

WARREN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 21, 2021

PIANO PRELUDE
ORGAN PRELUDE

“On Eagles Wings”
“Prelude in F Major”
“Kyrie, Christ the Comforter of the World”

arr. Mark Hayes
Bach
Dupre

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN (Remain Seated) “Grace Greater than Our Sin” Moody

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary’s mount out poured, there where the blood of the Lamb was
split.

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, in finite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe! You
that are longing to see his face, will you this moment his grace receive?

Refrain

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Jesus Is The Answer”

arr. Harlan
(11:00 AM only)

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

THE LORD’S PRAYER (using sins)

*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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.*

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Gift of Love”

arr. Hopson
(11:00 AM only)

SCRIPTURE

“Mark 1:9-15”

MESSAGE

“Desert Times”

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Hecht

HYMN (Remain Seated)

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

Messiah

Take My life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love. Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King. Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee. Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it in thine own; it shall be thy royal throne. Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

BENEDICTION**BEARING OF THE LIGHT** (11:00 AM only)**POSTLUDE**

“Rise Up O Men of God”

MUSIC TODAY is provided by organist Judd Demers, pianist Michele Sandberg, and our women’s ensemble of Deb Anderson, Tracy Brieger, Melissa Carr, Elsie Giegerich, Patty Hanold, Heidi Ketzko, Hope Punsky, and Nettie Swart. Judd is a junior at WAHS and studies organ privately with Ron McEntire in Jamestown. 8:00 AM pianist Cathy Peterson

ACOLYTE today is Graham Carr.

GREETER is Mary Jo Zubrod 11:00 AM

USHER 11:00 AM—Team 2

ALTAR FLOWERS are in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. R. W. Tranter, Miss Jeanne Louise Tranter, Mr. & Mrs. Richard L. Tranter, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Bailey, and Mr. Charles Tranter given by Adele Tranter.

CARILLONNEUR is Judd Demers.

PRAYER CONCERNS can be found in our weekly email Newsletter.

Offering plates **WILL NOT** be passed during worship but instead will be available at the door.

Following Jesus Study/New Members Class

Beginning **Thursday, March 11th at 6:30 PM**, "Following Jesus: Steps to a Passionate Faith" will be offered as a class for new members, the youth of confirmation age (10th grade and above), and anyone who has not yet participated in the study. Reverend Hecht and Tawni Betts will teach the class. This is an excellent beginner Bible study, as well as a great renewal class for church members.

The classes have had a variety of ages involved. There have been participants new to our church, new to the Christian faith, and long-time church members. The youngest participants were able to see that adult members still had questions about their beliefs and that faith in Jesus Christ is something that we work out in the course of our lifetime, not all at once.

For more information, please call 723-4930 or go to the website at www.firstumwarren.com

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him. Matthew 4:18-20

We recognize that the overall state of the church in America is not good. It becomes more evident with each passing year that we are focusing on the wrong things while often celebrating the trivial. Add to this the current "unease" in the United Methodist Church regarding what our denomination will look like moving into the future, and it is easy to understand how we have come to this point! The result is that membership in mainline churches continues to decrease across our country, and the church continues to lose relevance in the eyes of the community.

The good news, however, is that it is not too late for something to be done about it. We realize that "the church" cannot fix itself. Nor will one or more committees turn things around. What will transform us is **BIBLICALLY BASED** action. We believe Christ centered and heaven focused worship, a reliance upon the promptings of the Holy Spirit, praying for the sick and sharing testimonies, service that involves lay and staff alike sharing their gifts and abilities in ministering, and expecting God to transform us **WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

The Church Council of First United Methodist Church voted in December of 2019 to partner with **John and Christiane Zimmerman of About Face Church Outreach Consultants** for a wonderful ministry. Originally it was slated to begin in July of 2020, but due to the Covid Pandemic, we postponed it until April of 2021. John is a Conference evangelist who will be with us for several months this Spring to help us at First Church implement new outreach opportunities that make new Disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

We look forward to how God plans to use us as individuals and a community of faith in 2021 and beyond!

In preparation for their arrival, the Zimmerman's have asked our church leaders and all interested members to participate in a group survey activity on **MONDAY EVENING MARCH 8th at 6:30 pm**. We hope to complete our task in 90 minutes, but it is possible that we may need to go a little longer. This is a crucial important first step in preparing the way for our future outreach efforts.

Please plan on attending.

Please call the church office to let us know if you will be attending.

Thank you in advance for committing time to this important ministry opportunity!

Mark Hecht

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF
February 21, 2021 - February 27, 2021**

SUNDAY

**First Sunday in Lent
8:00 AM Service of Word and Sacrament
9:30 AM Sunday School for Adults of ALL Ages
11:00 AM Worship Service
6:00 PM Combined UMYF; Founders Hall**

MONDAY

**8:30 - 12:00 PM Office Hours
4:30 PM Nurture Meeting
7:00 PM Boy Scouts**

TUESDAY

**8:25 AM - 11:15 AM Creative Preschool, 3/4 year old class
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours
8:45 AM - 11:30 Creative Preschool, Pre-K
1:00 PM Staff Meeting
2:00 PM Peals of Praise Bells
5:30 PM Covenant Discipleship Group; Covert Room
5:30 PM Soup and Lenten Study on Romans
6:30 PM Epworth Hand bells**

WEDNESDAY

**8:25 AM - 11:15 AM Creative Preschool, 3/4 year old class
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours
8:45 AM - 11:30 AM Creative Preschool Pre-K
8:45 AM Covenant Disciple Group
3:30 PM - 6:30 PM LOGOS
3:30 PM Wesleyan Hand bells
4:00 PM Youth Ensemble
6:30 PM Witness Committee Meeting; Covert Room**

THURSDAY

**8:25 - 11:15 AM Creative Preschool, 3/4 year old class
8:30 - 12:00 Office Hours
8:45 AM - 11:30 AM Creative Preschool, Pre-K
1:00 PM Covenant Discipleship Group**

FRIDAY

8:30 - 12:00 PM Office Hours