

Welcome to

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another, and Our Neighbors

March 28, 2021

Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do. Luke 23:34 Today I tell you today you will be with me in Paradise. Luke 23:43 Woman, here is YOUR SON. John 19:26

My God, my
God, why
have You
forsaken me?
Mark 15:34 I
am thirsty.
John 19:28 It is
finished. John
19:30 Father,
into Your
hands I
commend my
spirit. Luke
23:46

LAST
WORDS

“Into Your Hands”

135 West Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg

717-766-4611

www.fumchurch.com



Prelude
"Let Happy Hosannas Ring" - Handbell Choir

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn
"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Maunder Thursday Video Announcement

Praise Chorus
"Majesty, Worship His Majesty"

Palm Sunday Scripture Reading
Mark 11:1-11

Anthem
"Praise to the Lord"

The Gospel
John 19:30; Luke 23:44-46

Sermon
"Into Your Hands - Pastor Denny"

Ministry of Music
"The Wonderful Cross"

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering & Announcements

Closing Hymn
"Lamb of God"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

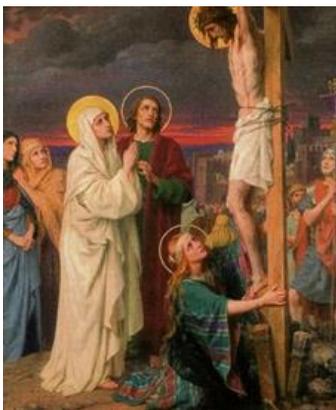
Preaching Pastor Denny Keller

Worship Leader Pastor John Shellenberger

Worship Team Handbell Choir, Kathie Bittenbender, Don Coldren, Stu Diehl,
..... Caleb Flick, Sarah Pugh, Flossie Ryder

Sound & Media Jason Kichline, Holly Kurten, Jim Murdoch, Roger Walton

Seven Words: “Into Your Hands”



1. At the cross, the veil between the _____ of God and the _____ of God is torn.

*It was now about noon, and **darkness came over the whole land** until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and **the curtain of the temple was torn in two.***
(Luke 23:44-45)

*But when Christ came as a high priest... he entered **once for all** into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining **eternal redemption.***
(Hebrews 9:11-12)

2. At the cross, Jesus models _____ with God.

*Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “**Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**”
Having said this, he breathed his last. (Luke 23:46)*

*Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take.*

*You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge. **Into your hand I commit my spirit;** you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. (Psalm 31:3-5)*



*Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; **for you are with me**; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.* (Psalm 23:4)

"What if we prayed 'Into your hands I commit my spirit,' or 'Into your hands I commit my life' every morning and every evening during Lent and beyond?" (Susan Robb, Seven Words)

3. At the cross, Jesus declares that his work *on earth* is _____.

"When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit." (John 19:30)



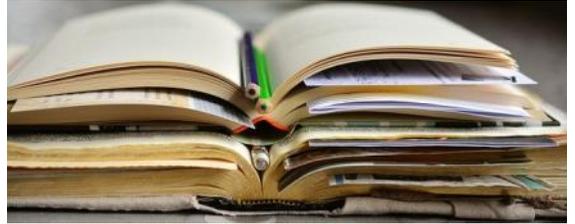
"Something astounding, amazing, and awesome was finished as Jesus died on the cross—a masterpiece of love and redemption." (Adam Hamilton, Final Words)

4. At the cross, Jesus declares that his work *in us* and *in our world* is _____.

"...in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the ministry of reconciliation to us" (2 Corinthians 5:19)

Weekly Bible Readings

Week of March 28



This daily Bible reading plan will guide you during the 40 days of Lent as you prepare for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter! Each reading corresponds with a personal reflection in our Lenten devotional booklet. It is our prayer that this meaningful spiritual discipline will draw you closer to the heart of God and closer to one another during this very special season.

Sunday ***Worship, Rest, and Reflect***

Monday	Psalm 23, Eph. 3:17-19	Daily Transformation	Allison Ometz
Tuesday	Luke 10:25-37	The Good Samaritan	Jeff/Lori Hoffnagle
Wednesday	Isaiah 40:9-11	The Lamb of God	Jenell Paris
Thursday	Psalm 20	Requests	Tiffany Holland
Friday	Philippians 4:4-9	God is at Work	Barry Eaton
Saturday	Romans 8:35-39, Phil. 4:19	God Will Provide	Nancy Robinson



First News First

Weekly Edition

Opening doors with Christ, one another and our neighbors

March 28, 2021

The **altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Robert, Mildred and Jimmy Shannon, placed by the Shannon family.

