

# First United Methodist Church

March 19, 2023

**Prelude** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* Organ  
**Welcome and Greeting** Pastor  
**Announcements** Pastor  
**K.I.D.S. Kids In Divine Service** (Upstairs in the Children's Wing (3<sup>rd</sup> Graders & Under)  
Children may go with Teacher Lorna Peelle  
**\*Opening Prayer** Pastor  
God, you are our source of Light. You are a God of great mercy and love, so we come to you this morning seeking restoration of our sight. Clear away our blindness, and give us a new vision of all that you are all that you do; and all that can be accomplished in your name. Give us strength and confidence to truly witness your abiding love and faithfulness. For we offer this prayer in Jesus' Name. Amen.  
**\*Call to Worship** Pastor  
Leader: We worship because the Lord stood by us on difficult days.  
**People: Even when we weren't aware and felt alone.**  
Leader: We worship because the Lord gives strength.  
**People: Even when we feel so weak.**  
Leader: We worship because we have been rescued again and again.  
**People: Even when we are afraid that we have lost.**  
Leader: Come and worship the God who stands with us in our darkest days and promises to be with us to the end.  
**People: We will worship in hope, seeking eyes to see and hearts to believe in God with us. Amen.**  
**\*Hymn of Worship** *Guide Me, O Great Jehovah* Hymn 127  
**New Testament Scripture** 1 Peter 5:10 (CEV) Liturgist  
**Song of Praise** *Goodness of God* by Bethel Music K/G  
**Song of Prayer** *It is Well with My Soul* Hymn 377  
Organ  
**Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer** Pastor  
**Offering**

**Music Special** Piano

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** Pastor  
Generous God, you tenderly care for each person you have created. You miraculously restore people to health and shine light into the lives of those who are discouraged. Guide us so that we will not view others according to appearances but seek to find your love in their hearts. We dedicate our offerings and ourselves to contribute to the work of your kingdom on earth until Christ returns in glory. Amen.

**Song of Thanksgiving** *Give Thanks* FWS 2036

**Song of Reflection** *The Blessing* by Kari Jobe K/G

**Old Testament Scripture** Joel 2:21-24 (NLT) Pastor

**Sermon** *Restoration Project* Pastor Nate Eckert

**\*Song of Commitment** *Blessed Be Your Name*

**\*Benediction** As you leave this time of worship, may God's presence follow you, heal you, and empower you to reflect and experience the goodness and love of God everywhere you go. Amen.

**\*Postlude** *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* Organ

## Worship Team

**Music Director & Guitarist** Rick Peelle  
**Organist** Carol Meyer **Pianist** Susie Lewis  
**Song Leaders** Donna Winters & Amanda Stainbrook  
**Greeter** Linda Cowan  
**Ushers** Sarah Geise, Steve Beeson, Bob Warner  
**Nursery** Carol Hormel & Jean Dilley

*The altar flowers are given by Carol Meyer in memory of 56 years ago today when Bob and I were being married in this sanctuary.*

**Welcome to Worship Our Lord.  
Today, March 19, 2023**

Warner's Life Group plans to meet in Fellowship Hall for a short movie "Stranger at the Gate" using online streaming. **Bob Warner invites everyone.**

**You are welcome to attend and watch the movie with us. Time is 6:00 p.m.**

**Feel free to invite others.**

**This Week: Monday, March 20** 6:30 Lenten Study in Fellowship Hall  
6:30 Leadership Table? Not sure if meeting!

**Tuesday, March 21** **The April Newsletter Deadline @ 3 p.m.**

**Wednesday, March 22 Bells** Rehearsal at 6 p.m. Worship Rehearsal at 6:50

**Saturday, March 25** 10 a.m. Take a Hike (Meet in the Church's Parking Lot)  
12 Noon A baby shower usage of Fellowship Hall

**Pick up Daily Devotions: March Upper Room along with Our Daily Bread  
located in the Café bookrack.**

**For Township Trustee's Office March Donations:** Spices (dollar ones + 12 cents)  
at Walmart: Garlic powder, onion powder, hamburger seasoning, salt & pepper, etc.)

**April Donations:** Pasta and sauces. Take Items to the Town Trustee's Office on Main St  
(across from Willies & Reds) or to the church Café.

