

Welcome to the
First Church in Oberlin,
United Church of Christ

Sunday Worship

10:00 AM

February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent

David Hill, Pastor

Thomas Bandy, Director of Music & Organist

Scott Reed, Liturgist

www.firstchurchoberlin.org

No matter who you are or where you are on
life's journey, you are welcome here.



Welcome to Worship!

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome in this United Church of Christ congregation. We invite you to become a part of our community of faith, to grow spiritually, to encounter God's inclusive and effusive grace in worship and fellowship, and to work and witness for greater justice and peace in our world.

- Large-print bulletins and hearing-assist devices are available, ask an usher.
- If you are moved to express gratitude or appreciation during the service, please respond by saying, "Amen!"
- Please remember to silence your cell phones as you enter worship.
- Our Wi-Fi network has the name "FC Guests" and the password is "CGFinney".

Children in Worship

We strive to welcome children - and their occasional restlessness - in worship. Materials are in the hallway outside the worship space for children who would like a quiet activity during worship. Nursery care is available for young children in the James Brand wing if parents would enjoy some quiet time. Please see an usher if you need directions or more information.

Children of kindergarten age or older are invited to join Storytime during the worship service. They will leave for Room 3 after the Front Row Moment.

Are you interested in receiving our electronic newsletter—"First Things First"? Please contact the church office and we will add you to our mailing list.

Miranda Schaum: office@firstchurchoberlin.org
David T. Hill: pastor@firstchurchoberlin.org

Building and Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, with additional appointments as needed.

Our staff will gladly make arrangements to meet with you at other times.

Please call (440) 775-1711 to schedule an appointment.

ORDER OF WORSHIP
February 22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent



Opening Music

Meditation: Love Unknown - Francis Jackson

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

One: With what shall I come before the Lord?

How shall I bow down before God the most High?

All: Shall I bring some sort of sacrifice? Would that please the Lord?

One: Shall I give up what I love most dearly in exchange
for the sins I have committed?

**All: The Lord has shown us mortals what is good
and what is required of us:**

One: To act justly. To love kindness. And to walk humbly with our God.
Let's worship God together.

***Congregational Song**

What Does the Lord Require of You?

See second to last page

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**Compassionate God, we come before you to admit that we are not without blame, for we do not always do what is right. We do not always speak the truth as you desire for us to do. We can be unkind and hold grudges when you ask us to be kind and forgive. We can be ungenerous with our time and resources, when you ask us to share from our abundance. We can walk far from the path you desire for us to walk, and we can find it difficult to make our way back. Forgive us, O God, and dwell within our hearts, always.
Amen.**

***Words of Assurance**

Leader: None of us is without sin. None of us is without blame.

But the good news is that we have this promise from our God:

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

**The asterisk invites all who are able to rise in body and/or spirit*

*The Peace

One: May peace be with you

All: **And also with you.**

Front Row Moment

The Word in Music

Ein Blümlein wenn's die Sonne spüret (1962) - Jean Berger

*A rose touched by the sun's warm rays
All its petals gently does unfold;
So you, when touched by God's great mercy,
Let joy and gladness win your soul.*

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

One: A Word of God that is still speaking,

People: **And we are still listening. Thanks be to God.**

Reflection

*Congregational Song #568

God Marked a Line and Told the Sea

Prayers

Andante con espressione from *Sonata in D Major, K. 311* - W. A. Mozart
During the musical offering you are invited to share joys and concerns via the prayer pad in your pew, FB chat, or email (prayers@firstchurchoberlin.org)

Lord's Prayer

You are invited to use whatever language for God best fits your understanding of God. Some options are provided in the prayer.

**Our Creator/Mother/Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy Kingdom/Kin-dom/Realm come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the Kingdom/Kin-dom/Realm,
the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Announcements

Offering

One: As we conclude our worship, what shall we offer in gratitude for God's love and care?

All: As followers of Jesus, we seek to minister to one another, our community, and the world. To this ministry we bring our time, talents, and other resources as we are able, asking God's blessing as we go out to love and serve.

