



St. John's United Church of Christ
300 N. Huntersville Road, Batesville, IN 47006
Worship Service: 9:00am / Sunday School: 10:15am

Sunday, March 19, 2023

[* = Those who are able may stand, **L** = Leader, **P** = People and **A** = All]

Words of Welcome: *Fourth Sunday of Lent:* "For even the Son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many."

~ Mark 10:45

Thought to Ponder: "All you can take with you is that which you have given away."

Organ Prelude:

"Elegy"

— Chopin

Welcome & Announcements

Pastoral Greeting

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 23)⁺:

L: In the darkest valley, at the banquet table;

P: **in the hard work of life, at the moments of ease;**

L: in our day-to-day reality,

P: **at times set aside— for worship, for listening, for paying attention;**

L: with every step we take:

P: **goodness and mercy follow us; our cups overflow.**

*Opening Hymn:

"The Old Rugged Cross"

#260

Prayer of Confession⁺⁺:

Holy Jesus, we confess that we fail to question our own sightlessness. Being so sure that we "see," we often miss the truths you would teach us. With the poultice of your love, cure this blindness. Open our eyes to our own misunderstandings, our own failures and our own faults. Make our "shadow side" known to us and help us to diminish it with the light of your grace. For it is only when we see ourselves clearly that we can worship you truly. In your name we pray, Amen.

Prayer Response:

"Glory Be to the Father"

#734

Mission Moment:

Our Church Wider Mission

Especially for Children

The Song:

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.
Every child in every land, Jesus holds them in His hand,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-17, 24-41

Special Music: “Adagio”: *performed by Jane Link* — Albinoni

Message: “Seeing by the Grace of God”

Hymn: “Be Thou My Vision” #502

Pastoral Prayer / Lord’s Prayer

Invitation for Our Offerings

Organ Offertory: “How Great the Wisdom and the Love” — Darley

Doxology: “Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow” #34

Offertory Prayer

*Closing Hymn: “Lamb of God” #281

*Benediction

Organ Postlude: “Jesus Died for Me” — Powell

+ Adapted from re-worship.blogspot, original by

++ Adapted from re-worship.blogspot, original by Rev. Marilyn Kennedy Levine.

Ministers Every Member
Pastor Rev. Joseph Feldmann
Pastor Emeritus Rev. David Johnston
Organist/Choir Director Mr. David W. Hanson



LITURGIST / BENEVOLENCE CALENDAR:

March 5	Lori Mauer	Safe Passage
March 12	Mike Schumacher	St. John’s Music Fund
March 19	Jane Link	Our Church Wider Mission
March 26	Ron Meyer	One Great Hour of Sharing



St. John’s Prayer List – March, 2023

Those Bereaved (*these names remain on for one year*):

Kimberly Vest; Ruth Thie; Florence Meyers.

Others For Whom We Have Been Asked To Pray:

Gayle Sarringhaus; Nikki Sarringhaus; Kent Meyers (son of Taaron & Roger); Bob Wilhelm; John Thie (brother to Jennifer Huffmeyer); Dave & Bonnie Johnston; Danny McDonough (Health Issues, father to Sarah Feldmann); Marian Koester; Carolyn Carson (Breast Cancer, grandmother to Nikki Sarringhaus); Loretta Jones (Health Issues, cousin to Dale Koester); Robert Weiler Jr. (Colon Cancer); John & Connie Moody (Health Issues); Lori Mauer (Thyroid Cancer); Kelsey Weber (Health Issues, daughter-in-law to Gary & Donna Weber); The Family of Douglas Maple; Jerry Rose (Cardiac and Neurological Issues); Arthur Simmons (Health Issues, cousin to

Dale & Marian Koester and Barb Foster); The Family of Judy Wittkamper (sister-in-law to Dale & Sandy Wittkamper and Elaine Wessling); Vicky Wintz (Breast Cancer); Doug Stidham (Health Issues, uncle to Sarah Feldmann); Nikki Sarringhaus & family (on the passing of her father, Greg Redmon); the family of Chyntia Buczak (on her passing, husband Stan and friend to Dan Hall); Jane Fussner (Cancer, friend of Christina Robbins); Mike Malone (Stroke, father of friend to Kristina Frye); Sandy Gutzwiller (Cancer, co-worker's mom to Kristina Frye); The Family of Arlene Wachsmann; The Family of Florence Meyers; Maria Perez (Cancer, friend to Elizabeth Hall); David Smith (Esophagus Cancer, nephew of Joan & John Kuhlman); Bill Davenport (Cancer, friend to Dale & Marian Koester); Randy & Becky Schebler (Health Issues).

