

**Today** following the worship service, the **Joyful Noon Ladies Circle** will host a luncheon and craft sale. They will have a variety of homemade items set up for you to browse through and purchase once you've satisfied your hunger. All proceeds from the Soup & Sale will go toward the various missions and projects supported by the Joyful Noon Circle.

**Free Community Lunch!**  
**THIS SATURDAY, on April 18**  
EFUMC is opening it's doors to serve lunch to our community. The meal is from 11am-2pm. We will begin set up at 8:00 am. If you would like to help in any capacity, please contact Joseph Lowery at 706-669-0172.

**THANK YOU for SHARING YOUR GIFT!**

Joining our choir today, we have several extra voices. They are Joe Lowery, Randy Wilbur, Jordan Pinson, & Susan Gooch. We also have Scott Barnstead, Dakota Reeves, Cheryl Starr, and Cara McKinney sharing their instrumental talents.

Today's **Altar flowers** are placed in honor of **Pastor Mike Shearon** on his birthday. We love you, Pastor Mike, and thank God for your service and leadership here at Ellijay First United Methodist.

Flowers arranged by

Please Note  
We are phasing out the Post Office Box and switching all of our mail to the physical address. Please make any necessary changes with your financial institution if you have contributions sent directly to the church. The address is **75 McCutcheon Street - Zip 30540**

**Church Lock-up Schedule:**



4/12 - 4/18 Barry Griffin  
4/19 - 4/25 Bill Munson  
4/26 - 5/02 Hank Chapman  
5/03 - 5/09 Charlie Cobb



4/12 - **Pastor Mike Shearon**  
4/15 - Marsha Lemon  
4/18 - Lex Rainey



**Fun Fridays & Super Sundays**

All youth 6th through 12th grade are invited to join Ellijay First UMYF on Fridays & Sundays from 5:00-7:00pm. Join us for fun, food, and time with friends. Contact Joseph Lowery at 706-669-0172

**It's almost time for Vacation Bible School!**

We are planning this year's VBS and your help is needed! There will be two sneak peak meetings, one on Sunday, 4/26 after the service, & one on Wednesday, 5/6 at 5:00pm. Please make plans to attend one of the two meetings for a sneak peek at Rainforest Falls and find out how you can help.



**Altar Flowers**

If you have an occasion that you would like to place flowers on the Altar in honor or memory of someone or to commemorate an event, please contact the church office by Wednesday, prior to the Sunday you wish to provide them. More info to come.



**Red Bird Mission Team Meeting**

The missionaries who are going to **Red Bird** this month will have a meeting on **Sunday, April 19** following the church service. We will discuss the work site we have been assigned and the list of items you need to pack. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please contact Joseph Lowery at 706-669-0172.

**Standin' In the Need of Prayer**

Everyone is in need of prayer. Sometimes some need an extra dose. When you pray this week, remember these names....

Lynda Roberg, Aimee Nesbitt, & Ann McClannahan

God knows their needs.

*Prayer Request forms are in the pew racks. Please fill free to complete and drop in the offering plate if you have a request.*

**Methodism 101...**

The Paschal candle in the Methodist Church is a large white candle lit during the Easter Vigil, symbolizing the risen Christ as the "Light of the World". It represents Christ's victory over death and His presence during the 50 days of the Easter Season.



**Our Weekly Schedule:**

**Sun - Helping Hands Sunday**  
School 8:45am  
Worship Service 10:00am  
Altars Study Group 11:00am  
Singles/Mingles 1:00 - 3:00pm  
Youth Super Sundays 5:00-7:00pm

**Wed -LIJ Kids 3:30 - 5:00 pm**  
Young Adult Bible Study 5:00-6:00 pm  
Handbell Choir Practice 5:30 - 6:30 pm  
Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 - 8:00 pm

**Fri - Youth Fun Fridays 5:00-7:00 pm**



**Upcoming Events:**

Sunday, April 12 - Easter Cantata  
**Joyful Noon Soup & Sale!**  
Saturday, April 18 - Community Meal  
Set up - 8:00am  
Meal - 11:00am - 2:00pm  
Sunday, April 19 - Red Bird Mission Team  
Meeting after the service/  
Fellowship Hall  
Tuesday, April 21 - Joyful Noon Circle  
12:00pm /Fellowship Hall  
Wednesday, April 22 - LIJ Kids Earth Day  
Mission 3:30pm  
Mission Meal for  
Red Bird 5:30pm  
Thursday, April 23 - Book Club Meeting 2  
2:00pm Fellowship Hall

**Who's Who in Ellijay First United Methodist Church**



Did you know that we have a certified Preschool here? Marianne Evans is our Pre-school Director. She oversees our entire Children First Preschool program, which follows the Gilmer Co Schools calendar. They serve children from age 18 months to 5 years old. They have 2 day, 3 day, 4 day & 5 day programs for children throughout the week. It is a School of Excellence for the North GA UMC Conference. Marianne has served 25 years in this area. Thank you, Marianne! We love & appreciate you!



