

# First United Methodist Church

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

8:15 & 10:30 a.m.



## Mission Statement

“First United Methodist Church (FUMC) of Oneonta, NY is a congregation of faith and doubt. We commit ourselves to pursue justice, and pledge to stand with all our neighbors who are marginalized and oppressed, as Jesus did.” – Adopted by the Church Council on September 1, 2021



Pastor, Rev. Casey Bradley  
Organist, Leslie Bauer  
Choir Director, Carolyn McMaster  
Worship Technology, Randall Wilson

---

First United Methodist Church  
66 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY  
secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org | 607-432-4102  
[www.firstumc-oneonta.org](http://www.firstumc-oneonta.org) | <https://linktr.ee/firstumconeonta>

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*\* Indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.  
**Bold** text invites the congregation to speak in unison.*

*(As the prelude begins, please prepare your hearts for worship)*

### Planting the Seeds

Prelude

“Come, Thou Almighty King”  
arr. Gail Leven Pollock © 1988 Harold Flammer, Inc.

\*Hymn #2128

“Come and Find the Quiet Center”  
Words by Shirley Erena Murray © 12992 Hope Publishing Co.  
Used by permission. One License #A-730784

Invitation to Worship

The community is drawn together through an outpouring of care.

**We are drawn together, called by God to create spaces where we care for one another.**

The community we form is no longer defined by how exclusive we are or by who we allow to enter our doors. Our community now is defined by how inclusive we try to be, how many people we seek to incorporate. Our community has no walls and no doors, it is the fellowship that we seek to extend to those who know they belong and to those who are still questioning where they fit in. May our worship be a thanksgiving to the God who expands our understanding of community.

Thank you, God, for weaving nature's life in - to a seam-less  
robe, a frag-ile whole. For-give our haste that tam-pers sun - a -  
ware. Help us re - new the face of the earth.

Welcoming Words

Passing the Peace

Children's Time

Testimony from the Central Conference Theological Education Fund

Anthem

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”  
Thomas Dorsey; arr. Mark Hayes © 2012  
Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.  
Used by permission. One License #A-730784

### Tending the Soils

New Testament Reading

Acts 2:42-47

Mark Wolff  
Nancy Bondurant-Couch

\*Hymn #314

“In the Garden”

arr. Charles H. Webb © 1989 United Methodist Publishing House  
Used by permission. One License #A-730784

\*Gospel Reading

John 10:1-10

NRSVUE

Sermon

“A Garden Called Community”

Rev. Casey Bradley

**Experiencing New Growth**

Prayer Moment

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, 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

April Jingle – OHS After Prom

Offertory

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

arr. Dale Wood © 1992 Sacred Music Press  
Used by permission. One License #A-730784

\*Doxology #94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Words and music are in the public domain

Prayer of Dedication

Announcements

\*Hymn #2146

“His Eye is on the Sparrow”

Words and music are in the public domain

Good Words for the Journey

Thank you, God, for making plan - et earth a home for us and  
a - ges yet un - born. Help us to share, con - sid - er, save, and  
store. Come and re - new the face of the earth

Mission Statement

**We are a congregation of faith and doubt. We commit ourselves to pursue justice, and pledge to stand with all our neighbors who are marginalized and oppressed, as Jesus did.**

Postlude

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

arr. Piet Post © 1966 Augsburg Publishing House  
Used by permission. One License #A-730784

*The placement of the votive candle on the altar started the year of our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014 of becoming a Reconciling Congregation. Each month we honored a different person(s) who answered the call to stand for full inclusion of all God's children.*

### PRAYER LIST

Recovering or in long term care (ask the church office for contact info):

Bhala Jones      Harry & Virginia Pence      Louise Van Buren

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests will be published for 4 weeks. If you would like to extend a request, please fill out one of the prayer cards located in the pew rack. **Please mark if you want your request to be public.**

Roseanne      Wendy      The Gardner Family  
Dottie L.      Priscilla T.      David B.

*Our sympathy to Peter Paluch and family following the death of his sister, Patricia Borowiec.*

*Our sympathy to Irene Morrissey and family following the deaths of her brother and sister-in-law Jim and Verla Weaver. We especially pray for their children Tami Kovalick and Mark Weaver and their children.*

*Our sympathy to the Dutcher family following the passing of Michael.*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: *Jennifer Withington* on April 26; *Laurine Jennings* on April 28; and *Gage Gardepe* on May 2.

### CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday services are accessible online. The 8:15 service is on Facebook. The 10:30 service is on YouTube or Zoom (Meeting ID: 844 9992 4538, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84499924538> or call 1-646-558-8656).