Lifelong Learner

Looking for new ways to grow closer to Christ? Check out our weekly Bible reading plan or join one of the ongoing groups/Bible studies listed below. New class members are welcome to join any class at any time!



- **Seven Words** – Join Pastor Denny to study the seven last words of Christ on the cross. 6 -week study began February 24 and runs through March 31 at 6:45 pm. Contact Pastor Denny at pastordenny@fumchurch.com to receive the Zoom link.
- **Wednesday Men's Group** – Studying “Race and the Gospel”, which addresses racism and injustice using Paul’s words in Ephesians. Meets on zoom, 8:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. Contact Barry Eaton at 1785eaton@gmail.com if interested.
- **Men's Bible Study** – Set to begin a study of 1 & 2 Peter and Jude in March. Led by Ken Guise/David Mengle, Sunday evenings, 6:15 pm on zoom. Contact Ken at guiseken100@gmail.com for more details and Zoom link.
- **Sunday School**
 - **Faith in Everyday Life** –This small group meets on zoom and focuses on fellowship and friendship. Class members share in leading reflections and discussions based on Scripture. Contact Jenell Paris at jparis@messiah.edu for more details.
 - **Faithful Families** –This group, comprised of parents in the child-raising stage of life, meets on zoom and focuses on discussion-based Bible studies. Contact Bob Wertz, Jr. at wertzfive@gmail.com for more details.
 - **Christian Fellowship** – Beginning a new study today - "Why Easter Matters" by Andy Stanley. Runs through April 4. For all ages/stages of faith. Meets at 10:00 am. Contact Wayde Leister at waydeleister@outlook.com for more details and the zoom link. .
 - **Growing in Christ** – Beginning a new study today - "Easter" by Pastor J.D. Greear. Runs through April 18. For all ages/stages of faith. Meets Sunday mornings 10:00 am. Contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com for more details and the zoom link.
 - **Helping Hands** -Meets on zoom at 10:00 am. A group of active seniors who focus on studies which provide encouragement and instruction on faithful living. Contact Bob Wertz, Sr. at robert_wertz@plantsiteanalytics.com for more details.
 - **Guyer Class** –A group of elders in the church who use the United Methodist quarterly adult Bible lessons for daily independent study at home. Contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com to receive study materials.

Do you feel called to offer a new study or activity-based group for a few weeks this spring? Contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com to talk about your idea and to get the ball rolling!

Praying Follower



Recovering at Home/Rehabilitation: Paul Cain, Sue Kisner, Tom Mullikin, Helen Ritter

One Thousand Prayers - All are invited to participate in praying for our community with a goal of praying for 1000 places throughout the month of April! Kicks off on Good Friday, April 2 and runs through the month of April. Here's how it works:

- Use the "Time to Sign Up" link [here](#) to reserve your prayer kit or contact Tina Eaton to say you'll pray!
- Pick up your prayer kit at the 8:15 am worship service on March 28 or make other arrangements with Tina. The kit contains further instructions and everything you will need.
- As you pray through the month, provide feedback to Tina Eaton so we know if we've reached our goal, thus blanketing our community in prayers of care!

Thanks for praying for our community! If you have questions or would like to participate, please contact Tina Eaton at adultministry@fumchurch.com.

Interested in participating in **Moms in Prayer**? We have a group meeting Monday evenings, prays for children at any age/stage of life, all mothers/grandmothers welcome to join in at any time! Meets on zoom, 7:30 – 8:30 pm. Contact Deb Noss at sdppp@msn.com with questions or to receive zoom link.

As your church family, we so value receiving your **prayer requests**! Please use this [google link](#) to share your joys and concerns with us, or share your prayer requests by contacting Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112.

