



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA 15642

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Rev. David S. Lake – Pastor

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry

March 20, 2016 - Palm Sunday

WORSHIP HOST: 8:15 – Nellie Wiancko 10:45 – Tracy Hawley

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT
GATHERING & WELCOME**

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

L: The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Please pass the Peace of Christ to your neighbor.

MOMENTS OF INFORMALITY

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

INTRODUCTION OF OUR YOUTH DIRECTOR

MUSIC OF PREPARATION “Prepare the Way” - Chancel Choir

LENTEN CANDLE CEREMONY

Matthew (Steve Halza) Judas Iscariot (Bryan Campbell)

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: Lift your hands! Wave your palms! Give glory and honor to the Lord!

P: Hosanna in the highest! All praise to Jesus the Christ, our redeemer and king.

L: He is worthy of our praise, for he comes in the name of the Lord to save us.

P: Hosanna in the Highest! He is holy. He is righteous. Worship the Lord!

L: Majesty, power and dominion belong to Christ our Lord and Savior.

P: Hosanna in the highest! In joy and gratitude we sing praise to the Lamb of God.

OPENING PRAYER

Blessed one, humbling yourself on the back of a colt, you entered Jerusalem in lowly estate bringing joy to the hearts of children; forsaking equality with God, you emptied yourself of prestige and power, coming as a servant to all. Sing in our hearts once more, that we may remember the joy of dancing and singing our hosannas like the children of Jerusalem – for to such as these belong the kingdom of heaven. Amen

***HYMN OF PRAISE No. 278 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”**

Children come forward during the last verse.

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

(Our Children’s Collection this morning will be used for “Church Camp.” Please see the announcement for more details.)

SPECIAL MUSIC “Sing to the King”

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 32: 22-32

Exodus 3:13-15

PRESENTATION OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “Surely He Died on Calvary”

***LENTEN DOXOLOGY (tune: “Old 100th)**

**Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise,
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God’s love in Christ into our hearts. Amen**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

Faithful God, your Son Jesus reveals what it means to be a servant leader who trusts you fully. His steadfast obedience to your will cost him dearly. Yet through his amazing self-sacrifice, you bring healing, hope, and peace. During this week, help us to reflect your great love in Christ. Let our words and actions point to your grace. We present our tithes and offerings through the Prince of Peace. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN No. 277 “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus”

The Altar is open during the hymn.

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

***SERMON SCRIPTURE (NRSV) Luke 19:28-40**

MESSAGE

***HYMN OF PARTING No. 280 “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”**

MUSIC OF PARTING “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

***Those who are able, please stand**

We express our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Gerry Nystrom. Gerry passed away on Thursday, March 10th.

May God comfort and blessings be with all those whose lives she touched.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship – 28 Sunday 8:15 – 44 10:45 – 84

SERVING YOU SUNDAY, March 20th

GREETERS: 8:15 – Debbie & Donna Kocevar
10:45 – Bruce, Melanie, Lindsay & Caleb Smith

USHERS TEAMS: 8:15 – Virginia Ives 10:45 – Tom Lehner

SOUND TEAM: 8:15 – Kyle and Katrina Bryan
10:45 - Josh Burger, Penny Brant

NURSERY: Our Child Care Center (birth through age 5) will be open today during the 10:45 service. The attendants today will be Kathy & Alyssa Wagner.

GREETERS NEEDED: These friendly people stand at the door greeting all who attend our services. They welcome and provide directions to visitors. This is a job for all ages. If you are interested in being a greeter please contact Burnetta Green at 724-863-0255.

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Today, Sunday, March 20
6th Sunday in Lent
Palm Sunday
 8:00 Prayer Time
 8:15 Worship
 9:30 Sunday School for all ages
 9:30 Easter Egg Hunt
 10:45 Worship
 12:15 Set up for Living Last Supper
 2:00 FISH & CHIPS
 6:00 Living Last Supper

Monday, March 21
 6:30 Dartball - H
 Round Robin Tournament &
 World Series

Tuesday, March 22
 7:00 Living Last Supper Drama
 7:30 NA

Wednesday, March 23
 11:30 Mid-week Lenten Service
 (United Church of Christ, Main St)
 7:00 Yoga

Thursday, March 24
Maundy Thursday
 7:00 Living Last Supper Drama

Friday, March 25
Good Friday
Office Closed
 12:15 Walk of the Cross
 (See announcement)

Saturday, March 26
 6:00 Alternative Worship

Next Sunday, March 27
Easter Sunday
 8:00 Prayer Time
 8:15 Worship
 9:30 Sunday School for all ages
 10:45 Worship
 No FISH & CHIPS
 No Music Group Practices



The church office will be closed Good Friday, March 25th through Tuesday, March 29th. We will reopen on Wednesday, March 30th.

