ambitious.

*The desire to reach hearts
is wise and most possible."*

~ Maya Angelou

National Women's History Month

March is designated as National Women's History Month. What started under President Jimmy Carter as one week designated as Women's History week, states throughout the nation expanded this time to include the entire month. In 1987, Congress declared March as Women's History Month in perpetuity. During this month, our sermon series center on ***Women Who... We will unpack women who Lead, Build, women who were Courageous and Took risks!*** Let us come with worship in our hearts and thankfulness for our women of our faith who gave examples on how we are to live out our faith!

Community Breakfast

We are grateful for our faithful volunteers and those who cheerfully give to this much needed ministry. We are always in need of ***plastic bags and cutlery*** that are used weekly. Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping us serve in this vital ministry. If you want to donate plastic bags and cutlery, please bring them, and drop them in the donation box located on the main level. Let's continue our work in 2025!

Free Clothing Store

The Free Clothing Store is a labor of love! We thank all those who donated to the clothing store! We are now collecting **spring clothing**. The store will be open on **Saturday, April 26th 10 am-12 pm**, please contact the church office at 440.322.6622 with questions or to volunteer.

Free Hygiene Store

Being open to the community and filling in the gap for many families is a blessing! We are grateful for your continued support of this much needed ministry. Our needs for April include:

- **Cleaning Supplies** (glass, bathroom, and toilet bowl cleaners)
- **Paper towels & Toilet paper**
- **Kids Toothbrush and toothpaste**
- **Shampoo & Conditioner** (dry shampoo too)
- **Body Lotion**
- **Laundry & Dish Soap**
- **Women's and men's Body wash, Deodorant, and Razors**
- **Baby wash and lotion**

Please place these items in the box located on the main level. Join us on **Saturday, April 26th** from **10 am-12 pm** if you would like to volunteer.

Happy Tuesdays

Tuesdays are our time for fellowship, fun and lunch! Our traditional **Happy Hour** is on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays at noon in the Fellowship Hall**. Here a meal will be prepared, and we welcome all to come and fellowship! On the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays**, we will gather as **BYOL-Bring Your Own Lunch** with fun and fellowship supplied!

Happy Hour ~ March 25th

Open Radio Sponsorships

Radio Broadcast dates: **March 30, April 6, 13, 20**

Cost **\$300.00 full, \$150.00 half**

Or you can contribute any amount to our Radio Ministry!

Please call the church office at 440.322.6622 to reserve your special date!

Lenten Reflection

The synoptic gospels give a description of Jesus' time in the wilderness. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke give us a more detailed account of what Jesus experienced during these 40 days and 40 nights. Temptations arose from the enemy, who wanted to test Jesus' commitment to God's commission. It is similar to why temptations come into our lives. Many believe that when temptations come, it is the enemy at work. I would pause and stretch us to think differently. As part of the human experience temptations will come. It is how we respond to the temptation that shows our strength and growth in our faith.

During His time in the wilderness, while fasting and praying, Jesus became famished. When we are hungry, we may not always think effectively and will not always make the best decisions. This is what the enemy was counting on with Jesus. However, when Jesus was tempted to turn stones to become loaves of bread, Jesus responded, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:3-4). On its face, we may see how this can be an effective way to eat and solve His hunger issue. However, the enemy used his weakness and what the enemy thought would be Jesus' ego by asking "If You are the Son of God, do this act." Jesus had absolutely nothing to prove!

We are to be prayerful to help God work on our egos, so we are not tempted to operate out of ego and always operate out of the Holy Spirit! I invite us in this Lenten season to ask the question, "Where are the places in my life where I'm not yet the person I believe God longs for me to be?"

The answer to this question lies within all of us. The answer to this question is where our work begins. Let us pray for God to reveal these spaces and give us the courage to start our work for the transformation of new beings in Christ! Let us be encouraged along our journey so we will walk out of the wilderness stronger, wiser, and willing to be yielded vessels for Christ!

Scripture readings for the week:

Sunday, March 23: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

Monday, March 24: Psalm 39; Jeremiah 11:1-17; Romans 2:1-11

Tuesday, March 25: Psalm 39; Ezekiel 17:1-10; Romans 2:12-16; Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 45;
Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38

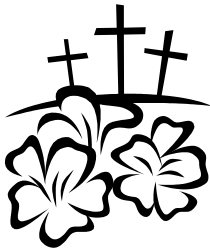
Wednesday, March 26: Psalm 39; Numbers 13:17-27; Luke 13:18-21

Thursday, March 27: Psalm 32; Joshua 4:1-13; 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:5

Friday, March 28: Psalm 32; Joshua 4:14-24; 2 Corinthians 5:6-15

Saturday, March 29: Psalm 32; Exodus 32:7-14; Luke 15:1-10

Sunday, March 30: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



2025 EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS: SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH

A separate check should be made payable to:

First United Methodist Church (indicate "Easter Flowers")



***Please do not include your tithe with the flower payment.**

FLOWERS	# ORDERED		\$ ENCLOSED
White Lilies	_____	x \$16	_____
Tulips (pink, red, or yellow) circle one	_____	x \$16	_____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE # _____

In Memory ~ Honor ~ Appreciation of: (please circle one)

_____ I will pick up. _____ Leave for Tuesday pick up _____ Plant in courtyard

**Plants may be picked up on Easter Sunday following the worship service,
or on Tuesday, April 22nd between 9 AM and 3 PM.**

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035 Phone: 440.322.6622