



CENTRAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday in Lent (Purple)

Prayer Focus: BEDS Ministry

Welcome to worship at Central!

In the name of Jesus Christ, welcome to worship at Central where it is our mission to follow Jesus by loving God and loving our neighbors. I, along with the rest of our clergy team, Rev. Ann Kovan and Rev. Meg Jiunnies, are grateful you've chosen to make Central a part of your day today. We have prayed for you and planned for you, and hope you have a meaningful worship experience. Whether it's your first time worshipping with us or you're a lifelong member, we welcome any opportunity to speak with you about how to connect with God through Central. If it is your first time worshipping with us, please fill out a connect card and bring it to the Welcome Center where you will receive a gift from the church. Please do not hesitate to reach out to one of us this week if we can be of service. Once again, welcome!

Rev. Thomas W. Smith,
Senior Pastor

Midweek Lenten Service

Join us this Wednesday at 12:00 PM in the Sanctuary for a Lenten Service with guest speaker Rev. Nichole Middleton, Chaplain of the Federal Correctional Institution in Williamsburg. Prior to the service, a brief service of Holy Communion will take place at 11:30 AM in the Ingram Chapel. Lunch will be served in Spears Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. The cost is \$7.00 per person if you register and pay in advance and \$8.00 if you pay at the door.

Flowers in The Commons

The flowers in The Commons are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gary W. Crawford and Wade H. Crawford by Becky, Mary Beth, and Shelly.

Music Note

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958) was an English composer of symphonies, chamber music, opera, choral music, and film scores. He also collected English folk music and song; this collecting activity influenced both his editorial approach to the *English Hymnal*, in which he included many folk song arrangements as hymn tunes, and several of his own original compositions. His music will be heard throughout the service today. His hymn tune KING'S WESTON paired with the text At the Name of Jesus (UMH 168) will be sung as the opening processional hymn. The same tune also forms the basis of the opening voluntary. His organ setting of the hymn tune RHOSYMEDRE will be played at the offertory.

Order of Worship

GATHERING

The People Come Together in the Lord's Name

PARISH CONCERNS

(The service of worship begins. The prelude is offered on behalf of the entire congregation. Quiet meditation and private prayer are encouraged.)

OPENING VOLUNTARY Robert Powell
Hymn Prelude on "KING'S WESTON" (At the Name of Jesus)

*CHIMING OF THE HOUR

*(*All who are able are asked to stand.)*

*GREETING

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God

People: And renew a right spirit within us.

Leader: Give to us wisdom in our secret heart

People: that we may be filled with joy and gladness.

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 168 KING'S WESTON
At the Name of Jesus

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 880 The Nicene Creed

*GLORIA PATRI 71 GREATOREX
Glory Be to the Father

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(All offer prayers of confession in silence.)

KYRIE ELEISON (*Lord, Have Mercy*) (*sung three times*) TAIZÉ KYRIE



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

PROCLAMATION

God's Word is Shared

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Jeremiah 31:31-34

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM Harold Friedell
Jesus, So Lowly

Jesus, so lowly, child of the earth: christen me wholly, bring me new birth. Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad; teach me that only love maketh glad. Jesus, so broken, silent and pale; be this the token, love will not fail. Jesus, victorious, mighty and free; teach me how glorious death is to be.

EPISTLE LESSON Hebrews 5:5-10

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

*ACT OF PRAISE 785 (R2) Psalm 51:1-17

CHILDREN'S TIME

(Children are invited to the chancel. An offering will be received from the children during Children's Time. After Children's Time, children ages 2nd grade and older will return to their seats and children ages 3K to 1st grade will go with a leader and may be picked up in room #145 or #147 after the service.)

*HYMN 593 HERE, I AM LORD

Here I Am, Lord

*GOSPEL LESSON John 12:20-33

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON Rev. Ann Kovan

*Whoever Serves
Series: Depths of Love*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONDING IN FAITH **We Respond to God's Word in Worship**

OFFERTORY Ralph Vaughan Williams
Hymn Prelude on "RHOSYMEDRE" (My Song Is Love Unknown)

*DOXOLOGY 95 OLD 100th
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING FORTH **We Respond to God's Grace with Our Lives**

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 297 ST. CHRISTOPHER
Beneath the Cross of Jesus

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Assisting in Worship

- Preacher Rev. Ann Kovan
- Liturgist Rev. Meg Bryce Jiunnies
- Children's Time Brandie Love
- Organist/Choir Director Dr. Don Grice
- Organist/Choir Accompanist Beverly Hazelwood
- Lay Readers Beth Ann Owen, Bob Wells
- Acolyte Libby Ballenger
- Crucifer Luke Arthur
- Chancel Choir

IN MEMORY OF

BEDS MINISTRY

John Orr by Laura Lee & Art Justice, Mincy & Jim Peterson

DISCRETIONARY FUND

Nell Starks, John Orr, Betty Searcy, Mike Ballenger by Beth & Stewart Jones

ENDOWMENT FUND

Betty Searcy by Pearl Jones/Rosa Sanders Circle

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Betty Searcy by Jane Ames, James Ard, Elting Chapman, Paul Davis, Nancy Haithcock,

..... Alice & Webb Jones, Quinnie Jones, Donna Kellahan, Janet Lewis,

..... Daniel Lott, Ansley McGinnis, Cheney Meiere Jr., Louis Runge, Martha Tyson,

..... Patricia Vassey, Kimberly & Jay Dowd, Rebecca Smith, Adriane & John Reynolds

Mike Ballenger by David Duncan, Mincy & Jim Peterson, Peggy Porter

Nell Starks by Florie Ervin, Clarissa White

John Orr by Lura & Britt Marsh

Gloria Brown by James Thomy

John Orr, Nell Starks, Mike Ballenger by Katri & Gilliam Skinner

HANDBELL MINISTRY

Nell Starks by Gloria Nalley

MUSIC MINISTRY

Betty Searcy by Nancy & Carroll Player

PRAYER GARDEN

Betty Searcy by Sue & Bryan Hensley

YOUTH MINISTRY

Curt Ham by Florie Ervin

Betty Searcy by Pearl Jones/Rosa Sanders Circle, Mincy & Jim Peterson

Betty Searcy by Katri & Gilliam Skinner

IN HONOR OF

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Ann Kovan by Carolyn & Joe Younginer

HELP4KIDS

Reamer & Betty Gail King by Anonymous

SPECIAL GIFTS

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY by Anna Reaves Yarborough

COSTA RICA MISSION by Wesley United Fellowship Sunday School Class

DISCRETIONARY FUND & YOUTH MINISTRY by Kriste & Chuck Lindler

SCOUTING SCHOLARSHIP by Wayne Grantham

2024 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

2024 General Operating Budget

Approved Budget for 2024 \$2,318,729.52

Received Week of 03-10-2024 \$16,120.00

Received YTD \$377,917.13

2024 Capital Building Fund

Received Week of 03-10-2024 \$205.00

Received YTD \$6,573.50

2024 Special Gifts

Received Week of 03-10-2024 \$270.05

Received YTD \$13,950.19

2024 Endowment Gifts

Received YTD \$565.00

ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR MARCH 10, 2024

Sanctuary Service 192

The Well Service 109

Service of Prayer & Holy Communion 13

Lenten Service 45

Children's Sunday School 16

Adult Sunday School 107

UMYF 20