

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

March 17, 2024

Fifth 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

Ave Verum

Mozart 1756-1791

Greeting

*Call to Worship

One: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

Many: According to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

One: You desire truth in the inward being.

Many: Therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

One: Create in me a clean heart, O God;

Many: Put a new and right spirit within me.

One: Restore to me the joy of your salvation;

Many: Sustain in me a willing spirit.

*Hymn

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” (x 2)

TFWS 2088

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I’m so glad you’re in my life; I’m so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way,

from the earth to the cross my debt to pay;

from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;

Lord, I lift your name on high.

*Praise Songs

We Will Celebrate Our God

We will celebrate our God!...

Let his banner be raised, let his glory be seen.

We will celebrate our God!...

Unto the Lord Be the Glory

Unto the Lord be the glory. Great things He has done...

Great things He has done. Greater things He will do.

Unto the Lord be the glory. Great things He has done...

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Common Prayer (*unison*)

**O God, teach us temperance and self-control,
that we may live in the Spirit
and be mindful of all that Jesus endured and sacrificed for our sakes,
and how he was made perfect through sufferings.
Help us so to keep the fast that you have chosen,
that we may loose the bonds of wickedness,
undo the heavy burdens, and let the oppressed go free;
through the grace of Christ Jesus our crucified and risen Savior. Amen.**

Children's Conversation

Holy Baptism

Azariah Bema Ansah

PROFESSION of FAITH

...

The pastor addresses the congregation, and the congregation responds:

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this child now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Azariah Bema Ansah with a community of love and forgiveness, that she may grow in her service to others. We will pray for her, that she may be true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Bible.

Do you believe in God the Creator?

I believe in God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, 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 God, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

Members of the household of God, I commend Azariah Ansah to your love and care.

The congregation responds:

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace. **Amen.**

Hymn	"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"	TFWS 2051
	I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold. I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell. When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong. If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun. In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun. When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise. I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old, I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.	

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

Metease yi – As Long As I Live

Sam Asare Bediako

It is by Your grace that I am alive.
 God, You have done a lot for me.
 My Lord, I owe you thanks.
 I will sing and give you adoration.
 Whatever I have belongs to you.
 It is by your Grace that I am still alive.
 My Lord, I owe you thanks.
 I will sing and give you adoration.

*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.

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

*Gospel Reading

John 12:20-33

Anthem

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Jeff Reeves cf. 20th century

Create in me a clean heart, make my spirit right and true.
 Guide me with your wisdom, Lord, as I seek to follow you.
 God of creation and Lord of my life, show me how I can be more like you in all that I do,
 In word and thought and deed.
 Create in me a clean heart, give me strength to trust and obey.
 Call me with your voice of love to the light of your perfect way.
 God of creation and Lord of my life, show me how I can be more like you in all that I do,
 In word and thought and deed.
 Restore in me your joy, the gift of life anew; and then shall my mouth sing songs of praise, for all
 that comes from you.

Message

1. In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I
 2. I heard my moth-er say, I heard my moth-er
 3. Dark mid-night was my cry, dark mid-night was my
 4. Oh, when I come to die, oh, when I come to

unis.

div.

rise, in the morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
 say, I heard my moth-er say, give me Je - sus.
 cry, dark mid-night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
 die, oh, when I come to die, give me Je - sus.

div.

Refrain

Give me Je - sus, give me Je -

sus, you may have all this world, give me Je - sus.

*Benediction

Postlude

Grand Chorus in A Minor

Charles Demorest 1886-1950

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

Call to Worship – Psalm 51 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.

Common Prayer – *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 337.

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