The Finance Committee meeting scheduled for March 15th has been moved to Tuesday, March 29th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S COLLECTIONS: The Children's Collection today will be used for our camping program. Your donations will be used to help our campers experience learning, fellowship, and fun during an exciting time at our Christian camps!

"Camp:" 3/13 - \$130.50

REMINDER ... If you ordered Easter candy from McFeely's Gourmet Chocolates, you can pick up your order in the church office today.

Also, if there was something you forgot to order or there was something you didn't see printed on their order form, you can stop in their retail store across the street and see if they have it. Tell them you're from First UM and they will give our church 15% of your total order! Thank you from the Finance Committee!

GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF THE CROSS: The annual Good Friday Walk of the Cross will be held on Friday, March 25. Below is the schedule:

- 12:15 United Church of Christ – 400 Main Street, Irwin, PA
- 12:45 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church – 502 Main Street, Irwin, PA

1:15 First Presbyterian Church – 617 Main Street, Irwin, PA
1:45 First Assembly of God - 501 Oak Street, Irwin, PA
2:15 First United Methodist Church – 310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA
2:45 The Lamp Theater – 222 Main Street, Irwin, PA

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: All articles for the April Newsletter are due in the office by Tuesday, March 22, 2016. Please submit your articles by email at fumc.jeanne.secrep@comcast.net or by leaving a printed copy in the office. Articles not received by March 22nd will be published in the May newsletter.

Lent/Easter Quiz

(Monday – Friday during Lent)

http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/lent-quiz-test-your-knowledge-of-the-season?_ga=1.201395857.1823834676.1454675431



March 14 - Which of these Easter hymns did Charles Wesley write?

March 15 - What are the Stations of the Cross?

March 16 - When do congregations 'strip the Lord's Table'?

March 17 - Can anyone receive communion at a United Methodist church?

March 18 - What is the symbolism of palm branches?

THE LIVING LAST SUPPER: Pocket posters and large posters are available on the table in the narthex. Please help us to tell the community about the performances on March 22 and 24 at 7:00 PM. There will be a reception on Tuesday night and cookies are needed. You may bring your cookies on Sunday, March 20, or at any time before the Tuesday night performance. Contact Krista Brown if you have questions.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: Two attendants are needed each Sunday to look after the children, ages 0 – 5 years (some a little older), so that their parents may enjoy the 10:45 AM worship service. It is not necessary for you to be in the nursery every week. You can either be added to the roster as part of the rotation, tell Kim when you are available to cover, or just be considered an "alternate" for last-minute needs. With several volunteers available, there is a rotating schedule so you may only be in the nursery a few times throughout the year unless you request to be there more often.

Volunteers working with children in our church are required by law to have clearances on file in the church office. The forms are on the desk in the office and there is no charge for volunteers. If you are interested in helping as a Nursery attendant, either on a regular basis or just to fill in when someone can't be here, or have any further questions, please contact Kim Platt at 724-863-6838 or kmplatt331@comcast.net.



RACE FOR GRACE: The ninth annual Race for Grace will be held Saturday, April 2nd. Our church is a silver sponsor! Please contact Anne Osborn at 724-744-7278 or annegiannetti@gmail.com if you are interested in helping out with our FUMC

team. Race details can be found at their website www.reflectionsofgrace.org – hope to see you there.

