

The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God and given

In loving memory of Donald Bowles by Joan, Mark, Nancy, Isabelle, Emma, and Sarah Bowles

In loving memory of James & Dorothy Ward, by Carol Spidle, and Jim & Zetta Ward

Music—One License A-731491

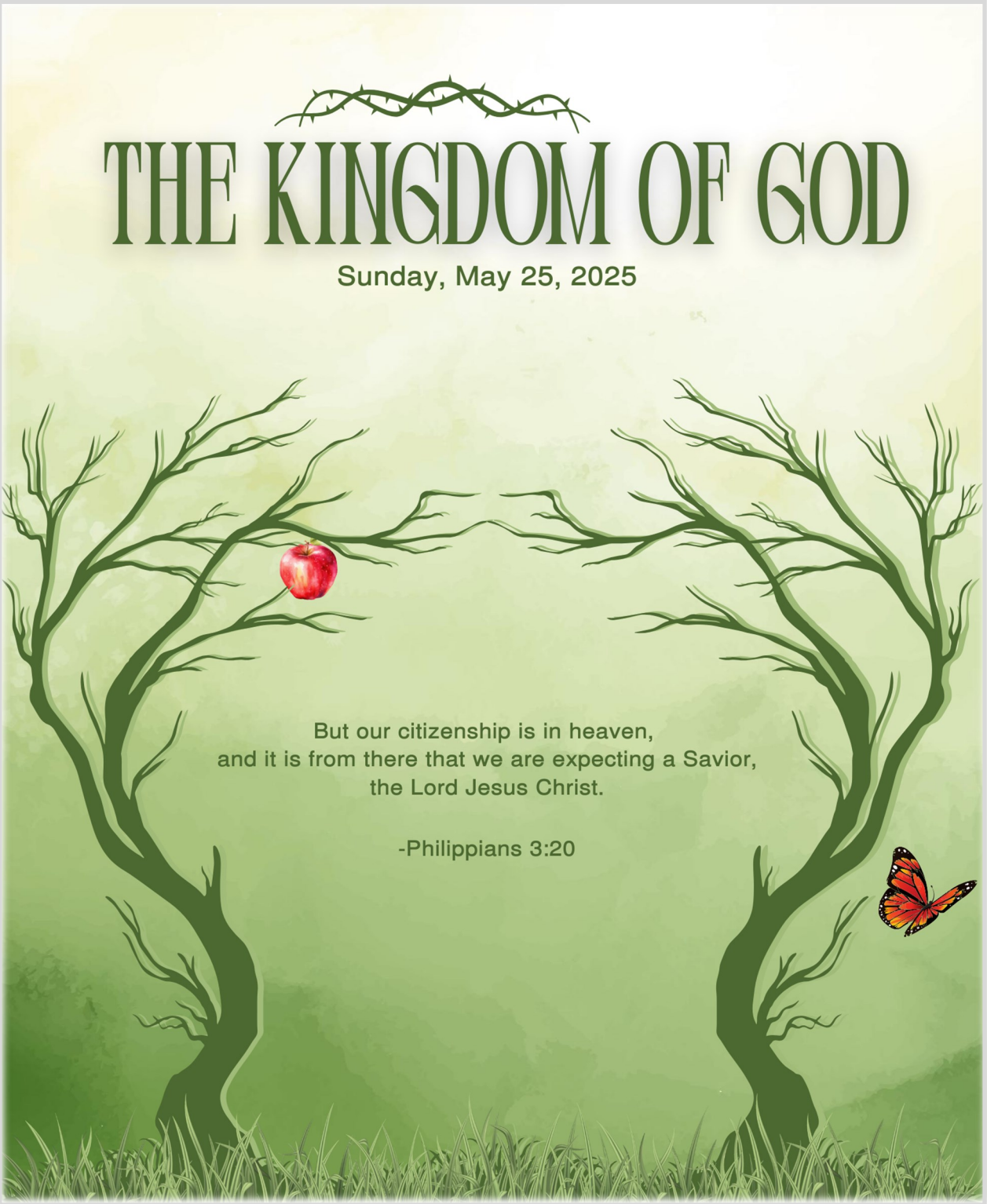
**Please stand as you are able.

Clergy & Staff

- Jon Priebe, Lead Minister
- Howard Pippin, Associate Minister
- Marvin Brown, Senior Minister Emeritus
- Dean Wagner, Director of Music/Organist
- Tim Zuschin, Assistant Chancel Choir Director
- Donna Curfman, Director of Children’s Ministries
- Jennifer Brooks, Director of *Weekday Christian Preschool*

Contact Information

- 245 Portage Trail
- Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
- 330-923-5241
- Office Hours: M-F 9am-3pm
- infofumccf@gmail.com
- www.firstchurchcf.com



Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:30 am

May 25, 2025

GATHERING

The people of God come together in the Lord’s name.

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude—*My Jesus, I Love Thee* (Hymn 172)—Joyce Jones

Call to Worship—

The time is fulfilled

The Kingdom of God has come near

Repent and believe the good news

Lord, help us in our unbelief.

Opening Hymn 337**—*Only Trust Him*

Invocation (please be seated)—

Spirit of promise, Spirit of unity, we thank you that you are also the Spirit of renewal. Re-new in the whole Church that passionate desire for the coming of your kingdom which will unite all Christians in one mission to the world. May we all grow up together into him who is our head, the Savior of the world. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages.

Scripture Reading—Mark 1: 14-15

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

God’s Word for Young Disciples

Anthem—*As A Little Child*—Joseph Martin

Chancel Choir

Sermon—“*The Kingdom of God Is at Hand*”

Pastor Jon Priebe

RESPONSE

The People of God respond to the Word.