Members/Friends Serving Active Duty in the Armed Forces:

Kris Freeman, Aaron Gordon, Steven Meer, Ryan Miller, Chris Williams.

Our Members and Friends in Nursing/Retirement Homes: (For Peace)

St. Andrews Health Campus in Batesville: Willis Rouse

Chateau of Batesville: Margaret Meyers

Aspen Place in Greensburg: Carol Narwold

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

March 21: Book Study @ 4:30pm

March 21: QuiltMakers Sew Day: 9:30am – 3:30pm

March 22: QuiltMakers Sew Day: 9:30am – 3:30pm

Confirmation Classes: Year 1 @ 5:30pm / Year 2 @ 6:15pm

Lenten Service: 7pm

Chancel Choir Practice following Lenten Service

March 23: Griefshare: 6-7:30pm

Celebrate Recovery: 6:30pm @ Community Church on 103 E. George Street, Batesville

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 26: Chancel Choir

March 28: Book Study @ 4:30pm

March 29: Confirmation Classes: Year 1 @ 5:30pm / Year 2 @ 6:15pm

Lenten Service: 7pm

March 30: Griefshare: 6-7:30pm

Celebrate Recovery: 6:30pm @ Community Church on 103 E. George Street, Batesville

Announcements



March is St. John's month to volunteer at the Food Pantry, and we need YOU. Hours are from 12noon to 4pm. There is just one Wednesday left in March, can you help?

Call Janet Schumacher @ 812-212-0774.

Thank you in advance for your generosity in the giving of your time to help others in need.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We are looking for people to volunteer for Margaret Mary Hospice. Basically just provide companionship, conversation, etc. *NO physical care of course.* Please contact Leanne Beiser, Margaret Mary Volunteer Coordinator at 812-933-5629.



Sunday School Ice Cream Sale: Who doesn't like ice cream! The Sunday School has approximate 30 quarts left from the Picnic to sell. Cost is \$3 a quart or 2 for \$5 while it lasts. We will be selling ice-cream during the SS hour after church.



If you would like to place an Easter flower or Heavenly bouquet (*monetary donation to help maintain the beauty of our altar*) in the Sanctuary in memory/honor of someone on Easter Sunday, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering tray or turn in it to the office. All forms **MUST** to be turned in to the office no later than **Sunday, April 2nd**. Please have all flowers to the church by noon on Holy Saturday, April 8th. You may pick up your flower after service on Easter Sunday, April 9th.

We are trying something different this year with Easter flowers. We are asking that flowering plants other than Easter Lilies be given in memory/honor of loved ones. Suggestions are Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinths, Hydrangea's, etc. Our vision is to create a beautiful, colorful "garden" setting. Thank you!

I would like to place (*circle one*) a Easter flower in the sanctuary or donate a Heavenly bouquet in (*circle one*) Memory of or In Honor of:

Name: _____

Given By: _____



SCRIPTURES



Ephesians 5:8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light- for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."



John 9:1-17, 24-41

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided.

So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."... So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"

Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

Hymns

The Old Rugged Cross

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above
to bear it to dark Calvary. *[Refrain]*

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see;
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
to pardon and sanctify me. *[Refrain]*

To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
where his glory forever I'll share. *[Refrain]*

Glory Be to the Father

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. Amen.

Doxology

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.

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word,
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my Treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, Oh bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my Vision, Oh Ruler of all.

Lamb of God

Your only Son, no sin to hide,
but you have sent Him from your side,
to walk upon this guilty sod,
and to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain:

Oh Lamb of God, sweet lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God!
Oh wash me in his precious blood
my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love, they crucified,
they laughed and scorned him as he died,
the humble King they named a fraud
and sacrificed the Lamb of God. *[Refrain]*

I was so lost, I should have died,
but you have brought me to your side,
to be led by your staff and rod,
and to be called a lamb of God. *[Refrain]*

