

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent

At Wesley we foster a sanctuary culture by creating a safe environment where all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are, through intentional practices such as empathy, compassion, generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.

Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.

Prelude

Partita on "At the River"

HANSON PLACE

Robert Lowry 1826-1899 arr. Jon Spong

Greeting

*Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good!

Many: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: We are redeemed from trouble.

Many: God delivered us from our distress.

One: God gathered us.

Many: Give thanks to God for all God has done for us!

*Hymn

"Christ Is the World's Light"

UMH 188

Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other;
born in our darkness, he became our brother.
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
Glory to God on high!

Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other;
no one can serve him and despise another.
Who else unites us, one in God the Father?
Glory to God on high!

Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other;
sold once for silver, murdered here our brother;
he, who redeems us, reigns with God the Father;
Glory to God on high!

Give God the glory, God and none other;
give God the glory, Spirit, Son, and Father;
give God the glory, God with us, my brother:
Glory to God on high!

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

*Praise Songs

God You're So Good

God you're so good. God you are kind.
God you are wonderful. My God, you are excellent...
Excellent is Thy name. Excellent is Thy might.
God you are wonderful. My God you are excellent...

I Have Joy In My Heart

I have joy in my heart, deep, deep down in my heart...
Jesus gave to me, and no one can destroy it.
I have joy in my heart; deep, deep down in my heart...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

**O merciful God, in compassion for your sinful children
you sent your Son Jesus Christ to be the Savior of the world.
Grant us grace to feel and to lament our share of the evil
that made it necessary for him to suffer and to die for our salvation.
Help us by self-denial, prayer, and meditation
to prepare our hearts for deeper penitence and a better life.
And give us a true longing to be free from sin,
through the deliverance won by Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.**

Children's Conversation

Announcement

Prayers of the People, & the Lord's Prayer

"Spirit of the Living God"

UMH 393

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

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 Offering

Offertory Anthem

Ayeyi Wura – Most High God

James Verrick Armaah

W'ama meniagye, w'ama me ho'a to'm, me nhu nea me nye',
me nhu nea me nka, me'an ka me nse' bi w'ama mase' bi,
A-ye-yi Wurae'! ----A-ye-yi Wurae'! Ye yi W'aye Na ye Ma Wo so!

Translation:

*You have made me happy, you have made me comfortable, I don't know what to do,
I don't know what to say, even though I am nobody, you have made me worthy.
You own our praise! You own our praise! We praise you, Lord, and we lift you high!*

*Doxology

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Passing of Peace

“Shalom”

Mensah Essilfie

God’s peace be unto you,
We wish you Shalom!
The peace of God which transcends all
understanding be with you forevermore.

*Gospel Reading

John 3:14-21

Anthem

God So Loved the World
from *The Crucifixion*

Sir John Stainer 1840-1901

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son,
That whoso believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.
For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world;
But that the world through him might be saved.

Message

*Hymn

“Freely, Freely”

UMH 389

God forgave my sin in Jesus’ name, I’ve been born again in Jesus’ name,
and in Jesus’ name I come to you, to share his love as he told me to.
He said, “Freely, freely you have received, freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live.”

All power is given in Jesus’ name, in earth and heaven in Jesus’ name,
and in Jesus’ name I come to you, to share his power as he told me to.
He said, “Freely, freely you have received, freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live.”

*Benediction

Postlude

Tocatta in E Minor

Johann Pachelbel

Worship Leaders: Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Ronna Davis, Chris Flagg, Chris Kerns, Byungmoo Lee, Debbie O’Driscoll, David Potts, Jennifer Quansah, Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Call to Worship – Psalm 107 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.

Common Prayer – *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 336.

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