

SENDING FORTH

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

Closing Hymn 261**—*Lord of the Dance*

Benediction—*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*—Peter Lutkin

Epworth Choir

Postlude—*Praise My Soul the King of Heaven*— John Behnke

The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God.

Music—One License A-731491

Anthem Lyrics—*And I Will Praise Thee O God*—Mary Lynn Lightfoot

And I will praise thee O God. I lift up my eyes to the hills.
Of glorious art Thou, more majestic than the everlasting mountains.
Fear not you beasts of the field for the pastures are green.
Fear not for the tree bears its fruit, the tree and the vine give their full yield.
O land be glad and rejoice for the Lord had done great things.

I Believe—Mark Miller

I believe in the sun even when it's not shining
I believe in love even when I can't feel it.
I believe in God, even when God is silent.

**Please stand as you are able.

Clergy & Staff

Jon Priebe—Lead Minister

Howard Pippin—Associate Minister

Marvin Brown—Senior Minister Emeritus

Dean Wagner—Director of Music/Organist

Tim Zuschin—Assistant Chancel Choir Director

Donna Curfman—Director of Children's Ministries

Jennifer Brooks—Director of *Weekday Christian Preschool*

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YOUTH SUNDAY

March 9, 2025



The Temptation of Jesus

1st Sunday in Lent

Youth Sunday—First Sunday in Lent

10:45 am

March 9, 2025

GATHERING

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

Welcome & Announcements—

Dominic Dunlap

Prelude—Carillon Fanfare—H. Dean Wagner

Children's Ringers

Call to Worship—

Chad Wagner

For some of us, it was tempting to “sleep in” this morning.

But God has called us to this place, to hear God's word, to open our hearts in prayer and praise, and to seek direction for our lives.

There are many temptations placed in front of us. We are called to be strong and place our trust in God.

God is always faithful to us, comforting, guiding, lifting us. AMEN.

Opening Hymn 269—***Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days*

Invocation (please be seated)—

Dominic Dunlap

Lord, the temptations of the world loom large before us. We need your healing love. As you resisted the temptations in the wilderness, help us to place our trust in you, that we may be strong in our faith and confident in our service to you through serving others. AMEN.

Invitation to Observe a Holy Lent—

Chloe Judy

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Readings— Psalm 119:33-37, Timothy 6:9-10

Marcus Wilson

Gloria Patri—*Glory Be to the Father* (Hymnal p. 70)

Anthem—*And I Will Praise Thee O God—*Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Children's & Epworth Choirs

God's Word for Young Disciples Lucy Benson, Kennedie Ward, Jenna Nolan, Brayden Carpenter

Scripture Reading—*1 Corinthians 10:13*

Jenna Nolan

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

Anthem—*I Believe—*Mark Miller

Epworth Choir
Elliotte Barker, soloist

Gospel Reading—*Luke 4:1-13*

Katie Walker

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

Sermons—

Ben LaFleur, Katie Walker, Chad Wagner

RESPONSE

The People of God respond to the Word.

Hymn of Response 191—***Jesus Loves Me*

Discipleship Moment

Cammie Barker

Offertory—*Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley—*Robert Powell

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.

Prayer of the People/The Lord's Prayer

Cammie Barker

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.

—continued

OPENING HYMN

Hymn #269, Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days

1 Lord, who throughout these forty days,
For us did fast and pray,
Teach us with you to mourn our sins,
And close by thee to stay.

2 As thou with Satan did contend,
And didst the victory win,
O give us strength in thee to fight,
In thee to conquer sin.

3 As thou didst hunger bear, and thirst,
So teach us, gracious Lord,
To die to self, and always live
By your most holy word.

4 And through these days of penitence,
And through your Passion-tide,
Forevermore, in life and death,
Jesus, with us abide.

5 Abide with us that so this life
Of suffering over past,
An Easter of unending joy
We may attain at last!

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.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn #191, Jesus Loves Me

1. Jesus loves me, this I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me, this I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me." Refrain.

3. Jesus loves me still today,
Walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give
Light and love to all who live. Refrain.

CLOSING HYMN

Hymn #261, Lord of the Dance

1. I danced in the morning
When the world was begun
And I danced in the moon
And the stars and the sun
And I came down from heaven
And I danced on the earth
At Bethlehem I had My birth

Chorus: Dance then wherever you may be
I am the Lord of the Dance said He
And I'll lead you all Wherever you may be
And I'll lead you all In the Dance said He

2. I danced for the scribe
And the Pharisee
But they would not dance
And they wouldn't follow Me
I danced for the fishermen
For James and John
They came with Me
And the dance went on. Chorus.

3. I danced on the Sabbath
And I cured the lame
The holy people said it was a shame
They whipped and they stripped
And they hung Me on high
And they left Me there
On a Cross to die. Chorus.

4. I danced on a Friday
When the sky turned black
It's hard to dance
With the devil on your back
They buried My body
And they thought I'd gone
But I am the dance
And I still go on . Chorus.

5. They cut Me down
And I leapt up high
I am the life
That'll never never die
I'll live in you
If you'll live in Me
I am the Lord
Of the Dance said He. Chorus.

CHURCH NOTES 3-9-25

Preston Backpacks: Today is the last day to turn in items for the Preston Backpacks. The kids will be sorting/packing the bags during ROCK on Wednesday.

Annual Pasta Dinner Fundraiser: Get your tickets for the Pasta Dinner benefitting Epworth Choir’s *Spring Tour!* Saturday, **March 15, from 4:30 to 7:00pm.** The University of Akron choir will be here for a special performance after the meal. The cost is \$10 pre-sale, \$12 at the door for adults, \$5 for children ages 4-10 and free for children 3 and under. See an Epworth choir member or stop by the church office to purchase tickets.

Annual Egg Hunt: We are starting to collect individually wrapped candy (nut-free, please) and small toys for our annual Egg Hunt on April 12. You can drop donations off in the office or the Welcome Center.

Spring Tour Donations: Epworth choir could use some help funding our tour this year. The cost of hotels (churches no longer house us), food, and bussing continue to rise. Please consider a gift to help us make up the difference. You can earmark your check to First Church with “tour” and mail it to the church or put it in the offering plate. Thank you for considering! —Dean Wagner

Good Neighbors March Wish List: Good Neighbors has release their wish list for donated items. Items: deodorant, shampoo, bar soap & body wash, dish soap & laundry detergent, Easter candy & basket fillers/toys, canned meats & fruits, dog & cat food, tomato sauce, tea bags, salad dressing, sugar packets, jelly.

Easter Flowers: It’s time to order Easter flowers. The list of donors, as well as those honored/ memorialized will be published in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. Please make your check out to *First Church* and return it with the order form below by Monday, **March 24 @noon.** The cost is \$10 per plant. Be sure to indicate which type and the number of plants you would like. Thank you!

Tulips Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Hyacinths _____
 Lilies In *memory or honor of:* (please circle one)
 Daffodils _____

PRAYER REQUESTS

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| Scott Adie | Lee Minier |
| Bob Ahonen | Becky & Jerry Pecko |
| Joanne Ames | Becky Petty |
| Debbie Amundsen | Robbie Robinson |
| Mary Ellen Atwood | Holly Ross |
| Dorothy Bates | Kathi Sawyer |
| Mark & Cindy Blaser | Todd Schneider |
| Suzanne Callahan | Kathy Walker |
| Mary Griest | Bette Wenk |
| Dwight Konic | Marcus Wilson |
| Judy Lewis | Mike Yeager |
| Marge Magee | Rose Ann Youngkin |

In our greater world: We lift up teachers. We pray for peace.

Our sympathies and prayers are with the families of