



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH THE ORDER FOR WORSHIP

March 14, 2010
9:25 a.m.

4th Sunday in Lent
Liturgical Color: Purple

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. It is a season where Christians "Repent, and believe the Gospel!"

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

"Open Our Eyes"

arr. by Mark Hayes

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

*OPENING HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (Stanzas 1, 3 and 4)

"O How He Loves You and Me" (words on page 2)

Hymn No. 384

*THE HYMN OF INVITATION TO A LIFE WITH CHRIST "Open My Eyes That I May See"

*The altar of this church is open to you... come.
Come to witness, come to repent, come to pray.*

Hymn No. 454

*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 CHORAL BENEDICTION

Precious Jesus, precious Jesus, come and fill our hearts anew, precious Jesus:

and we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love,

precious Jesus, precious Jesus.

THE POSTLUDE

"Prelude in G m, BWV 558

J.S. Bach

Grace United Methodist Church

Ministers
The Congregation of Grace United Methodist Church

Pastors
Rev. Stephen A. Beutler Rev. Stacey Fischer Gehring Rev. 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

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| Barbara Hobbs, Music Ministries | TJ Knowland, Youth Director |
| Amanda Kelly, Children's Ministry | 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 | Amy Lovegrove, Childcare Provider |

Our Greeters today are Charles & Pat Pierson and Tim & Susan Garner.
Today's Acolyte is Deanna Hedges.
The Lenten Candle will be extinguished by Shirley Hoy.

O how he loves you and me! O how he loves you and me!
He gave his life. What more could he give?
O how he loves you; O how he loves me; O how he loves you and me!
Jesus to Calvary did go; his love for sinners to show.
What he did there brought hope from despair.
O how he loves you; O how he loves me; O how he loves you and me!

Musical Interlude

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES OF LENT

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. Throughout the life of Jesus, it is clear that the disciples never really “get it.” They are unable to hear with their hearts the radical message of love Jesus brings. We, like the disciples of long ago, often close our hearts to the radical message of love that Jesus teaches. We lazily hate and offend. We purposefully hold on to our prejudices and anger. Darkness engulfs us. We extinguish the fourth candle, admitting our own lack of love and our closed hearts.

THE CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us join together in declaring our historic Christian faith as professed in the Apostles Creed..
All: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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.

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.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

THE ANTHEM

“Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul”

Altar Choir with Trudy Whitford, flute
Joel Raney

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

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

II Corinthians 5:14-21

THE GOSPELAIRES

“Such Love”

Robert Harkness

THE PROCLAMATION

“A GOD’S EYE VIEW”

Pastor Stephen Beutler

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

“Adagio” Trudy Whitford, flute

Jules Mouquet

*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.