**ECUMENICAL WORSHIP SERVICE**

First United Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

St. John United Church of Christ

February 22, 2023 Ash Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Organist: Jack Jenkins

Rev. Karla Frost Rev. Jennifer Warren Hauser

Large Print Bulletins available from the Greeters.

***Bold Italic denotes congregation reads or sings.***

*\*Denotes all who are able, please stand.*

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PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTSRev. Frost

BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE & CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 Jack Jenkins

CALL TO WORSHIP (Jonah 2:2-9a) Rev. Warren Hauser

 In my distress I called to the Lord,

***And he answered me.***

From the depths of the grave I called for help,

***And you listened to my cry.***

You hurled me into the deep,

 ***Into the very heart of the seas,***

And the currents swirled about me;

 ***All your waves and breakers swept over me.***

I said, “I have been banished from your sight;

 ***Yet I will look again toward your holy temple.”***

The engulfing waters threatened me,

the deep surrounded me;

 ***Seaweed was wrapped around my head.***

To the roots of the mountains I sank down;

 ***The earth beneath barred me in forever.***

-2-

But you brought my life up from the pit,

 ***O Lord my God.***

When my life was ebbing away,

 ***I remembered you, Lord.***

And my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.

***Those who cling to worthless idols***

***forfeit the grace that could be theirs.***

But I, with a song of thanksgiving,

 ***Will sacrifice to you.***

UNISON PRAYER OF APPROACH1 Rev. Warren Hauser

 ***Creating God, still Center of the world you have made, we come to you in this season of turning and returning. We do not know how to seek you with our whole heart, but we know you are our source and our destiny. In the midst of life, we return to you, we turn toward you. We thank you that you receive even the broken heart, the troubled conscience, the conflicted spirit. Seeking you in secret, may we turn around to honor you among humanity; through Jesus Christ, our path homeward to you. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*** #261

\*LITANY OF CONFESSION & PARDON Rev. Warren Hauser

God says: “Return to me with all your hearts, with fasting, with weeping, and with sorrow; tear your hearts and not your clothing.” Let us break open our hearts through confession:

***Have mercy on me, O God,***

***according to your steadfast love;***

According to your abundant mercy

 blot out my transgressions.

***Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,***

***and cleanse me from my sin.***

 For I know my transgressions,

 and my sin is ever before me.

 ***Hide your face from my sins,***

 ***and blot out all my iniquities.***

-3-

 Create in me a clean heart, O God,

 and put a new and right spirit within me.

 ***Restore to me the joy of your salvation,***

 ***and sustain in me a willing spirit.***

Scripture tells us: “Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.” Therefore, our sins are forgiven and we are restored to the joy of salvation.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

 Invitation Rev. Frost

 Participation Rev. Warren Hauser

(If able, please come forward using the center aisle, and return to the pews using the outer aisles. Ashes will also be brought to those in the pews. They may be placed on the forehead or on the back of one’s hand.)

ANTHEM *“Create in Me a Clean Heart”* United Choir

 Jack Jenkins, Accompanist

GOSPEL READING Matthew 16:13-16, 21-26

 Rev. Warren Hauser

SERMON Rev. Warren Hauser

\*HYMN ***“I Surrender All”*** #474

PRAYER & SUNG RESPONSE BY ALL Rev. Warren Hauser

 ***“The Lord’s Prayer”***  (1 amen) #740

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS Rev. Frost

OFFERTORY  Jack Jenkins

\*RESPONSE ***“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”*** Vs. 3 #255

***I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place;***

***I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face, content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,***

***my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.***

-4-

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rev. Frost

 ***We pass these offerings from our hands into yours, O God, praying that you will bless their use for the life-***

***shaping work of the Good Samaritan House. May our sacrifices reflect our commitment to faithful discipleship, in Jesus’ name. Amen.***

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(The elements will be served in the pews after the communion prayer. Please open the bread when directed, and the cup when directed. Please hold each element so we may partake together.)

INVITATION Rev. Frost

COMMUNION PRAYER2 Rev. Frost

 God be with you.

 ***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

 ***We lift them to God.***

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

 ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

(Pastor’s words) Holy God……..With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name, saying:

***Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty,***

***the whole universe speaks of your glory,***

***O God Most High.***

Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and cup, and bless us that as we receive them we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things.

***In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.***

REMEMBRANCE WITH THE BREAD AND CUP Rev. Frost

SERVING AND PARTAKING Rev. Frost

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(Gluten-free hosts will be brought to those who request them when asked by Rev. Frost to raise their hand.)

\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Rev. Warren Hauser

 ***We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ’s gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”*** Insert

\*BENEDICTION Rev. Frost

\*POSTLUDE  Jack Jenkins

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Welcome to Ash Wednesday worship. We enter the season of Lent today repenting of our sins, trusting in God’s grace through Jesus Christ, and eager to grow in the Holy Spirit as we journey toward Easter.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes are offered to all who choose to participate.

Thank you to Jack Jenkins for accompanying the combined choir this evening and to all our musicians.

The offering tonight will be given to Good Samaritan House for the compassionate ministry they do.

Following the service everyone is invited to enjoy refreshments in the lower level Fellowship Hall.

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2023 Wednesday Noon Lenten Schedule

March 1 Rooted Community Church

 2101 Cleveland Blvd.

March 8 Trinity United Methodist Church

 2542 E. 25th St.

March 15 St. John United Church of Christ

 2901 Nameoki Rd.

March 22 First United Presbyterian Church

 2160 Delmar Ave.

March 29 Unity Baptist Church

 2500 St. Clair Ave.

April 5 Nameoki United Methodist Church

 1900 Pontoon Rd.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Matthew 16:13-16, 21-26**

**13**Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” **14**And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” **15**He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” **16**Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

**21**From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. **22**And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” **23**But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+16%3A21-26&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-23696a)] to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” **24**Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. **25**For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. **26**For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

***“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”***

***When I survey the wondrous cross***

***On which the Prince of glory died,***

***My richest gain I count but loss,***

***And pour contempt on all my pride.***

***Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,***

***Save in the death of Christ, my God;***

***All the vain things that charm me most,***

***I sacrifice them to his blood.***

***See, from his head, his hands, his feet,***

***Sorrow and love flow mingled down.***

***Did e’er such love and sorrow meet,***

***Or thorns compose so rich a crown?***

***Were the whole realm of nature mine,***

***That were an offering far too small;***

***Love so amazing, so divine,***

***Demands my soul, my life, my all.***

***“I Surrender All”***

***All to Jesus I surrender,***

***All to him I freely give;***

***I will ever love and trust him,***

***In his presence daily live.***

***I surrender all, I surrender all,***

***I surrender all, I surrender all,***

***All to thee my blessed Savior,***

***I surrender all.***

***All to Jesus I surrender,***

***Humbly at his feet I bow,***

***Worldly pleasures all forsaken:***

***Take me, Jesus, take me now.***

***I surrender all, I surrender all,***

***I surrender all, I surrender all,***

***All to thee my blessed Savior,***

***I surrender all.***

***All to Jesus I surrender,***

***Make me, Savior, wholly thine;***

***May thy Holy Spirit fill me,***

***May I know thy power divine.***

***I surrender all, I surrender all,***

***I surrender all, I surrender all,***

***All to thee my blessed Savior,***

***I surrender all.***

***All to Jesus I surrender,***

***Lord, I give myself to thee;***

***Fill me with thy love and power,***

***Let thy blessing fall on me.***

***I surrender all, I surrender all,***

***I surrender all, I surrender all,***

***All to thee my blessed Savior,***

***I surrender all.***

***“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 debts,***

***As we forgive our debtors.***

***And lead us not into temptation***

***But deliver us from evil:***

***For thine is the kingdom,***

***And the power,***

***And the glory, forever,***

***Amen.***

***“Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days”***

***Lord, who throughout these forty days***

***For us did fast and pray,***

***Teach us with you to mourn our sins***

***And close by you to stay.***

***As you with Satan did contend***

***And did the victory win,***

***O give us strength to persevere,***

***In you to conquer sin.***

***And through these days of penitence,***

***And through this Passion-tide,***

***Yes, evermore, in life and death,***

***O Lord, with us abide.***

***Abide with us, till when this life***

***Of suffering shall be past,***

***An Easter of unending joy***

***We may attain at last.***