

First Sunday of Lent

10:30 a.m.

February 18, 2024

GATHERING

The people of God come together in the Lord's name

Welcome

Prelude - *Adagio in G minor* - Tomaso Albinoni

Introit - *Christ We Do All Adore Thee* - Theodore Dubois

Call to Worship

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures for ever.

Opening Hymn 185** - *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

When morning gilds the skies

my heart awakening cries:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer,

to Jesus I repair:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

The night becomes as day

when from the heart we say:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

The powers of darkness fear

when this sweet chant they hear:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let all the earth around

ring joyous with the sound:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

In heaven's eternal bliss

the loveliest strain is this:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine,

my canticle divine:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this th' eternal song

through all the ages long:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Invocation

Almighty God, your blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan. Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations. And, as you know the weakness of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Reading - Psalm 25:1-10

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

Children's Anthem – Arky, Arky - Traditional

God's Word for Young Disciples

Anthem - *He Was Despised* - Karl Heinrich Graun

(He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.)

Scripture Reading - Mark 1:9-15

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

Sermon

Pastor Jon Priebe

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response 474** - *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Discipleship Moment

Offertory - *I'm Goin' up a Yonder* - Martin Sirvatka

If anybody asks you where I'm goin' soon,

So if you wanna know where I'm goin' real soon,

I'm goin' up a yonder to be with my Lord.

If I can take the pain, the heartache that it brings, there's

comfort that in knowing, I'll soon be home. If God gives me grace, I'll run this race, and soon I'll see my Savior, face to face. I'm goin' up a yonder to be with my Lord.

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

Chad Wagner

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 348** - *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

*Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me;
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.*

Refrain:

*Come home, come home;
ye who are weary come home;
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, O sinner, come home!*

*Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me?
(Refrain)*

*Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,
passing from you and from me;
shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming,
coming for you and for me.
(Refrain)*

*O for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me.
(Refrain)*

Benediction - *Sevenfold Amen* - K. Lee Scott

Postlude - *Agincourt Hymn (O Love How Deep)* - Charles Callahan



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

*in loving memory Bill Schmidt by Lynda Schmidt and family;
in loving memory of James Lewis's on his birthday by Patsie Lewis and family.*

Service Music: Epworth Choir; Chancel Choir and Bethlehem Choir

Music: One License A-731491

CHURCH NOTES

Lenten Study: "Bend" is the name of the ecumenical Lenten study which will be led by the pastors of the Church Square churches. The classes will be held at Pilgrim UCC (on Broad Blvd.) on Mondays at 7 p.m. **beginning tomorrow, February 19.** Please call the church office to sign up.

Preston Spring Break Backpacks: The donation board for backpacks is up in the Breezeway. Please help us fill backpacks for children from Preston Elementary School for their spring break by taking a card from the board and returning the requested items. All items should be delivered to the church by Sunday, March 10, so that the children at ROCK can pack them on March 17.

Turn In Acme Receipts: The Acme Cashback program has ended so now is the time to turn in the receipts that you may still have. We must have all receipts by February 28! Thank you!

No More Paper Bins: Please do not put paper and cardboard in the paper bins in our parking lot. The company has notified us that they will charge us monthly for the bins which negates anything that we're receiving from them for the paper.

Men's Time Out: All the men of the church and community are invited to gather on the first Saturday of every month for some food, a time for discussion, and lots of fellowship! It runs from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in Asbury Hall and the next one will take place on Saturday, March 2.

Weekday Christian Preschool Registration Open: We offer a Christian preschool program for children who will be 3, 4, or 5 years old by September 30, 2024. 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. We have both half and full day classes. Please call 330-923-5243 for more information.

Easter Flowers: Now is the time to order the flowers which will adorn our altar on Easter morning. The plants are \$10.00 each. The list of donors and those memorialized or honored will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please make your check out to First Church and return it with the order to the church office by Friday, March 1. Please indicate the number of each plant that you are ordering.

___ Tulips ___ Hyacinths ___ Lilies ___ Daffodils

In memory or honor of (circle one)

Donor _____ Phone _____

NEXT STEPS

Jesus did not resist...

vs. 9 ... the call to where sins were being forgiven

vs. 12 ... the Spirit's leading or temptation

Jesus Did Not Resist the Cross

vs. 14 – He proclaimed the arrival of the upside-down kingdom

vs. 11 – He embraced the cross because he knew whose he was

Questions for Reflection: Some of the most challenging moments of Jesus's life follow the rare appearances of the voice of God in the gospels. Just before he was led into the wilderness where he would be tempted, God's voice reminded him that he was beloved. As he neared Jerusalem, he took a few disciples to a mountaintop where they heard the voice of God call Jesus beloved. You, also, are the beloved children of God. How does this identity shape your life?

Question for Discussion: Jesus was a king who gave his life for his people. He accepted a baptism of repentance that he did not need. He achieved victory through the cross where he was a victim. To give us life, he laid down his own. How does Jesus's way of ruling in power as the King differ from the ways humans use power?

Memory Verse: **Mark 1:15** – *“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe the good news.”*

Readings for this Week: John 3:14-21, Colossians 2:9-15, Philippians 2:1-11

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
FEBRUARY 18, 2024**



MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller & Donna Curfman

HOSPITALIZED:

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

Scott Adie	Mary Griest
Bob Ahonen	Jim Henes
Debbie Amundsen	Lee & Sharon Minier
Jim Beebe	Kathi Sawyer
Mark & Cindy Blaser	Martha Shoults
Linda Demeter	Karen Taucher
	Ken Tunstall

DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:

Janet Blank and family on the death of her husband, member Bill Blank 2/12.
Robin Ruth and family on the death of her grandson, Kei Nell on 2/1.