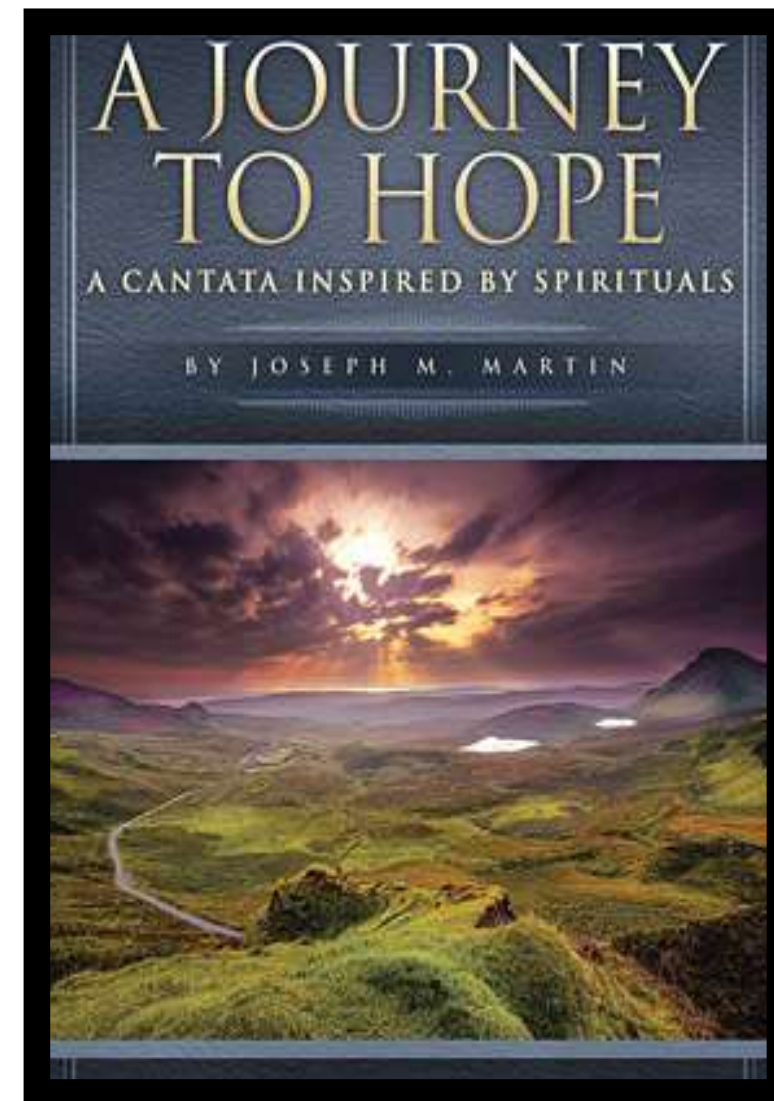
**Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 am- 4 pm**  
**Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor, Mike.Shearon@georgiaumc.net**  
**Church phone: 706-635-2555; Fax: 706-273-2555**  
**Web site: ellijayfirstumc.org**

Jennetta Lowery...Administrative Assistant ....office@ellijayfirstumc.org  
Marianne Evans ....Preschool Director.....children@ellijayfirstumc.org  
Leah Easley .....Children's Ministries...LIJkids@ellijayfirstumc.org  
Joseph Lowery.....Youth Ministries.....youth@ellijayfirstumc.org  
Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist & Organist  
Sarah Thorne .....Director of Music...music@ellijayfirstumc.org  
Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician...media@ellijayfirstumc.org  
Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator  
Finance... ....Giving statements/Accounts.....finance@ellijayfirstumc.org



**Ellijay First United Methodist Church**  
**Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor**

75 McCutchen Street  
PO Box 472  
Ellijay, GA 30540  
706-635-2555



Sunday, April 12, 2026  
10:00 am Worship Service  
2nd Sunday of Easter

# Sunday Worship Service

April 12, 2026

2nd Sunday of Easter

## The Chiming of the Hour

**The Prelude:** arr by Mark Hayes

“To God Be The Glory”

Piano Duet with Gabrielle Cornett & Susan Gooch

## Welcome, Announcements and Invocation

The Reverend Dr. Michael Shearon

## † The Greeting Liturgist & Congregation

You who have touched the wounds of the world,  
you who have been wounded by the world,

**Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God,**

We have not seen you, Risen One.