Hymn of Response 402**—*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Reception of New Members—

Robert Hummel, Amy Hummel, Patrick Wells, Colleen Bell, Kristy Bell, James Bell

Discipleship Moment

Offertory—*Come Ye Sinners Poor and Needy* (Hymn 340)—Joyce Jones

Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of the People/The 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.

SENDING FORTH

The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith.

Closing Hymn 540**—*I Love Thy Kingdom Lord*

Benediction—*Shalom to You* (Hymn 666)

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

OPENING HYMN

Hymn #337, Only Trust Him

1. Come, every soul by sin oppressed,
there's mercy with the Lord;
and he will surely give you rest,
by trusting in his Word.

Refrain:

Only trust him, only trust him,
only trust him now.
He will save you, he will save you,
he will save you now.

2. For Jesus shed his precious blood
rich blessings to bestow;
plunge now into the crimson flood
that washes bright as snow.
(Refrain)

3. Yes, Jesus is the truth the way
that leads you into rest;
believe in him without delay,
and you are fully blest.
(Refrain)

4. Come then and join this holy band,
and on to glory go,
to dwell in that celestial land
where joys immortal flow.
(Refrain)

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn #402, Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

1 Lord I want to be a Christian
In my heart, in my heart
Lord I want to be a Christian
In my heart (in my heart)
In my heart (in my heart)
In my heart (in my heart)
Lord I want to be a Christian
In my heart (in my heart)

2 Lord I want to be more loving
In my heart, in my heart
Lord I want to be more loving
In my heart (in my heart)
In my heart (in my heart)
In my heart (in my heart)
Lord I want to be more loving
In my heart (in my heart)

3 Lord I want to be more holy
In my heart, in my heart
Lord I want to be more holy
In my heart (in my heart)
In my heart (in my heart)
In my heart (in my heart)
Lord I want to be more holy
In my heart (in my heart)

4 Lord I want to be like Jesus in my heart
(in my heart) Lord I want to be like Jesus in
my heart (in my heart)...

CLOSING HYMN

Hymn #593, Here I Am Lord

1. I love thy kingdom, Lord,
the house of thine abode,
the church our blest Redeemer saved
with his own precious blood.

2. I love thy church, O God!
Her walls before thee stand
dear as the apple of thine eye,
and graven on thy hand.

3. For her my tears shall fall,
for her my prayers ascend,
to her my cares and toils be given,
till toils and cares shall end.

4. Beyond my highest joy
I prize her heavenly ways,
her sweet communion, solemn vows,
her hymns of love and praise.

5. Sure as thy truth shall last,
to Zion shall be given
the brightest glories earth can yield,
and brighter bliss of heaven.

BENEDICTION

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God’s full
mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and
through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be
your shalom.

CHURCH NOTES 5-25-25

Flowers for Pentecost: We will celebrate Pentecost Sunday, June 8. Per tradition, we ask each family to bring a single potted red geranium to worship, and place it in the front of the Sanctuary. The plants will then be planted around the church building to beautify our grounds.

Pizza with the Pastors: Are you new to First UMC or know someone who is? The pastors would love to share a slice with you/them! It's a great way to meet other new people as well. Join us after worship on June 8. RSVP via the sign-up or call the office.

2025 Golf Outing: The 19th Annual "Bud" Mills golf outing benefitting Epworth Choir, will be held at Brookledge on Saturday June 28 at 1:00 pm. We are looking for golfers, sponsors, and donations of gift baskets to raffle. See the forms at the Welcome Center for more information.

Chess Camp: Chess Camp is June 23-27, from 9:00am-noon. Brochures can be found at the Welcome Center or the QR code. Ages K and up. The fee is \$25 and includes snacks each day and a t-shirt. Registration ends June 13.



VBS Registration: VBS is July 14-18 from 9:00am-noon for ages 3 (by 9/30) through 6th grade. The cost is \$15. Registration for Extreme is full. You can still register for regular VBS via the QR code.



COME WALK WITH CHURCH SQUARE IN THE
Memorial Day
PARADE

MONDAY, MAY 26. LINE UP AT PORTAGE CROSSING BY 8:00AM, STEP-OFF AT 9:00AM



What Time Is It?

vs. 14 – The Kingdom of God is breaking into the present

We live in the world that Cain built; full of blame, power, and violence

God's Reign is Near

God's kingdom runs on love, abundance, grace, and hospitality

Luke 22:42 – The Kingdom of God helps us align our will with God's will

Questions for Reflection:

Pastor Jon described two worlds, running on two times. A world that runs of blame and solving problems with violence out of which we are drawn to God's kingdom which runs on love, abundance, and grace. Where do you see signs of these value systems in your life or community? How can you align your life more fully with "Kingdom of God Time" values?

Questions for Discussion:

What does Philippians 2:13 mean to you? How have you been successful to both "will" and "work" for God's good pleasure?

Memory Verse:

Romans 14:17 – "For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

Readings for this Week:

Matthew 5, Luke 4:16-21, Philippians 2:1-13



PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR:

In our community:

We lift up graduates.

In our Greater world:

We pray for peace.

Our Deepest Sympathy & Prayers:

To the family of Nancy Baird,
who passed away on May 5.

From our Congregation:

Scott Adie

Bob Ahonen

Joanne Ames

Debbie Amundsen

Mary Ellen Atwood

Dorothy Bates

Mark & Cindy Blaser

Suzanne Callahan

Rosalie Goshen

Mary Griest

Jeff Iula

Dwight Konic

Judy Lewis

Raquel Mehalik

Ann Nieman

Jerry Pecko

Robbie Robinson

Holly Ross

Kathi Sawyer

Todd Schneider

Fritz Sterling

Kathy Walker

Bette Wenk

Jim Yates

Mike Yeager

Rose Ann Youngkin