

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Celebration of Worship – *Third Sunday in Lent* – 3.19.17

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PRELUDE.....*O Mensch, bewein' dein' Sünde groß*.....E. Ray Peebles  
Johann Sebastian Bach  
[Oh Man, bewail thy grievous sins]

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING.....Dr. Goad

INTROIT (8:30).....*This is the Day*.....Ensemble  
Mark Hayes

INTROIT (11:00).....*I Will Praise You, O Lord*.....K-4th Grade  
Mark Patterson                      Sunday School Children

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Dr. Hobson

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“God of Love and God of Power”.....No. 578

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 888.....Dr. Goad

BAPTISMS (11:00).....Peter Dobson Ramsey, III .....No. 39, Rev. Joyce  
Presented by his parents Mr. & Mrs. Peter Dobson Ramsey, Jr.

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Agnus Dei*.....David Westbrook, tenor  
Georges Bizet  
[Lamb of God, you who take away the sins of the world,  
have Mercy on Us; Grant us Peace.]

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Philippians 4:4-9.....Dr. Goad  
New Testament, Page 242 in your Pew Bible

‡  
† 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.*

\*\*CHILDREN'S BLESSING.....Staci Zeagler

JOYS & CONCERNS ..... Rev. Joyce

MORNING PRAYER ..... Bishop William Hutchinson

THE LORD'S PRAYER ..... Congregation (speaks in unison)

*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.*

‡

HYMN OF PREPARATION.....“Seek Ye First”.....No. 405

OFFERTORY PRAYER .....Dr. Goad

MUSICAL OFFERING....My Shepherd Will Supply My Need...Ensemble (8:30)

arr. Mack Wilberg

Chancel Choir (11:00)

Theresa Zale Bridges, oboe

Sally Horak, flute

Jennifer Betzer, harp

† DOXOLOGY .....No. 95

*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.*

SCRIPTURE READING.....Matthew 6:25-34.....Rev. Joyce  
New Testament, Page 7 in your Pew Bible

**Matthew 6:33-34**— “Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”

A recent study revealed that people are more joyful when they are in the present, not lost in a fantasy about the future, and not wasting time worrying about the past. An interesting thing to note was that even when the present situation was challenging, people were still more joyful when living in reality, as opposed to spending time in an unrealized future fantasy, or lamenting a foregone past. Jesus seems to also believe that worrying about things is time lost in the present. Being fully alive as humans includes being present in life, with friends and family, and finding joy in being thankful for what is real, and learning to be anxious about nothing. The way to achieve this includes seeking first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. This is a great season to draw close to Jesus, learning to find joy in the certainty of our hope that is the love of God.

† **\*HYMN OF INVITATION**.....“Day By Day”

Day by day, and with each passing moment,  
Strength I find, to meet my trials here;  
Trusting in my Father’s wise bestowment,  
I’ve no cause for worry or for fear.  
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure  
Gives unto each day what He deems best—  
Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure,  
Mingling toil with peace and rest.

Every day, the Lord Himself is near me  
With a special mercy for each hour;  
All my cares He fain would bear, and cheer me,  
He whose name is Counselor and Power;  
The protection of His child and treasure  
Is a charge that on Himself He laid;  
“As thy days, thy strength shall be in measure,”  
This the pledge to me He made.

Help me then, in every tribulation  
So to trust Thy promises, O Lord,  
That I lose not faith’s sweet consolation  
Offered me within Thy holy Word.  
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,  
E’er to take, as from a father’s hand,  
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,  
Till I reach the promised land.

*(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS..... Dr. Goad

*We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ's holy church, and bid you welcome to the congregation of First United Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.*

BENEDICTION ..... Bishop William Hutchinson

CONGREGATIONAL SENDING FORTH..... "Lord, I Want To Be Like Jesus"

*Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart.* Ensemble (8:30)

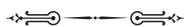
*Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart* Chancel Choir (11:00)

*In my heart, in my heart,*

*Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.*

POSTLUDE..... *Toccata pour Grande Orgue*..... E. Ray Peebles

Gaston Bèlier



**ACOLYTES:** Wilson Guidry (8:30), Soren Cate, Caya Cate (11:00)

**CRUCIFER:** Vicki Guidry (8:30), Vivian Vekovius (11:00)

† *Those who are able may stand.* ‡ *Latecomers may be seated at these times.*

♦ Communion will be served at 9:30am in the Sanctuary and noon in Couch Chapel.

\* If you wish to join the First United Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.

\*\* *Children leaving the service for Children's Chapel may be picked up after the service:*

• *Infants—4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children's Ministry Center*

• *K5—1ST graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 207, behind the Sanctuary*

• *2ND—3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary*