



**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**MARCH 19, 2023**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

Welcome: At Front Street, we follow a rhythm of prayer and worship found in *The United Methodist Hymnal*. *The United Methodist Hymnal* (UMH) is the red, hardbound book found in the pew racks. *The Faith*

*We Sing* (TFWS) is the black, softbound book located behind the UMH in the pew racks. An asterisk (\*) indicates to stand, where able.

The people's responses are printed in **bold**. Before the worship service, we invite you to prepare your hearts to receive God's love and to feel connected to the Body of Christ. Please take a moment to sign the pew pads. After the worship service, green recycling boxes can be found in the narthex for disposal of worship guides.

Thank you for helping us with our creation care.

**ELEVEN O'CLOCK**

**GATHERING AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

**PRELUDE**

**Arabesque No. 1**  
Linda Cykert, flute

Claude Debussy  
(1862-1918)  
arr. Peter Kolman  
(b. 1937)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Jesus calls us saying, 'If you want to follow me, pick up your cross daily and follow.'

**People: And so we've come, leaving our lives behind for this hour.**

Leader: Jesus welcomes us saying, 'Let me take your burdens and lighten your load.'

**People: And so we hand over our worries, doubts, and fears to God.**

Leader: Jesus calls us to leave behind the life we would make for ourselves and receive the life of freedom and joy only God can give.

**All: We are here, trying to give up control, ready to receive the loving care of our Lord Jesus Christ, who we worship today.**

**\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN UMH No. 381**

**Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**    BRADBURY

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Oh You, who answers my prayer, again I petition you to hear me; respond to me. I'm not alone in praying to you. I know there are others in the Psalms and even near me, and yet my prayers are often quiet, solemn, and short.**

**Oh You, who answers the prayers of millions, stir within me a desire to truly cry out to you! Despite your desire to hear my voice, build my desire to make my voice loud and**

**clear in the midst of the masses. And then when I can finally hear my cry to you, open my ears to hear the same cries of all your children. Help me listen to them until I realize my prayer is our prayer.**

**Oh You, who answers the prayers of one people, my sins are too much for me. Forgive our sins. Amen.**

**\* THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**UMH No. 881**

**BAPTISM**

**William Rowan Moore**

**Insert**

**TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES**

All children are invited to come forward to the chancel steps. Children ages 4 – first grade may then depart for Children's Church in Room 309.

**ANTHEM**

**Magnificat**  
Chancel Choir

Benjamin Rogers  
(1614-1698)

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit rejoiceth in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaid. For behold from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him; throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his arm: He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever. 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.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Unstop our ears, God. Help us hear Christ our Lord speaking truth so it will guide our lives and change our hearts. Teach us that we may follow you more faithfully each day. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

**Psalm 143**  
\*Luke 18:35-43

OT Page 579  
NT Page 82

**SERMON**

**MY Christianity**

Rev. Ray Warren

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Thank you for your support of the mission and ministry of the church. If you would prefer to make your contribution via Text-to-Give, just text your offering amount to FSUMC's dedicated number, 336-489-GIVE (4483).

**OFFERTORY**

**Sonata for Flute and Piano** Francis Poulenc  
**II. Cantilena**  
Linda Cykert, flute

(1899-1963)

**\* DOXOLOGY Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD 100<sup>th</sup>**

**All Singing:** 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. Amen. UMH No. 95

**\* CLOSING HYMN UMH No. 128**

**He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought HE LEADETH ME**

**\* BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**Toccata in G Major**

Théodore Dubois  
(1837-1924)

**WELCOME!** We're glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Following this service, there is a gathering in the Heritage Center for fellowship and refreshments. Please join us. Our hosts this week are Phil and Jean Minton.

**TODAY IS UMCOR SUNDAY:** UMCOR supports the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, the denomination's humanitarian relief and development organization. The United Methodist Church can respond quickly through UMCOR with funds to address immediate needs and grants to support long-term recovery. This is only possible with your support. Your gift to UMCOR is an example of extravagant grace. Offering envelopes are provided for your gift.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Nancy Bain Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bain, and Mr. and Mrs. James E. Lewis, Sr. by John Lewis.

**MEMBERS OF THE ALTAR GUILD** serving in March are Nancy Long, Ruth Colville, Louise Cox, Beth Kelley, and Kathy Roberson.

**THE PRAYER REQUEST CARDS** in the pews may be placed in the offering or in the Prayer Request Boxes in the reading area and the narthex area, or you may email the Prayer Ministry Team at [prayer@frontstreetumc.org](mailto:prayer@frontstreetumc.org). We thank team member Nancy Bell, who will be in the Prayer Room on our behalf at noon to pray for requests given on the Prayer Request Cards.

**AT THE TABLE:** be sure to check out and share the latest *At the Table* video premiering Saturday morning at 6:00 a.m. on YouTube and Facebook.