

Faith United Methodist Church
Third Sunday in Lent *March 15, 2020*
God's People Gather to Worship at 9:00 am

OPENING PRAYER

O God, in Your infinite wisdom You have opened Your house to all peoples in every land who have come to love and serve Christ. Help us, God, to share the Gospel wherever we go. In Christ we pray. Amen.

GREETING Welcome to Everlasting water.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Let all who know and love the Lord gather this day and worship.

People But some are not like we are. Is God's house open also to them?

Leader In Christ there is no Gentile or Jew, only those who love the Lord.

People But some are not like us, can they know Christ as we do?

Leader Give praise to the Lord God above, for all who love Christ are as one.

All Blessed be the name of the Lord!

† OPENING HYMN 467 There's Within My Heart a Melody

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, so often we have closed our minds about whom the Gospel should be shared or whom we should invite into Your church. Forgive us, Lord, for as You reached out to all, You showed us we are all God's beloved children. Open our hearts, Lord, that we might truly know Your love. In Christ we pray. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

Musical Interlude

Jeff Murphy

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Good News! God is not only lawgiver but redeemer, and will cleanse us from the secret sins that have escaped our own attention. Friends, believe the Good News! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Mother of all Wisdom, and Father of Surprise, your thoughts are not our thoughts, nor are your ways our ways. Where we are closed, open us with your Word, that we might recognize the Christ and follow.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalms 5:1-5

Page 384, pew Bible

† NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 4:4-17

Page 752, pew Bible

OFFERTORY

Let us give as God has brought waters to the dry lands of our lives.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Page 95, UMH

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Your house, O God, is meant to be a house of prayer. May all we do here be appropriate to that purpose. Amen.

† HYMN 127 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (Vs 1-2)

SERMON

One Secret

Rev. David A. E. Whitt

INVITATIONAL HYMN 127

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (Vs 3)

SHARING OF CONCERNS: We bring all we have to God who hears our prayers.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Loving God, dying Son, living Lord, how amazingly you prove your love for us! Though you might have cast us off forever in anger at our sins, you show your loving forgiveness in the death of your Son and our Lord, Jesus Christ. We rejoice in the sacrificial death that saves us and the ongoing life that intercedes for us. We are filled with joyful trust and thanksgiving that you have befriended us. Weak and unworthy as we are, we thank you for your love. You are worthy of all praise, as God human and divine Christ, holy and hopeful Spirit. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (...TRESPASSES)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME OF JOYS

† CLOSING HYMN 378 Amazing Grace

† BENEDICTION

Go out into the world and in your words and your living make it known that Christ is the savior of the world. Make it your food to do the work of God who sends you, and drink deeply of the water of life. And may God shepherd you and lead you with care. May Christ, who justifies you, give you peace with God, and may the Spirit fill you with truth that your lives may be worship, and your worship may live.

All: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, in the name of Christ. Amen.

† HYMN 666 Shalom to You

† *Please stand if you are able.*