

***THE CHIMES AND SERVICE OF LIGHT**

The Living Flame on the altar reminds us that we must carry the message of God's grace and love out from this sanctuary into the world.

***THE BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE

"Prelude in E Minor"

J.S. Bach



**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
THE ORDER FOR WORSHIP**

March 8, 2009
9:25 a.m.

2nd Sunday in Lent
Liturgical Color: Purple

Jesus Christ is Lord and King. His reign will last forever. The pretend rulers of this world do not have the final word. Jesus shall reign. It is good news, particularly during times of crisis and distress, to know who sits upon the throne. This morning we invite you to hear the good news and be assured that Jesus is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

The asterisk () designates when the congregation will please stand.
Worshippers who find standing difficult are invited to remain seated.*

Worshippers are encouraged to turn off their cell phones while they are in the sanctuary.

Bold print is read or sung by the congregation.

WE GATHER TOGETHER FOR WORSHIP

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

You are invited to sign and pass the Ritual of Friendship pads.

When it reaches the end of the pew, please pass it back so that all may note those worshipping today.

Cards are available in the pew for those desiring to request prayer or praise for specific needs, concerns and joys. Please place the card in the offering plate during the offering.

THE PRELUDE

"Prelude in C Minor"

Henryk Pachulski

WE PREPARE OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ!

All: **We have come to experience God's grace in our worship and in our lives!**

***THE CHIMES AND SERVICE OF LIGHT**

The congregation stands with the first note of the chimes.

The lighted candles on the altar symbolize the presence of God's Holy Spirit.

The Holy Bible is facing the congregation as a reminder that God's Word is open and available to all.

WE OPEN OUR LIVES TO GOD

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

"This is My Song"

(Musical Interlude)

Hymn No.437

Grace United Methodist Church

Ministers

The Congregation of Grace United Methodist Church

Pastors

Stephen A. Beutler Chris Roberts Larry Newberg

Our Missionaries

Rev. Jeff Newton, Kokomo Urban Outreach Ministries
Dr. Dennis Marke, Medical Missionary, Kissy, Sierra Leone
Rev. Ken Vance, Missionary, Ndola, Town Center, Kafakumba Pastor's School, Africa

Specialized Ministries

Randy Manning, Director of Music Barbara Hobbs, Pianist/Organist
Jacque Hunt, Chamber Ensemble Director Cindy Lovegrove, Office Manager
Debra Long, Volunteer Parish Nurse Phill Montgomery, Counselor
Carisa Durham, Childcare Provider Brandy Dodd, Childcare Provider
Tina Browning, Childcare Provider T.J. Knowland, Youth Director

Our Greeters today are Larry & Norma Raber and Charlotte Young.

The Acolyte is Gus Bourff.

Children's Church Volunteers are Kelly Wright, Ann Elliott, Leanna Zimmerman and Angie Smith.

Today's Lenten Candle will be extinguished by Steve and Cheryl Currens.

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE LENTEN CANDLE AND CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: During this time of Lenten preparation, we think of those who turned away from the light of Jesus. And we remember that we, too, turn away. When Pilate tried to release Jesus, the people shouted "Crucify him!" They rejected Jesus. We, too, often reject Jesus. Perhaps we don't say it but we show it in how we live our lives. The darkness approaches when we sadly walk away from Jesus. We extinguish the second candle, confessing our unwillingness to do what is necessary to follow Jesus.

*As we prepare for Christmas, we light a new candle each Sunday;
as we prepare for Good Friday, we extinguish a candle each Sunday
to remind us of the approaching darkness of betrayal and death.*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Lord Jesus, sometimes we get confused. We see few signs of Your presence. We rarely hear Your name. We get distracted by the rules and rulers of this world. They claim to have power. We want to be in charge. Lord, show us signs of Your rule among us. Confirm our citizenship of Your kingdom. Remind us Who sits on the throne. Hear us now as we pray, each in our own words and our own way.

Moments of Silent Prayer

*Those desiring to come to the altar for a time of intercessory prayer
are welcome to come and kneel or stand.*

All are invited to spend these moments in silent prayer seated at your pew.

The 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Noel Rose Williams
(Robert and Larisa Williams)

Lord, the responsibility for this little child is too much for any two parents alone. They need the loving support of the fellowship of believers as they train and guide and nurture little Noel. We give ourselves today, Lord, to that task. We accept the responsibility of helping to bring Noel to maturity in You.

We will uphold her with our love, teach her the word of God, encourage her when she fails, and we will be careful not to bruise this tender bud by harsh words, quick judgments, and cruel criticism. For truly, Father, she is your child, and we want to protect and teach her and to bring her to the moment when she will choose for herself to know You as Savior and Lord of her life.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"I Have Decided"

Gospelaires
Michael Card

During the playing of the hymn, "Jesus Loves Me" children, preschool through Grade 2, are invited to attend Children's Church in the Multi-Purpose Room, lower level. An adult will meet the children at the sanctuary exit to escort our little ones.

WE HEAR THE LIVING WORD

*THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

John 18:28-19:22

THE ANTHEM

"Magnificent and Holy"

Altar Choir
Israel Houghton

THE PROCLAMATION

THE WRITTEN WORD

WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERING GOD OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

If you are visiting this morning, you are our guest. If Grace U.M. Church is your home, remember that the biblical expectation is that you will give your tithe to your church. May we all remember that giving to God in response to His great love is the most celebrative moment of corporate worship. Today's loose coin offering is dedicated to MUFF.

The Giving of our Tithes and Offering

The Offertory

"Thy Word"

setting by Mark Hayes

*The Lenten Chorus and Prayer of Dedication

Create in me a clean heart, O God and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with your Spirit free

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

*HYMN OF INVITATION TO A LIFE WITH CHRIST

"My Hope is Built"

Hymn No. 368