Passionate Worshipper

As a response to our ongoing pandemic, we invite you to join our online **Maundy Thursday Seder**

Meal on Thursday April 1, available to view any time after 4pm. This worship service is visual and participatory—you will have the opportunity to see, taste, and reflect over a table set with traditional Passover items. We'll use scripture as well as visual and worship elements to walk through this Jewish Passover Seder, weaving the story of Exodus with the life, death and resurrection of Christ. Celebrating the Passover story helps enrich one's faith and understanding of Christ in the Last Supper, and delivers a universal message of hope. To celebrate the Maundy Thursday Seder meal, there are a few items that you will need to prepare in advance. These items will be used as part of the service. They include:

- Candles and matches/lighter
- A bowl of water to wash hands
- Napkin/paper towel
- Ceremonial foods
 - o 3 pieces of unleavened bread (the traditional bread is Matzo, but you may use naan bread or tortillas)
 - o Karpas (a green vegetable- parsley, celery, cilantro, or lettuce). One stem per family member.
 - o Salt water in a small dipping bowl.
 - o Maror, the bitter herb (horseradish)
 - o Charoset/Haroset (a traditional apple/walnut mixture – you may find a recipe online or mix apple sauce with graham crackers for a nut-free version)
 - o Hagigah (hard-boiled egg)
 - o Shank bone of a lamb (*you may use a bone from chicken, turkey, or other meat with a small bone instead*)
 - o Red juice and cups - one cup per family member
 - o Your normal full meal or supper - there will be time for you to enjoy fellowship over your regular dinner

As we begin to **regather for in person worship**, we will be following the same safety protocols as before. Please also remember to register for worship (Monday-Thursday on our [church website](#)) if you plan to attend in person. Our service will continue to be livestreamed beginning at 8:15 as well.

Current sermon series — Seven Words: Listening to Christ from the Cross. Together, we will look at the seven last words of Christ on the cross through a lens that finds life and hope in his final sayings, while exploring each from a biblical and historical perspective. We pray that, through this hopeful and contemplative focus on the cross during the weeks of Lent, you will experience anew the depth of his love for us and discover the meaning of his words for us today.

Join us and invite others to worship from home with us any day of the week! All worship services are posted on our church website, fumchurch.com. Sing, pray, hear the message proclaimed and respond through your weekly giving. If you, or someone you know, are unable to access the online worship service, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112 for other ways to connect with our worship.



[Dedicated Missionary](#)

The **Missions Committee** invites you to join us for a six lesson study based on the book, "When Helping Hurts" starting **Tuesday, April 6**. "Poverty is much more than simply a lack of material resources, and it takes much more than donations and handouts to solve it. When Helping Hurts shows how some alleviation efforts, failing to consider the complexities of poverty, have actually (and unintentionally) done more harm than good." Michelle Schwartzmann, VIM Coordinator, will be leading this study once a month for six months via Zoom conferencing. All are welcome to join us! The study is free, no book required, just join in for the lesson and discussion. To receive the zoom link or for more information, contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com.



New Hope is in need of the following items: Pasta (not spaghetti or elbows), canned fruit, canned tuna/chicken, bathroom tissue, bath soap, toothpaste, and diapers (size 4, 5, 6). Questions? Contact Debbie Karns at deborahkarns1@gmail.com.

[Relationship Builder](#)

Summer Church Camp is a GO! The Camp and Retreat Ministry is excited to share details and registration information about summer camps! Visit the camping website <http://www.susumcamps.org> to see all the offerings for camp this summer in the 2021 Camp Retreat Brochure along with related registration/medical forms. Please review the COVID-19 safety guidelines as part of your camp registration process. In order to provide the BEST camping experience, please send camping registration confirmations to our Camp Coordinators (Deb Noss or Amy Ortiz) so that we can pair you with a prayer partner and offer financial assistance (First Church will pay for one half of the camping fees). Register for summer camp by May 1, 2021 for the \$25 **Early Bird** discount! There are also **Sibling Discounts** as well as an **Invite-a-Friend Gifts**. See the brochure for details. If you have any questions about Summer Church Camp or unable to access the website and need a brochure, feel free to contact Deb Noss at sdppp@msn.com or 717-697-5982 or Amy Ortiz at amy.ogden7@gmail.com. You may also contact the church office at office@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611. Not a camper, no problem! You can support our campers in several ways! You can sign up to be a Prayer Partner (watch for details closer to the start of camp), make a financial contribution to help fund a



camper or sign up for a one-day work camp! Contact one of our Camp Coordinators for more details. Camp's Great!

