

**Third Sunday of Lent**  
**March 12, 2023**

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8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

**Prelude - Psalm-Prelude - Herbert Howells**

*("This poor man cried and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles."- Ps 34:6)*

**Call to Worship**

Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord,  
**that we might be taught God's ways.**  
Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord,  
**that we might walk in God's paths.**

**Opening Hymn No. 368\*\* - My Hope Is Built**

*My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

**Refrain:**

*On Christ the solid rock I stand,  
all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.*

*When Darkness veils his lovely face,  
I rest on his unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
my anchor holds within the veil.  
(Refrain)*

*His oath, his covenant, his blood  
supports me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
he then is all my hope and stay.  
(Refrain)*

*When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in him be found!  
Dressed in his righteousness alone,  
faultless to stand before the throne!  
(Refrain)*

**Invocation** (by Ruth Dick)

**O God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty. We thank you that you do not leave us alone but labor to make us whole. Help us to perceive your unseen hand in the unfolding of our lives, and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit, that we may know the joy you give your people. Amen.**

**PROCLAMATION**

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

**Scripture Reading**

Psalm 71:1-6

In you, O LORD, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;  
incline your ear to me and save me.  
Be to me a rock of refuge,  
a strong fortress, to save me,  
for you are my rock and my fortress.

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,  
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.  
For you, O Lord, are my hope,  
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.  
Upon you I have leaned from my birth;  
it was you who took me from my mother's womb.  
My praise is continually of you.

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.**

**God's Word for Young Disciples**

(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.)

**Scripture Reading**

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

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

**Anthem**

8:30 - *Even Here* - Mark Miller

11:00 - *Our Father* - Craig Courtney

**Sermon** - *He Gets Us: Jesus Gets Our Despair*

Pastor Jon Priebe

**RESPONSE**

*The people of God respond to the Word*

**Hymn of Response 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)*

### **Discipleship Moment**

**Offertory** - *Fairest Lord Jesus* - Pepper Choplin  
(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**

**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 No. 295\*\* - In the Cross of Christ I Glory**

In the cross of Christ I glory,  
towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
all the light of sacred story  
gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me.  
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming  
light and love upon my way,  
from the cross the radiance streaming  
adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
by the cross are sanctified;  
peace is there that knows no measure,  
joys that through all time abide.

- . In the cross of Christ I glory,  
towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
all the light of sacred story  
gathers round its head sublime.

***Benediction and Choral Response*** - (Hymn No. 292)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

***Postlude - Paeon*** -Herbert Howells



**The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and given  
in memory Frank and Louella Averill by the Averill family**

**Service Music:** 8:30 Epworth Choir; 11:00 Chancel Choir  
**Music:** One License A-731491

## CHURCH NOTES

**Thursday Organ Concerts:** Be sure to join us every Thursday at noon for a short organ concert by Dean Wagner.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 1, at 11 a.m. No fooling! We are in need of candy to fill the eggs. No candy with nuts, please. Small trinkets are also welcome, if you are interested in helping please contact Pastor Karol. A simple lunch will follow, so if feeding folks is your passion, let us know that as well!

**St. Patrick's Day Concert:** The group Shenanigans, with First Church member, Mark Wade, will present an evening of Celtic music here on Friday, March 17.

**Children's Ministries:** ROCK will have one more session – March 19.

Our annual Rice Packing event is scheduled for May 7.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of June 19 – 23. We still need both adult and youth volunteers, so please let me know if you are willing and available to help.

Thank you to all who have already committed to being part of the week's activities.

**Operation Christmas Child:** Acts of Grace Circle, in conjunction with the First Church Youth Group, are starting a 9 month campaign to collect items for shoeboxes. Our goal is to pack 100 shoeboxes in November. How can you help? We will post information about items to be collected each month. Items for March are: toothbrushes, yo-yos, and hair accessories for girls. Look for our display on Sundays. Contact Linda Demeter at 740-334-9290 with questions.

**Good Neighbors:** Good Neighbors has supplied us with a list of items that they need in March. If you would like to contribute some of these, you may leave them in the bin outside the church library. The items are: peanut butter, ramen noodles, jelly (in plastic containers), canned fruit, laundry detergent, paper towels, bathroom tissue, Kleenex, and canned cat food.

**East Ohio Conference Summer Camp:** Registration is now open for the conference's summer camp. Early Bird Registration gives you a \$20 discount and is due by March 15. Brochures with complete details are available at the Welcome Center. There is a \$100 scholarship from First Church per child and an additional one from the District. Please turn your registration in to the church office to request those. Contact Donna Curfman if you have additional questions.

**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.

**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.

## Next Steps

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Was Judas right?

*John 12:5* – Was selling Mary's perfume and giving the money better?

Jesus spent Holy Week teaching, answering critics, and resting in Bethany

Mary saw Jesus

At his weariest, Jesus sought out time with those who poured into him

Mary loved the weary person right in front of her as Jesus always does

Questions for Reflection: When I am weary, exhausted, or hopeless, are there people in my life who can see me and pour into me? How can I notice and love the people who are right in front of me?

Question for Discussion: What if Jesus's statement, "the poor you will always have with you" wasn't meant as a dismissal, but a challenge? How might we follow the example set by Mary in caring for those who are in need?

Memory Verse: **Hebrews 4:15a** – *"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses."*

Readings for this Week: 1 Corinthians 13:8-13; Matthew 26:14-21; Matthew 25:31-46



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –  
PRAYER BULLETIN  
MARCH 12, 2023**



**MINISTERS & STAFF:**

Forrest Waller

**HOSPITALIZED:**

**MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:**

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

FORREST WALLER AND FAMILY ON THE DEATH OF HIS WIFE, MEMBER MARILYN ON 3/8.  
KENNY TUNSTALL AND FAMILY ON THE DEATH OF HIS WIFE, MEMBER MARY ON 2/26.