

Youth Sunday
February 26, 2023

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Prelude - Amazing Grace

Call to Worship

Elliotte Barker

The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything.

Today we come to bring our requests and prayers before the Lord.

Turn your hearts away from the distractions and disappointments of life.

Today we ask for God's peace; today we place our trust in God.

We come today seeking the peace of God that will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Opening Hymn No. 377 - It Is Well with My Soul**

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:

It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
(Refrain)

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
(Refrain)

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul.
(Refrain)

Invocation

Kennedie Ward

Oh God, we praise you for this instruction. We don't want to be anxious about anything. We don't want to worry. Deliver us from anxious thoughts and from worry. Help us to seek you in prayer about everything. Help us to trust you through prayers of thanksgiving. Help us to open our minds to that peace which comes from you. God, help us to walk in step with your word and your spirit. As we do, help us to know that you hold our lives in your hands, and we can trust you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages

Scripture Reading

Gabby Schmidt

Philippians 4:6-7

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

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.

Anthem - When I Survey - Gilbert Martin

God's Word for Young Disciples

Cammie Barker, Lucy Benson,
Ben LaFleur, Lilah Wagner

(Those in grades K-4 may be excused for Children's worship during the 11:00 service. They may be picked up in Asbury Hall.)

Praying for Peace

Eden Dailey, Ava Sabatucci

Sermon - Looking to God Through Anxiety

Lilah Wagner

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response No. 358** - Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard
beside the Syrian sea

the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee,
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!

Mission Moment

Ava Sabatucci

Offertory - Amazing Grace

(Please fill out the attendance sheet found in the pew pads.)

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.

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

Eden Dailey

Dear Lord –

We come to you waiting, trusting, believing, knowing that we are safe in your arms. Help us when we struggle, when we are anxious, when our worries overwhelm us. Guide us back to you, when we stray from the path.

We pray for all those who are hurting, who need your healing touch, especially (names). Lord, be close to those who mourn. Be with the loved ones of (other names) We pray for those who have been lifted up this morning, aloud or in silence, spoken only within our hearts. We know you know what is needed before we even ask.

We bring our lives to you and we lay our joys, our concerns, our celebrations and our worries at your cross. We trust in you, our Creator and our Savior.

And we join with all of Christ's disciples sharing the prayer that he taught his first disciples, saying. . .

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.

Prayer Response No. 337** - Only Trust Him

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.

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

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

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

Discipleship Moment

Ava Sabatucci

SENDING FORTH

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

Closing Hymn No. 128** - He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!

Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain:

He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.
(Refrain)

Lord, I would place my hand in thine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.
(Refrain)

And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.
(Refrain)

Benediction

Kennedie Ward

May God work the miracle of Philippians 4:6 and 7 in your minds and hearts, today, tomorrow, and every day, especially when you are burdened with anxious thoughts or worry. May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Choral Response - *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* - Peter Latkin

Postlude - *Trumpet Tune in C* - Henry Purcell



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

in loving memory of Maurice and Jean Gilbert, by Dale Gilbert and Millie Keyser;
in honor of Joe Demeter, by First Church Staff.

Ushers: Mark Appleby, Collin Bailey, Dominic Dunlap, Ben LaFleur, Dallas Wagner,
Owen Wallace, Marcus Wilson

Service Music: Both: Epworth Choir; Epworth Ringers

Music: One License A-731491

CHURCH NOTES

Ushers: We are looking for folks who would be willing to serve as ushers for the 11:00 service beginning the first Sunday in Lent (February 26.) It's an easy, but very necessary way of serving the church. It consists of passing out bulletins, helping folks to their seats if necessary, and passing the offering plates. Please contact Linda Demeter (740-334-9290) or the church office if you feel you'd like to serve in this way.

Wednesday Men's Group: Any men of the church and community are invited to attend the Wednesday Night Men's Group. It is modeled after John Wesley's "Class Meetings." They meet every other Wednesday from 7-8 pm in the parlor and **the next meeting will be on February 22.** Their purpose is to make themselves better disciples for Christ. They also have occasional group outings for their families. You may just come for the next meeting or if you would like more information you may contact Tom Hammonds at 330-322-8758.

Febru“wear”y Sock Mission: In the month of Febru “wear”y, The Acts of Grace Circle invites you to donate new socks which will be distributed to the folks who come to our monthly First Church Feeds. You may put the socks in the bin beside the church library.

Easter Flowers: Now is the time to order the flowers which will adorn our altar on Easter morning. The plants are \$9.00 each. The list of donors and those memorialized or honored will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please place your order in the offering plate and indicate the number of each plant that you are ordering. **The deadline is noon on Monday, March 6.**

___ Tulips ___ Hyacinths ___ Lilies ___ Daffodils

In memory or honor of (circle one) _____

Donor _____ Phone _____

Lenten Studies: We are offering two Lenten studies this year.