**We have not touched you, but we believe you are our Lord and our God.**

You are our refuge in hurt and pain.

You are the path of life.

**You are our Lord and our God! Alleluia!**

## † The Hymn of Praise UMH 304

“Easter People Raise Your Voices”

## † The Affirmation of Faith The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## † The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

**Pastoral & Congregational Prayer** Rev. Dr. Shearon

**The Lord’s Prayer** UMH 895

## The Worship with Tithes and Offerings

**The Offertory Music** arr by Mark Hayes

“My Tribute”

## †The Presentation and 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**

## Presentation of the Easter Cantata

### A Journey to Hope By Joseph M. Martin

1. The Call to Faith - *soloist Joe Lowery*
2. The Call to Follow - *soloist JoAnn Davis*
3. Peace for the Journey
4. Ride On, King Jesus
5. Come to the Welcome Table - *soloist Jennetta Lowery*  
*descant Maryse Gelder*
6. Gethsemane
7. Jesus Walked to Calvary - *soloist Maryse Gelder*
8. They Crucified My Lord
9. Great Day! The Lord is Risen! - *soloist Karen Patton*

Ellijay First United Methodist Chancel Choir

Director.....Sarah Thorne

Pianist.....Gabrielle Cornett

	<u>Sopranos</u>	
<b>Allison Baker</b>	<b>JoAnn Davis*</b>	<b>Maryse Gelder</b>
<b>Susan Gooch*</b>	<b>Katherine Meyer</b>	<b>Mary Jo Lowery</b>
<b>Karen Patton</b>	<b>Jordan Pinson</b>	<b>Kimberly Weber</b>

	<u>Altos</u>	
<b>Meg Blanton-Eanes*</b>	<b>Joan Compton</b>	<b>Jan Day*</b>
<b>Barbara Fogle</b>	<b>Jennetta Lowery</b>	<b>Peggy Richardson</b>

	<u>Tenors</u>	
<b>Gordon Eanes</b>	<b>Steve Hearn</b>	
<b>JD Pearce*</b>	<b>Frank Richardson</b>	<b>Warren Williams</b>

	<u>Baritones/Basses</u>	
<b>Joe Lowery</b>	<b>Joseph Lowery*</b>	<b>Tom Lowery</b>
<b>David Patton</b>	<b>Harrison Smith</b>	<b>Randy Wilbur*</b>
	• = Narration	

	<u>Consort Orchestra</u>	
<b>Scott Barnstead, Trombone</b>	<b>Cheryl Starr, Flute</b>	
<b>Dakota Reeves, Percussion</b>	<b>Cara McKinney, Clarinet</b>	

The journey begins.

One step of devotion, and the waters clap their hands in worship, splashing joy on the hearts of the faithful.

Another step, and Christ calls His disciples to service and ministry.

A little further now, and Jesus calls to the sick, weary and burdened. Together they begin a parade of life, marching across the dusty landscape of Galilee.

The road delivers the pilgrims to the walled city of Jerusalem, filled with palms and psalms and shouts of “Hosanna!”

Just beyond the city walls, the winding path finds an upper room. The road-weary warriors of peace realize a moment to rest, refresh and reflect. In the hushed and mysterious chant of the ancient rituals of Passover, they learn of a new Way; a thoroughfare paved with grace and mercy that leads through the wilderness and to the Promised Land.

The road will not be easy for the Savior, for it rises to a walled garden where despair meets conviction. The inner battle won, the cup gripped and drained, He rises to walk another weary trail.

Walking, falling, stumbling and bleeding, the Savior takes the Way of Sorrows, and the journey ends in gasps of forgiveness.

The path to a borrowed tomb is thought to be the final destination. But joy breaks free with the morning sun, and is greeted with rolling stones and rising hopes, as Jesus walks again, in the garden with His creation.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ is the journey, and He is the journey’s end.

Amen!

~ Joseph M. Martin

## †The Closing Hymn UMH 310

“He Lives”

*Anyone wishing to join this church*

*may come forward during the closing hymn.*

## †The Pastoral Benediction Rev. Dr. Shearon

## †The Postlude arr by W. A. Mozart

“Alleluia”

*Prayer team members are available after the service.  
They will be wearing white shawls.*

† - Please, stand as you are able

### **You Are Welcome Here**

You enter this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. He is your Heavenly Father. Come then, with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips, into His presence, offering Him your love and service. Be grateful to the men and women who, in the name of Jesus Christ, built this historic place of worship and to all who have beautified it and hallowed it with prayer and praise. Beseech His blessings on those who love this house of faith as the inspiration of their labor, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, and may that blessing rest upon your going out and your coming in.