***Congregational Song #211** *Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days*

*Blessing

Closing Music

Christ lag in Todesbanden - J. S. Bach

You are welcome to remain for the Closing Music or to leave quietly for fellowship on the patio (weather permitting) or in Fellowship Hall.

Coffee Hour: The Fellowship Committee is asking for volunteers to host coffee hour after church. Don't worry if you are not sure how to make the coffee. Training can be provided. There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall hallway. If you have any questions please talk with Sandy Matthews.

SEPA Dinner: SEPA's Annual Guatemalan Dinner will take place on Saturday March 14, 2026 5:30-8:30pm. Tickets are \$15.00 each and will be available after the service and through Lori Taylor or John Gates.

Know Your Rights/Know Your Risks: What To Do When ICE Shows Up:

Please join us in the JFO Room following worship this Sunday, February 22, for a training and conversation on this important topic. Guest presenter: Steve Volk, Professor Emeritus, Oberlin College and member of the Oberlin Community Supporting Immigrants (OCSI).

Outgrow: Lenten Devotional

This Lent, shed what you've outgrown!

"There is perhaps nothing more futile than allowing people and circumstances we've outgrown to dictate our direction in the present," writes Kenneth L. Samuel in his introduction to Outgrow.

Lent begins with a divine demonstration of outgrown circumstances: the temptation of Jesus by the devil in Matthew 4. "When Jesus was being tested in the wilderness," Ken Samuel observes, "he had already grown deeper than the superficial sources [of greatness and glory]."

What about you? What temptations in your life have already been overcome by increased insight? What fears have been shed through the development of your faith?

The Stillspeaking Writers invite you into the discipline of Lent, a season in which life's trials do not relent but neither does our growth in the Spirit.

For those that didn't get a hard copy of the book, you are also able to purchase a PDF for \$3.00 using the link in the eNews. If purchasing the PDF version, please purchase one PDF per reader. Upon purchase, a link will be emailed to you for downloading the PDF.



Donate from your smart phone

The First Church in Oberlin now offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader or go to www.firstchurchoberlin.org and click "Donate Online."

What Does the Lord Require of You? 70

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em) (Bm)
 B \flat F Gm Dm

*1.

What does the Lord re - quire of you?

2.

Jus - tice, kind - ness,

3.

To seek jus - tice and love kind - ness

(C) (G) (Am) (D) (G)
 E \flat B \flat Cm F B \flat *Repeat as desired*

What does the Lord re - quire of you?

walk hum - bly with your God.

and walk hum - bly with your God.

*The three melodic phrases may be sung consecutively, as a canon, or in any combination.

FIRST CHURCH EVENTS (February 22, 2026 - March 1, 2026)

Sun. (2/22)	9:00 AM	Finney Choir Rehearsal	Meeting House
Sun. (2/22)	10:00 AM	Worship Service	Meeting House
Sun. (2/22)	After Worship	Adult Education	JFO Room
Mon. (2/23)	12:00 PM	Kendal Gathering	Kendal at Oberlin
Mon. (2/23)	3:00 PM	Office Staff Meeting	Office
Tues. (2/24)	8:30 AM	AARP Tax Aides	JFO Room
Tues. (2/24)	10:00 AM	Executive Council	Fellowship Hall
Tues. (2/24)	4:00 PM	Book Group	Zoom
Tues. (2/24)	5:00 PM	Cable Co op Board Meeting	JFO Room
Wed. (2/25)	8:30 AM	AARP Tax Aides	JFO Room
Wed. (2/25)	6:30 PM	Speaker Event	Fellowship Hall
Thurs. (2/26)	6:00 PM	Line Dancing Class	Fellowship Hall
Thurs. (2/26)	6:45 PM	Finney Choir Rehearsal	Meeting House
Fri. (2/27)	12:30 PM	Buckeye Harvest	JFO Room
Sun. (3/1)	9:00 AM	Finney Choir Rehearsal	Meeting House
Sun. (3/1)	10:00 AM	Communion Worship Service	Meeting House