RACE FOR GRACE - TEAM PHOTO. We are going to try and get a team photo of our team prior to the start of the opening ceremony which is scheduled for around 8:30 AM. We would like to meet at 8:10 AM in front of the stadium for the photo. Jack and Patty Osterman

2016 Community Mid-Week Lenten Services

“Fruits of the Spirit”

Sponsored by the Men’s Prayer Fellowship at
First United Church of Christ, 400 Main Street, Irwin, PA
Hymn singing - 11:30 AM Worship - Noon
Song Leader: Hervey Steiner Pianist: Jimmie Ruth Caughron
Signer: Connie Bridgeman

Wednesday, March 23: Topic: Peace Speaker Rev. Ron Durikz

***Lunch is provided by Colonial Grille at 12:30 for a fee.**

2016 WORK TRIP TEAM MEMBERS LAY GRANT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS. If you are going to apply for possible financial assistance for the work trip, the applications are located on the desk in the office. Fill out the application - do not date it or have Pastor Dave sign it - I will give him all the applications at one time to sign. Place the completed application in our mail slot in the church office. I need all the forms returned to me by **next Sunday**, Easter, March 27th. I will be mailing them April 1st. Thank you Patty Osterman

PREPARE YOURSELF! HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY IS APRIL 3. Take time now to design your hat for that Sunday! *This year we will have our traditional worship services that day, with a pot-luck, Holy Humor luncheon after the 10:45 AM service.* Everyone please bring a dish to share with about 10-12 people. THE CATCH IS – It needs to be a Holy Humor dish. It must be edible. It might look funny, or it might just have a funny name. Green eggs and ham, anyone? Be creative! Plates, cups, plasticware and beverages will be supplied. During the lunch we will have a hat fashion show so you can show off your creation. Come and extend the joy of the Easter season.

Lent/Easter Quiz Answers

Mar. 14: “**Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies.**”. In 1740, Charles Wesley wrote the lyrics to Hymn #173 with the original title “A Morning Hymn.” Filled with Scriptural references, the hymn personifies “Sun,” “Dayspring” and “Daystar” in the person of Jesus Christ and emphasizes the differences between light and darkness. After triumphing “o’er the shades of night,” Jesus scatters the singers’ unbelief, leaving us to shine in “the perfect day.”

Mar. 15: The answer is moments in Jesus’ journey from his trial to the tomb. The fourteen traditional Stations of the Cross, also called Way of the Cross, is a modern adaptation of a Christian tradition dating to the fifth century. Fourteen stations depict events of Jesus’ trial, execution and death, from praying alone the night before to speaking to his mother and John from the cross to his burial. Walking the “Way of the Cross” can be used as a devotion at any time for reflection on Christ’s suffering and sacrifice but is most often observed on Good Friday.

Mar. 16: The answer is at the conclusion of Maundy Thursday worship. In Lent, the Lord’s Table is decorated normally, using purple altar cloths—during Holy Week they may change to red. To conclude worship on Maundy Thursday some congregations remove everything from the Lord’s Table, and leave it bare until Easter Sunday. The starkness of the empty Table reminds us of Jesus’ arrest and crucifixion. Similarly, the Gospel Reading for the third Sunday of Lent, the story of Jesus driving the moneychangers from the Temple, calls us to contemplate what matters most in worship.

Mar. 17: The answer is yes if you seek to respond to Christ’s love. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is based on the scriptural Last Supper, or final meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. In The United Methodist Church, the communion table is “open” meaning that anyone who truly seeks Christ’s love and to ‘live a new life of peace and love,’ as the invitation to the table says, is welcome to receive.

Mar. 18: They were a symbol of victory in Roman Empire. John 12:13 and Matthew 21:8 refer to palm branches being laid on the path as Jesus rode into Jerusalem before his trial and execution which can now be seen as symbolic of his victory over death. *“Let these branches be for us signs of his victory; and grant that we who bear them may*

always acclaim Jesus Messiah by walking the way of his suffering and cross... ” –from an ‘Order of Worship for Palm Sunday.’
GBOD

Today during the Sunday School Hour ...

A Simple Truth:

You Are Loved!



You are invited to hear the story of God’s great love for you, followed by our annual Egg Hunt from 9:30-10:30 am, starting in the Elementary Dept. Remember the wonderful story of Holy Week/Easter & talk about Christian symbols. The egg hunt follows in the gym with terrific treasures that relate to the story. All ages welcome!

Teens/Preteens, we need your help hiding the eggs! Of course, you will receive treats for helping & you should also meet at 9:30 in the Elementary room to assist. (Tiny tots meet in Mrs. Weber’s toddler room across from the nursery for a mini-hunt.)

Friends are always welcome!

Kick off Holy Week by hearing the story of our Christian faith in one exciting session!

Hope to see you on March 20th!