The Practice of the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence, will be the basis of the first study. We will use it to explore a life of worship. It will be led by Pastor Karol and done with the New Fellowship Sunday School class. It will begin next Sunday, February 26 at 9:45 a.m. and last for 6 weeks.

A joint study with our two neighboring churches will begin on Monday, February 27, at 7 p.m. It will take place at St. John's Episcopal and will be led by our 3 pastors and the pastors at the other 2 churches. It will last for 5 weeks.

First Church Feeds Needs: At our monthly distribution, we are often able to get items like soap, paper towels, and pet food from the Food Bank. However, personal hygiene items, especially bladder control products for men and women (such as Poise pads or disposable underwear) are frequently requested by our clients but are rarely available from the Food Bank. We would love to be able to offer these products on a regular basis, so we are requesting donations. Please drop off items in the bin behind the Welcome Center.

Heart4theCity: Heart4theCity is a mission church of the East Ohio Conference located in the Goodyear Heights neighborhood. They are currently asking for small electric kitchen appliances, bedding, and gloves (work style NOT cotton as they have enough of these currently) to be sold in the store they operate. Donations may be placed in the bin located outside the church library.

Walk to Emmaus: Have you taken part in the Walk to Emmaus, either locally or in a different state or country? We would like to put together a participant list of people who have. Please send Pastor Mike the following information: name, phone number, email address, and your Walk information.

Weekday Christian Preschool: Registration has begun for the 2023-2024 school year. We offer a Christian preschool program for children who will be 3, 4, or 5 years old by September 30, 2023. The program is state licensed and staffed with degreed lead teachers and trained teachers' assistants. We believe that learning takes place through discovery and play. Each classroom environment is child led and teacher facilitated. Our main objective is to foster a positive self-image in each child while nourishing their social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth.

Vacation Bible School: VBS this summer will be June 19 - 23 with morning sessions for preschool through 4th grade, a SERVE program of field trips and mission projects for 5th and 6th graders, and an afternoon extension program with activities and field trips called EXTREME. We are looking for people who are interested in spending time with our children either as a teacher or helper. We need a wide variety of skills for the different activities, so there are many opportunities for you to use your talents. Please contact Donna Curfman at dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer.

Alpha Study: The Alpha study has an open invitation to anyone who wants to participate. Join the journey at any time - Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. in the library. As Jesus stated in John 1 to two of his disciples - "Come and see." Here are the subjects we will be spending time on in the next couple of months: Why Did Jesus Die? (2/21); How Can I Have Faith? (2/28); Why and How Do I Pray? (3/5). All are welcome!

Next Steps

Transfigured

Matthew 17:2 –Peter, James, and John saw Jesus fully divine

vs. 4 – Peter, then, sought to express his adoration and love

vs. 13 – they could not stay on the mountaintop forever

Day by Day

When we see Jesus more clearly, we can better love and follow him

“May I know Thee more clearly, Love Thee more dearly,
Follow Thee more nearly.” - *St. Richard Wycke, Bishop of Chichester*

Questions for Reflection: After their mountaintop experience, these disciples are led down the mountain and into the crowds that needed Jesus’s help. Back to the busyness of their day-to-day and toward, they were told, the difficulty of witnessing their rabbi suffer in Jerusalem. In fact only Thomas spoke up among the twelve to say they should go and suffer with Jesus in Jerusalem. It would certainly be more tempting to remain on the mountain. What motivates my desire to follow Jesus and where am I willing to follow him? How am I tempted to stay on comfortable mountaintops rather than enter into the difficulties and suffering of others?

Question for Discussion: St. Richard’s prayer suggests that our ability to follow Jesus is dependent on our love for him, which is dependent on our seeing him. How do you make time for perceiving Jesus in your daily life?

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 6:5 – “*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.*”

Readings for this Week: Exodus 33:21-23, Luke 9:18-23, Matthew 21:12-22

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
FEBRUARY 19, 2023**



MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller & John Fox

HOSPITALIZED:

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

Scott Adie Bob Ahonen Debbie Amundsen Shirley Asher Mary Ellen Atwood Jim Bailey Behrman family Mark & Cindy Blaser Robert Boyd	Larry Brimlow Don Corbett Jim Evans Jean Finnegan Rose Gregory Mary Griest Joyce Haberkost Jim Henes Phil Hennen	Gerald Lewis Pat Park Kathi Sawyer Cynthia Schrier David Townsend Mary & Ken Tunstall Marilyn Waller
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DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:

Family of member Jane Krejci on her death on 2/11.
Bob Boyd & family on the death of his wife, member Patsy on 2/10.
Family of member Gloria Roepke on her death on 2/12.
Jerry Pecko & family on the death of his sister, Susan Ross on 2/7.
Kay Sphar & family on the death of her brother, James Barker 2/5.