

With Heartfelt Thanks

Thank you for the prayers, food and offers to help out in any way. We truly appreciate everything.

The Family of Shirlzy Jarvis

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with our Wednesday night FEAST meals! We appreciate you!

What's Happening!

TODAY--Youth Potato Bar Following Service - Enjoy a Baked potato with topping bar, salad bar, dessert, punch and coffee while supporting our Youth and their Missions. Adults \$8 and Kids under 11 \$5.

Food Pantry - March is Cereal month (box preferred). Please place your donations in baskets located at either entrance.

Good Friday Bake Sale - Our Women's Ministry Team is having their Good Friday Bake Sale at the Courthouse from 8-11:30am. Baked goods may be dropped off at the church by 3pm on Thursday, March 28 or at the courthouse by 8am Friday morning. *Items should be covered in clear plastic and marked with what it is and whether it contains nuts.* Goodies from ANY First Church attendee will be gratefully accepted. Be sure to stop by and pick something up for your Easter dinner. All proceeds benefit local missions.

H2O Mentors Wanted—Got 40 minutes? Make a difference in a Middle school or Freshman student's life as well as your own. We have a female and a male opening in our H2O mentor program. Find out more by speaking to mentor Kay Okuley or our Director of Outreach, Teresa.

Preschool Online Auction Donations Due Tomorrow- Our Preschool Online Auction is coming up April 15-19 and we are looking for donations that can be auctioned off. In the past we have auctioned art, themed baskets, jewelry, homemade items including food and crafts, etc. Items are needed **tomorrow** and may be dropped off at the church.

Suds & Grub - Lenten Mission Challenge - Suds are at 150 loads & Grubs at 107 meals. The goal is 100 each. So - what would happen if we doubled the goal? Watch our Sloth in Krout for who is ahead! See the Take 5 Cart for baskets to drop off contributions.

VBS Save the Date - Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School June 3 - 6. It's a fun-filled week for kids and adult volunteers. The theme is Hometown Nazareth Where Jesus was a Kid. (As you begin to make your summer plans, please save this date! We can always use volunteers - please let Cristi know if you can help.)

Volunteer Opportunities - There are many ways to get involved throughout our church and community. We are currently looking for a **Greeter Coordinator and Projectionists** on Sunday mornings. To find out more, contact the church office.

Church office—419-238-0631 ext. 302 or firstchurch@vanwertfirst.net

FIRST united methodist CHURCH

113 West Central Avenue | Van Wert, Ohio 45891 | 419-238-0631 | vanwertfirst.net



March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday

Our Vision Statement:

Enlarging the circle of disciples through Jesus

Thanks for joining us today! If you have any questions while you are here this morning, you can find an answer at the Welcome table, which is inside the doors off Jefferson Street. Whatever your circumstances, and no matter where you've been, you matter to God, and you matter to us. We are glad you are here! If you are a first time guest with us this morning, ***Welcome!*** Please stop by the welcome table and pick up a welcome packet.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:22-24

**indicates please stand if you are able
Please fill out the attendance pad and pass it to your neighbor*

Prelude *The Palms* arr. Wilbur Held

Welcome & Announcements

Eric McCracken

***Call to Worship**

Eric McCracken

L: The parade today is just the beginning of our hope.
P: We wave our branches and shout "Hosanna!"
L: But there will come a time of silence and of mourning.
P: Help us to be ready for that time, O Lord.
L: Blessed is Jesus, who came into Jerusalem on that day.
P: Blessed is Jesus who comes into our hearts always. Amen.

***Hymn** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

#278

Procession of Palms

***Opening Prayer**

Eric McCracken

Hosanna! Blessed is Jesus, who comes in God's Name! We stand at the gates of our Jerusalem and wave our branches high. We get caught up in the excitement of the parade. Jesus sits astride a donkey, a beast of burden bearing a most precious gift. Let the joy fill your hearts this day as we shout our Hosannas. Praise God for the wondrous ways in which our lives have been touched. Prepare our hearts to worship and celebrate this day! In the name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

Songs *Hoshianna/Hosanna*

Chat with the Children

Children are dismissed to AWE

Julie Burenga

Life in the Church

Eric McCracken

***Scripture**

Mark 11:1-11

Anthem *Hosanna in the Highest* by Craig Courtney

Chancel Choir
Gloria Wendel, Accompanist

**Series
Message**

Liturgy of the Palms
Blessed in the One

Pastor Christian Taylor

***Songs** *Blessed Is He Who Comes/Blessed Assurance*

Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

(Children return from AWE)

Offertory *Filled with Excitement* by Ruven Avila (#279 in hymnal)

***Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Glow*

***Prayer of Gratitude**

***Spoken Benediction**


Postlude: *Recessional for Palm Sunday* arr. Wilbur Held

*You are invited to be seated and enjoy the Postlude or leave quietly in peace.
Thank you for worshipping with us!*

BAKED POTATO BAR

Youth Fundraiser!

PALM SUNDAY MARCH 24TH




TODAY

MENU:

- Baked Potatoes
- Toppings Bar
- Salad Bar
- Dessert
- Punch
- Coffee

PRICES:

Adults: \$8.00
Kids Under 11: \$5.00



TODAY

CARRYOUT AVAILABLE!

Immediately following worship in the Dining Hall

Thank you for your support of our youth and missions!

**EASTER
OFFERING**

Our Easter offering this month is designated to replace our aging rooftop cooling and heating units. Please use the special envelopes in your box, the church pews or write Easter on your check memo line.

KID'S MINISTRY AWE

Children preschool through 5th grade have an opportunity to build their relationship with Jesus through uplifting songs and impactful Bible lessons by attending our Alternate Worship Experience. Children will be released to AWE after praise and worship and return during offering time. AWE will not meet Communion Sunday which is the first Sunday of the month.

Leaders in Today's Worship

Pastor: Christian Taylor

Projectionist: Noah Carter

Director of Music: Scott Turner

Sound Technician: Kyle Wendel

Worship Leader: Jeremy Laukhuf

Videographer: Kurt Massillo

Acolytes: Ceci Staas & Elora Hogan

Screen Creators: Cheri Oechsle, Melody Taylor

Usher Coordinator: Neil Shaffer and Dave Lichtle, Assistant