



*First United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, April 7, 2024*



*Please be aware that our services are livestreamed; any adults and/or children participating in musical groups, children's messages and liturgist roles will appear on camera.*

**Prelude**      *Good Christian, Friends, Rejoice and Sing*  
*Now the Green Blade Rises*      Michael Burkhardt  
Velda Graham Bell, organ      David Cherwien

**Welcome and Announcements**      Pastor Jeanine Alexander

**Call to Worship**      Mark Whitlock

One: We start our journey of courage.  
**All: Because of Easter, doubts and fears no longer blind us!**  
One: We start our journey of courage.  
**All: The light of Christ guides us; hope is held out and realized!**  
One: We start our journey of courage.  
**All: To restore a world divided and to bring Christ's peace to everyone!**

\* Hymn      *At the Font We Start Our Journey*      The Faith We Sing #2114

**Children's Message**

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**      Pastor Jeanine Alexander and Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

*Children may leave for Sunday School following Holy Communion.*

\* Hymn      *I Come with Joy*      UM Hymnal #617

**Morning Prayer**      Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Offering Our Gifts**

**Sustainability Moment**

**Doxology: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Geoff Bell  
UM Hymnal #95

**Scripture Readings**

**Acts 1:6-8**

Then the disciples gathered around Jesus and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has

Mark Whitlock

set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

**Luke 4:16-21**

Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

**Special Music**      *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*      traditional spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan  
Brandon Veale, tenor

**Sermon**      *Brave Faith: Courage for Clarity*      Pastor Jeanine Alexander

\* **Hymn**      *Thine Be the Glory*      UM Hymnal #308

**Benediction**

**Postlude**      *Intrada on Two Hymn Tunes: Thine Be the Glory and Lord of Life and King of Glory*  
Alice Jordan

\* Please stand as you are comfortable



*Please remember to fill out the **Connect Cards** each week. Keeping attendance and making sure the church has your current contact information is an important part of church records. **On the back of the card**, is a list of ministry opportunities, where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up where you can.*

***Guests:** Welcome to First United Methodist Church. We are so glad you are worshipping with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex; we have a packet and small gift for first-time visitors.*

***Let's Brighten Up the Coppertop!** We are raising money to replace all 620 of our old fluorescent lightbulbs with new LED bulbs. Stop at the Trustees/Sustainability table in the Narthex to see how you can help.*

***Thank you** to Alex Flinner, Tommy Kishida, and the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.*

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