Hospitality Tip - How wonderful it is to be back together – our re-gathering is a true blessing! But please don't forget those who might not feel comfortable returning just yet. Continue to show everyone your love by making phone calls, sending notes and praying for those you have not seen in worship.

Church member, Rick Herring, will once again be assisting with AARP to prepare **tax returns** free of charge. This AARP service is for simple returns and you must register. See website [here](#) for registration and locations. AARP is taking all the precautions to keep clients safe with two short appointments and pre-mailing documents. In addition, if you are unable to schedule through AARP, Rick will be offering his personal services from April 1 to April 10. Please contact Rick at oriolerick1@verizon.net to schedule an appointment.

You are invited to please stop by Janice Bowen's porch anytime if you are in search of the following: **Lenten Devotional**, March church **newsletter**, a **facemask**, or a supply of **greeting cards**. Please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112 if you have any questions.

Ministry Safe Training- All volunteers who help in the children or youth areas should be watching their email for the new online Safe Sanctuary training. You will receive an email with a link to the training. The email will appear as it is coming from Pastor Denny. Anyone working with children or youth in any capacity is required to complete this valuable on-line training. Questions can be directed to Dawn Fisher at kidscount@fumchurch.com.



Generous Giver



The **Little Friends Preschool** invites you to support their upcoming Move-A-Thon, Thursday, April 8. Students will hop, balance, bend and stretch through four different stations to learn that Everyone can move, even if it looks a little different. Students will also learn about healthy eating, the importance of playing outside and including everyone in play. If you would like to support the Little Friends or have questions, you can contact Jemma Church at lfn@s@fumchurch.com or feel free to send a donation to Little Friends Preschool, c/o First United Methodist Church, 135 W. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg.

We encourage you to continue to respond through your weekly giving. **Offerings** can be mailed in to the church office. Alternatively, you can securely give online through our church website, our VANCO Financial "GivePlus" app, or by signing up for electronic giving. Please contact the church office at office@fumchurch.com with any questions concerning financial giving.

CHILDREN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Time Anytime!- Kids will love this weekly on-line Sunday School lesson for children led by Miss Anna and Miss Dawn for kids aged 3years through 5th grade that is specifically designed to fit into your children's busy schedules at any time that works for them. They can be viewed any day and any time through the week! New lessons will be available every Sunday on the First Church Children's Ministry FaceBook page or they can be emailed directly to you. You can find us on FaceBook and request to be a part of this private group OR send us your email address at kidscount@fumchurch.com to receive a weekly email. **Make time hearing God's word, lessons and teachings a part of your child's week, every week!** *Email Dawn and Anna with any questions.*

BOOMERANG (aka Zoomerang!)- TODAY @ 4:00pm. Join us on Zoom! All 3rd, 4th & 5th graders welcome to this time of fun, fellowship and strengthening our relationship with God. In this small group time we learn how to take God's teachings and apply them to our lives and how we treat and can serve others. Because in Boomerang, it's all about bringing it back to God! We will email out the Zoom link soon. If you don't receive the link and would like to email Dawn & Anna at: kidscount@fumchurch.com

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Help us **connect** with you! Watch these platforms and your emails for **opportunities to connect and learn** with others!

Instagram: fourgyouthministry

FB page: 4G - First United Methodist Youth Group

Remind text list - Text @4Gyo to 81010

Ministry Staff

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Dennis Keller
717-766-4611, x103
pastordenny@fumchurch.com

Associate Pastor:

Rev. John Shellenberger
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Director of Worship Arts

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Director of Discipleship:

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Director of Congregational Care Ministry:

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Outreach Director:

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Youth Pastor:

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Co-Director of Children's Ministry:

Anna Harris
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Facilities Coordinator:

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Custodians:

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Director of Finance:

Nancy Robinson
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Sounds of Worship Director:

Flossie Ryder
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Director of Bell & Chime Choirs:

Kathie Bittenbender
rbittenben@verizon.net

Praise Team Director:

Sarah Pugh — worship@fumchurch.com

Organists/Accompanists:

Caleb Flick
Karen Philp

Director of Little Friends Preschool:

Jemma Church
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Director of Juniper Tree Counseling Center:

Glenn Covert
717-599-2192