

## The Community Gathers

PRELUDE, CHIMES AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Pam Campbell

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cindy Kocher

PASSING THE PEACE

\*OPENING HYMN

"Love Divine, All Love's Excelling"

UMH #384

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Easter people, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, the life-giving Vine.

PEOPLE: We abide in Love, the life-giving Vine.

LEADER: We are branches of the Vine—sustained, nurtured, and pruned by Love.

PEOPLE: We have no life apart from Love, the life-giving Vine.

LEADER: When we make our home in the Vine, and the Vine makes a home in us, we bear the fruit of Love.

PEOPLE: We produce the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine.

LEADER: Easter people, how shall we bear the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine?

PEOPLE: We will love and learn to love as we rest, play, work, and build community with God and one another.

SONG OF PRAISE

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

**UMH #397** 

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love and too cowardly to show mercy. Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears and that we can rely on your perfect love. Surround us and strengthen us, even in the face of our imperfections. Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth toward perfection, that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (based on John 15)

LEADER: Christ is the vine. We are simply branches. If we abide in Christ, Christ's words will abide in us. Ask for whatever you wish in Christ's name and it will be granted. In the name of Christ, you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

PEOPLE: In the name of Christ, you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

JOYS, CONCERNS AND GOD SIGHTINGS PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY

CHORAL ANTHEM "Held by His Grace"

Renata Knox, Director



## **Thanksgiving**

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

"My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples." ~ John 15:8

TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY "Praise C

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #94

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, as we offer our gifts today, we reflect on the wisdom in the words from John's gospel. In this imagery, we recognize our role as branches, connected to you, the source of our strength and vitality. Help us stay rooted in your love, producing fruit that brings glory to your name. May these gifts signify our commitment to abide in your teachings and work joyfully in response to your love. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Hearing and Responding to the Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 John 4:7-21

HYMN

"Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"

(First stanzas only)

**UMH #277** 

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"Bells"

Angie Gabel-McConkey

\*GOSPEL LESSON

John 15:1-8

# AFFIRMATION

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"The Possible Impossibility"

Pastor Mark Crist

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Going into the World to Serve

UMH #111

\*BENEDICTION

\*SENDING SONG

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

"How Can We Name a Love"

UMH #431

POSTLUDE AND TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

#### **Events this Week:**

Sunday, April 28, 2024

9:30am Crusaders 9:30am Searchers 10:30am Worship 2:00pm Bridal Shower for Andrea Condray

Monday, April 29, 2024 5:30pm One Board Meeting (FUMC Council and M&M's)

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

5:00pm Sitting with Jesus 5:30pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Table Talk Meal & Classes (Last night until next School year! Have a great Summer!)

Sunday, May 5, 2024

8:30am Breakfast 9:00am Change the World Sunday

> Sunday May 12, 2024 Mother's Day!



## Welcome to our guests!

We are glad you are here.
We hope you were blessed by
your experience at
First United Methodist Church
this morning and will tell friend.

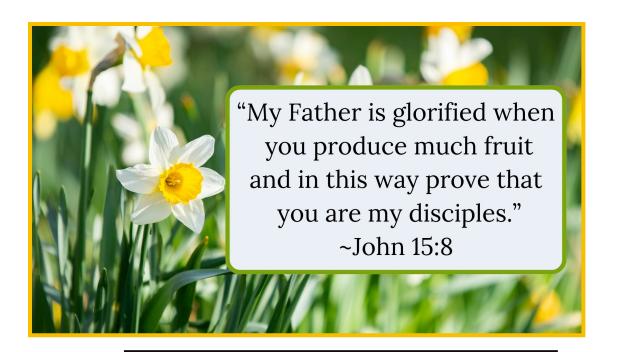


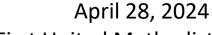


Attendance & Financials			
	Attendance		Offering
April 7, 2024	40		\$3,300.00
April 14, 2024	56		\$2,114.00
April 21, 2024	47		\$649.00
Monthly Budget		\$16,783.00	
April Offering to date:		6,063.00	
Year-to-Date:			61,170.00



Use this QR Code to access Online Giving!
Or, Visit:
Www.concordiafumc.com





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Office Hours: Monday —Thursday 9:00-4:00pm Friday Closed

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Rev. Mark Crist, Pastor

Do No Harm ~ Do Good ~ Stay in Love With God.

John Wesley