**The church expresses sympathies to Jane Sturgeon & Family at the loss of  
Dorothy Sturgeon (Don's mother) on Wednesday, March 15.**

**Prayers for our Members & Friends:** Marilyn Scott, Priscilla Sherry, Ginny Ozbun, Jo  
Johnson, Chris & Barb Beeson, Judy Hilbert Haisley, Bob & Dixie Fast, Craig Salhoff, Martha  
Giggy, Linda Riley, Elizabeth Waggoner, Tonya Sparks, Jim & Ginny Retherford, Angela Cox,  
Lisa Warner's parents' health, Susan Sanders return home, Carol Meyer, Christa (Coleman)  
husband Mark, Dylan Orschell, Donita Lester, Mindy Smith recuperating from knee surgery,  
Kay Ulerick.

**The community is invited** to the Thrift Shop's Annual Business Meeting in the FUMC  
Fellowship Hall at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26. The Thrift Shop is owned and operated by First  
United Methodist Church, Congregational Christian Church, and Nettle Creek Church of the  
Brethren. Meet the Thrift Shop employees and learn how the shop contributes to the  
community and provides scholarships to Nettle Creek graduating high school seniors.

The program will be A Better Way, formerly known as Genesis of Richmond. A Better Way  
is a mobile advocacy organization serving Wayne and seven surrounding counties. Heather  
Eckert and Candra Ramsey, Richmond Site Coordinator, will share A Better Way's mission: to  
reduce domestic abuse, sexual assault, suicide, and homelessness through service, shelter,  
crisis intervention, and prevention initiatives.

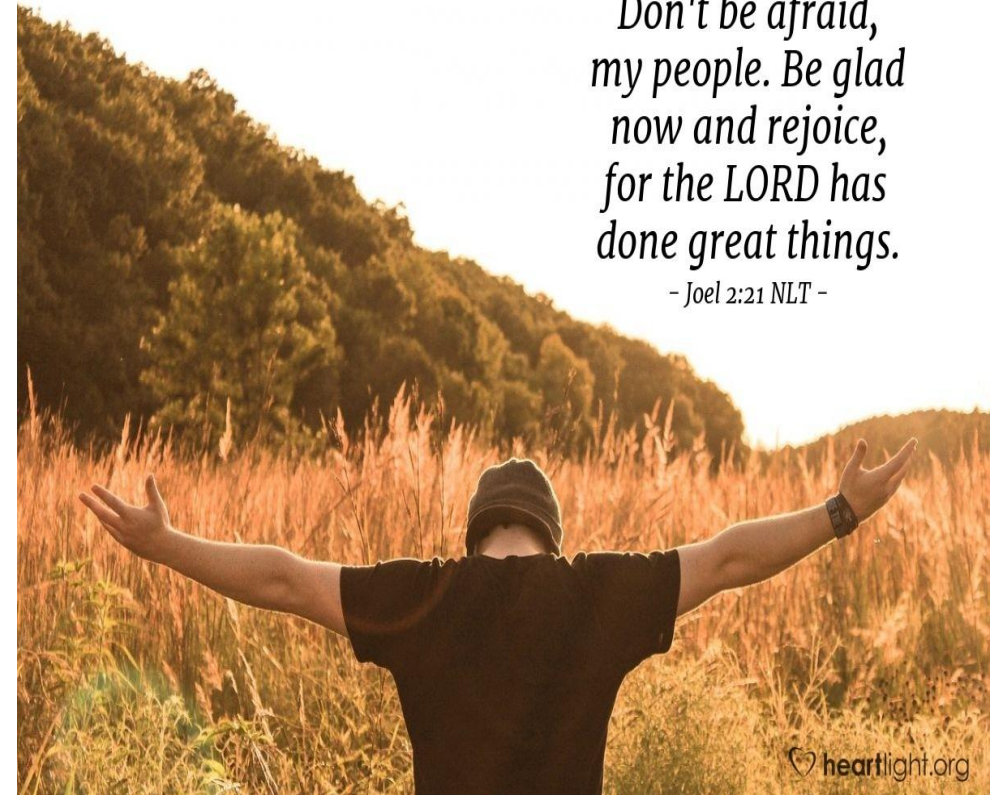
**First United Methodist Church Worship Service**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 19, 2023**

*Don't be afraid,  
my people. Be glad  
now and rejoice,  
for the LORD has  
done great things.*

*- Joel 2:21 NLT -*



 heartlight.org

**CHURCH MISSION:**

***To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.***

**CHURCH VISION:**

***As disciples who make disciples, we will connect intentionally,  
listen actively and love deeply in our relationship with God and our community.***