

# WARREN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## February 28, 2021

### ORGAN PRELUDE

“Offertory in G” Ludwig Van Beethoven/Peterson  
“Lenten Reflection” Lani Smith  
“Just As I Am” John Rasley

PRELUDE (8:00 AM only) “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” arr. Vicki Courtney

### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING PRAYER

HYMN (Remain Seated) “Take Up Thy Cross” Germany

“Take up thy cross,” the Savior said, “if thou wouldst my disciple be; deny thyself,  
the world forsake, and humbly follow after me.”

Take up thy cross, let not its weight fill thy weak spirit with alarm; his strength shall  
bear thy spirit up, and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame, nor let thy foolish pride rebel; thy Lord for  
thee the cross endured, to save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down; for only those  
who bear the cross may hope to ear the glorious crown.

### 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 “Do You Know Where God Lives” Suzanne Paterson  
(11:00 AM only)

SCRIPTURE “Mark 9:1-9”

MESSAGE “Transfiguration” Rev. Dr. Mark E. Hecht

**HYMN** (Remain Seated)                      “Are Ye Able, Said the Master”                      Beacon Hill

“Are ye able,” said the Master “to be crucified with me?” “Yea,” the sturdy dreamers  
answered “to the death we follow thee.”

**Refrain**

**Lord, we are able. Our spirits are thine. Remold them, make us, like thee,  
divine. Thy guiding radiance above us shall be a beacon to God, to love,  
and loyalty.**

Are ye able to remember, when a thief lifts up his eyes, that his pardoned soul is  
worthy of a place in paradise?

**Refrain**

Are ye able when the shadows close around you with the sod, to believe that spirit  
triumphs, to commend your soul to God?

**Refrain**

Are ye able? Still the Mater whispers down eternity, and heroic spirits answer now as  
then in Galilee.

**Refrain**

**BENEDICTION**

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

**POSTLUDE**                      “Sing To The Lord”                      Lani Smith

**POSTLUDE** (8:00 AM only)                      “He Leadeth Me”                      arr. Cindy Berry

**MUSIC TODAY** is provided by organist David Powell and a girls ensemble  
consisting of Haile and Peyton Cabisca, Aubrey Carrington, Attie Corey, Lilly Newton,  
Madalyn Nobles, and Hayden Schuler. The 8:00 am pianist is Ruth Nelson.

**ACOLYTE** today is Lilly Newton.

**GREETERS** are Amy Morrison 8:00 AM

Stephanie Tannler 11:00 AM

**USHER** 11:00 AM—Team 2

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are in loving memory of Carol Niver Tucker Hampson  
given by her son, Daniel Tucker.

**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 (10<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.firstumwarren.com)

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*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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 28, 2021 - March 6, 2021**

**SUNDAY**

**Second 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  
6:00PM Incarceration Support Group  
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**

**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**

**FRIDAY**

**8:30 - 12:00 PM Office Hours**