TODAY      8:15 am Worship in person & on Facebook  
                 9:25 am Sunday School, Digging Deeper (adult class) & Parent's Cafe  
                 10:30 am Worship in person, via Zoom & on YouTube  
                 11:30 am Fellowship Time

MON. 4/27      10:00 am Book Group (Embury Room)  
                 5:00 pm Yoga (Embury Room)

TUES. 4/28      11:00 am Staff Meeting (Coke Room)  
                 2:30 pm Selah Circle (Coke Room)

WED. 4/29      9:15 am Buckingham Bell Ringers  
                 6:00 pm Joyful Ringers  
                 7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

THUR. 4/30      9:00 am CCS Setup (Sanctuary)  
                 5:00 pm CCS Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

FRI. 5/1      5:00 pm CCS setup  
                 7:30 pm Catskill Choral Society Concert & Reception

SAT. 5/2      11:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday's Bread (Fellowship Hall)  
                 3:00 pm Catskill Choral Society Concert

SUN. 5/3      8:15 am Worship in person & on Facebook  
                 9:25 am Sunday School, Digging Deeper (adult class) & Parent's Cafe  
                 10:30 am Worship in person, via Zoom & on YouTube  
                 11:30 am Fellowship Time  
                 2:00 pm Rummage Setup

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Boomerangs

A *limited supply* of Boomerangs are available from United Women of Faith for Mother's Day, graduations, Father's Day, or just to satisfy your sweet tooth.

Boomerangs cost \$9 per dozen, payable by cash or check made out to UWF. Profits from the sale of Boomerangs go to local, regional, national, and global programs that are designed to improve the lives of women, children, and youth.

Clipboards will be available in the Sanctuary for orders *while supplies last*. Orders may also be placed with:

Irene Morrissey – [imorrissey1936@gmail.com](mailto:imorrissey1936@gmail.com) or 607-432-7932

Marty Becker – [marty.vlb@gmail.com](mailto:marty.vlb@gmail.com) or 607-435-8551 (call or text)

### Faith at the Table

Faith at the Table will meet at Bella Michael's on Thursday, May 7 at 6 pm. Our conversation will center around how we can be good stewards of creation. Please RSVP by Friday, May 1 ([secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org](mailto:secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org) or 607-432-4102).

### Catskill Choral Society Concerts – “A Night of Glory and Grace”

**Friday, May 1 at 7:30 pm & Saturday, May 2 at 3:00 pm**

Catskill Choral Society will present “A Night of Glory and Grace” featuring Antonio Vivaldi's “Gloria” and Maurice Durufle's “Requiem” here at First United Methodist Church on May 1 & 2.

Tickets may be purchased at Green Earth; Cooperstown Natural Foods; online at [www.catskillchoralsociety.org/tickets](http://www.catskillchoralsociety.org/tickets); or from any CCS member. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door. For more info go to [www.catskillchoralsociety.org](http://www.catskillchoralsociety.org) or telephone 607-386-5151.

### Summer Camperships

The Upper New York Conference Committee on Camp & Retreat Ministries (UNYCRM) offers four camps across New York State with programs for all ages and abilities – including family weekends, sleepover camps, and options for campers with special needs.

More info & links to the camps are available on our website at <https://firstumc-oneonta.org/news/summer-camperships-available>.

**FUMC provides camperships covering 50% of tuition.** To apply, please submit a copy of your camp registration form and deposit receipt by Monday, June 8 ([secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org](mailto:secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org) or bring a hard copy to the church office).

Have questions or need help? Contact Marty at 607-435-8551 or [marty.vlb@gmail.com](mailto:marty.vlb@gmail.com).

---

### UWF Rummage, Bake & Book Sale

Thursday, May 7, 9 am - 6 pm

Friday, May 8, 9 am – 1 pm

(\$3 bag sale on Friday)

Thanks to a surplus of donations, we are NOT accepting any more items for the Rummage Sale.

We WILL have a bake sale again on Thursday only. If you would like to contribute baked goods, we need cookies, brownies/bar cookies, cupcakes, pies, etc.

Baked goods should be delivered by the afternoon of Wednesday, May 6 or by 8:30 am on Thursday, May 7.

**ArmFolk Group from Armenia**

The International Youth Cultural Program and Oneonta Rotary present an evening of Armenian dance, music, and heritage on Tuesday, May 5 at 7 pm at the Foothills PAC. Suggested donation of \$20 adults; \$10 children.