

The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church
3rd Sunday in Lent | 11:00 AM | March 23, 2025

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee
GERMANY, arr. Diane Bish

Nicholas Bowden
Director of Music & Organist

INTROIT

Thou Knowest, Lord, the Secrets of Our Hearts
Henry Purcell

The Chancel Choir

*Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers;
but spare us, Lord, spare us, Lord most holy, O God, O God most mighty,
O holy and most merciful Savior, Thou most worthy Judge eternal,
suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from Thee. Amen.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Drew West
Minister of Families and Children

*HYMN 108

God Hath Spoken by the Prophets

EBENEZER

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From 1 Timothy

UMH 889

There is one God and there is one mediator, Christ Jesus,
who came as a ransom for all, to whom we testify.

**This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance:
That Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners,
and was manifested in the flesh,
vindicated in the Spirit,
seen by angels,
proclaimed among the nations,
believed in throughout the world,
taken up in glory.**

Great indeed is the mystery of the gospel. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

MEINEKE

**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.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. West

*Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:
"The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you."*

ANTHEM

There Is a Balm in Gilead
Spiritual, arr. Nicholas Bowden

Dr. Ed Richardson, Baritone

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.
Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.*

There is a balm...

*Don't ever be discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge, he'll ne'er refuse to lend.*

There is a balm...

*If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus, and say "He died for all!"*

There is a balm...

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. West

**Artist of souls,
you sculpted a people for yourself
out of the rocks of wilderness and fasting.
Help us as we take up your invitation to prayer and simplicity,
that the discipline of these forty days
may sharpen our hunger for the feast of your holy friendship,
and wet our thirst for the living water you offer
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 55:8-13

Ron Reams

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.
Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence
Associate Minister

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

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.

OFFERTORY

Be Not Afraid from Elijah
Felix Mendelssohn

The Chancel Choir
Marty Alexander, Organist

"Be not afraid," saith God the Lord.
"I am with thee, thy help is near.
For I am thy God, and I will strengthen thee.
Though thousands languish and fall beside thee,
and tens of thousands are fallen 'round thee,
yet never shall it come nigh thee.
Thy help is near; be not afraid!" saith God the Lord.

*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100th

**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.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. West

Children ages 4 years through 2nd grade are invited to attend Wonders of Worship in Room B225.
Younger children are invited to attend with a parent.
Children 3rd grade and older are encouraged to stay in the sanctuary for the service.
The nursery is available for infants through 3 years.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 12:3-8

Rev. West

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Most Important Words: I Don't Know"

The Rev. Kaylen Short
Senior Minister

MISSION CONSECRATION: GREAT DAY OF SERVICE

Rev. Short

*HYMN 419

I Am Thine, O Lord

I AM THINE

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Short

*CHORAL RESPONSE

May the Lord, Mighty God, Bless and Keep You Forever

EDELWEISS

**May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever;
grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see His face and His grace forever!
May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.**

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

Please remember in your prayers:

Van Askew
Linda Brannon
Nancy Byers

Karen Davis
Martha Hale
Tangie Hubbard

Jerry Light
Bettina McDowell
Ron McDowell

Ingrid Shields
Brenda Tierman
Paul Wiley



WEEKENDER

Ed Travis
Scholarship Deadline
March 31

Lenten Concert
The Chancel Choir
Sunday, April 13

Church Directory
Photographs
May 8-11



CONNECT

Online Giving: onrealm.org/FFUMC/give

Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version
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AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
Fridays, Saturdays 7 PM; Thursdays, 7:30 AM

NA Meeting: Thursdays 7 PM



GIVE

FAYETTEVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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