

Second Sunday of Lent

10:30 a.m.

February 25, 2024

GATHERING

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

Welcome

Prelude - *There is a Fountain Filled with Blood* (Hymn 622) - William Best

Introit - *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* - Tim Zuschin

Call to Worship

The goodness of God beckons,
 calling us to goodness and grace.
The grace of God redeems,
 saving us and making us whole.
The love of God welcomes,
 inviting us to worship and praise.

Opening Hymn 365** - *Grace Greater Than Our Sin*

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Refrain:

Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that is greater than all our sin!

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,
threaten the soul with infinite loss;
grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
points to the refuge, the mighty cross.
(Refrain)

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide.
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide,
brighter than snow you may be today.
(Refrain)

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see his face,

will you this moment his grace receive?
(Refrain)

Invocation

God of goodness and grace, gather us in your arms of love. Gather us as people of your goodness and grace. Gather us in worship and prayer, that we may be strengthened with faith and courage. Gather us as those who are eager to live and to share your goodness and grace. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Reading - Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

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

Gloria Patri (sung)

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.

Children's Anthem - *10,000 Reasons* - Lloyd Larkin

Bless the Lord oh my soul Oh my soul, Worship His Holy name. Sing like never before, Oh my soul, I'll worship Your Holy name. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, It's time to sing Your song again Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes. You're rich in love and You're slow to anger, Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness I will keep on singing, ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come, still my soul will sing Your praise unending, ten thousand years and then forevermore.

God's Word for Young Disciples

Anthem - *There is a Fountain Filled with Blood* - John Hudson

There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood - John Hudson

There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins; And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains. Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its power, Till all the ransomed ones of God be saved, to sin no more. E'er since by faith I saw the stream Thy flowing wounds supply, redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die. When this poor lispings, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave, Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I'll sing Thy power to save. redeeming love has been my theme, for my sins are washed away.

Scripture Reading - John 3:14-21

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

Sermon - *For God So Loved the World*

Pastor Howard Pippin

RESPONSE

The people of God respond to the Word

Hymn of Response 373** - Nothing Between

Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
naught of this world's delusive dream;
I have renounced all sinful pleasure;
Jesus is mine, there's nothing between.

Refrain:

Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
so that his blessed face may be seen;
nothing preventing the least of his favor;
keep the way clear! let nothing between.

Nothing between, like worldly pleasure;
habits of life, though harmless they seem,
must not my heart from him ever sever;
he is my all, there's nothing between.

(Refrain)

Nothing between, like pride or station;
self or friends shall not intervene;
though it may cost me much tribulation,
I am resolved, there's nothing between.

(Refrain)

Nothing between, e'en many hard trials,
though the whole world against me convene;
watching with prayer and much self denial,
I'll triumph at last, there's nothing between.

(Refrain)

Discipleship Moment

Offertory - It is Well with My Soul - John Ness Beck

*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.
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!
And Lord, haste the day when the 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.*

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 359** - Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

*Alas! and did my Savior bleed,
and did my Sovereign die?
Would he devote that sacred head
for sinners such as I?*

Refrain:

*At the cross, at the cross,
where I first saw the light,
and the burden of my heart rolled away;
it was there by faith I received my sight,
and now I am happy all the day.*

*Was it for crimes that I have done,
he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!
(Refrain)*

*Well might the sun in darkness hide,
and shut its glories in,
when God, the mighty maker, died
for his own creature's sin.
(Refrain)*

*Thus might I hide my blushing face
while his dear cross appears;
dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
and melt mine eyes to tears.
(Refrain)*

*But drops of tears can ne'er repay
the debt of love I owe.
Here, Lord, I give myself away;
'tis all that I can do.
(Refrain)*

Benediction and Response - Amen - Peter Lutkin

Postlude - Litanies - Jehan Alain



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

in honor of their grandson Luke's birthday, by Tom and Kathy Jackson.

Service Music: Wesley Choir; Dessa Priebe, Grace Neal, Jocelyn Wilson, soloists; Epworth Choir;
Chancel Choir

Music: One License A-731491

NEXT STEPS

“God so loved the world” - The Greatest Love
The world means THE WORLD.

“that He gave His One and Only Son” - The Greatest Gift
He loves all of us so much that His Son made the ultimate sacrifice for our sins.

“that whoever believes in Him shall not perish” - The Greatest Faith
We respond to God’s love with faith.

The Greatest Life is eternal life! Thanks be to God. Amen,

Questions for Reflection: How will the reminder of God’s great love change how you respond to others?

Questions for Discussion: What does it mean to you that God loves EVERYONE?

Memory Verse: Jeremiah 31:3 “I have loved you with an everlasting love”

Readings for this week: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

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 meet at Pilgrim UCC (on Broad Blvd.) on Mondays at 7 p.m. **beginning tomorrow, Feb 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.

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.

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!

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 _____

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –
PRAYER BULLETIN
FEBRUARY 25, 2024**



**SECOND
SUNDAY
OF LENT**

MINISTERS & STAFF:

Forrest Waller

HOSPITALIZED:

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

Scott Adie	Jim Henes
Bob Ahonen	Kathy Jackson
Debbie Amundsen	Lew King
Jim Beebe	Kathi Sawyer
Mark & Cindy Blaser	Martha Shoults
Linda Demeter	Karen Taucher
Mary Griest	Ken Tunstall

DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:

Betty Douglas, Linda Brooks and family on the death of their sister, Beverly Martin on 2/19.
Lee Minier and family on the death of his wife, member Sharon Minier on 2/20.
Janet Blank and family on the death of her husband, member Bill Blank on 2/12.
Robin Ruth and family on the death of her grandson, Kei Nell on 2/1.