

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 22, 2023 – 10:55 A.M.

*Please stand as you are able

ENTRANCE

MEDITATIVE MUSIC Jeanne Banks, Pianist
ANNOUNCEMENTS Jack Watts
CHIMING THE HOUR
OPENING VOLUNTARY *Selections from Water Music—Handel* Lynn Meeks, Organist
ACOLYTE MINISTRY

GREETING

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Bill Cooper, Liturgist
L: Lord, you establish in us a desire to learn, to gain wisdom, and to grow.
P: Enlarge that desire today.
L: We need to know you, not just know more about you.
P: Draw us nearer this day to you.
L: As we worship, as we learn, as we sing, as we keep silence,
P: Make this time dedicated to your glory. Amen!

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *A Charge to Keep I Have* No. 413

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' Creed* No. 881

INVITATION TO THE CHILDREN *Where Children Belong* TFWS No. 2233
This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

CHILDREN'S TIME Rebecca Dillon
(Afterwards, children in preschool through 2nd grade may go to Children's Church.)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE LESSON Esther 4:14 Old Testament pg. 425
Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God!

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER Bobby Thompson

SERMON *Are We Ready For "Such a Time as This?"*
Dr. Mirta Martin, Ferrum College Interim President

OFFERTORY *Allegretto—Handel*
(Please tear off the pew pad attendance sheet and place in the offering plate.)

***THE DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 94
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,
Whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

ANTHEM *Here I Am, Lord—Schrader* Chancel Choir

PRAYER REQUESTS

CALL TO PRAYER *Cares Chorus* TFWS No. 2215
I cast all my cares upon you, I lay all of my burdens down at your feet,
and anytime that I don't know what to do, I will cast all my cares upon you.

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 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.

SENDING FORTH

***CLOSING HYMN** *We Are Called* TFWS No. 2172

***THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY**

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *As We Go*
As we go, may your spirit go before us. As we go, may we follow where you lead.
May we live what we have learned, share the message we have heard,
and be a light unto the world, as we go.

***GOING FORTH**

***POSTLUDE** Mrs. Meeks

CCLI License Number 2745989

Serving Today:

Liturgist: Bill Cooper

Greeters: Tim and Sandra Funk

Acolyte: Miles Gibson

Usher: Conrad Lavinder

Children's Church: Linda Handy

Nursery: Avery Tosh

Counters: Linda Handy, Charlotte Hill

Serving Next Week (January 29):

Liturgist: Greg Dunlap

Greeter: Jane Turner

Acolyte: Crosby Eitner

Usher: Mike Turner

Children's Church: Jane Roseberry

Nursery: Heather Quinn

Counters: Cindy Smith, Glenda Thompson, Dan Walters

Prayer Concerns:

Our country, our church and those serving in our armed forces; People of Ukraine; Jack Dillon; Jason Lavinder; Hazel Henderson; Peggie Foster; Kathleen Higgins; Lillie Hatchett; Jerry Davis; Barbara Huffman; Lynn Cooper; Anna Campbell; Betty Dillon; CO Brickey; Dick Shoemaker; Jennifer Cooper; John Cooper; Arnold Dillon, Sr.; Paul and Barbara Scaffaci (Nancy Middaugh); Don Angle (Steve Angle); Cheryl Peck (Sandra Funk); Janis Odom (DJ Pritchard); Becky Bennett (Jennie Ardis); Mike Shea (Enna Roseberry); Debbie Ford (Ben Whitesell); and Dennis Holland (Cyndee Holland).

Forget-Me-Nots:

Eleanor Woody

**Will Waller, Pastor
Lynn M. Meeks, Director of Music/Diaconal Minister
Jeanne Banks, Pianist
Valerie Latimer, Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Ardis, Nursery Attendant
Rebecca Dillon, Children's Church Coordinator
Brad Hodges, Custodian**

Meetings and Announcements:

- **Monday, January 23** 7:00 p.m., Boy Scouts
- **Tuesday, January 24** **Serve lunch at Stepping Stone Soup Kitchen**
12:00 p.m., Sunshine Girls will meet at Ippy's for lunch
7:00 p.m., Church Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Jubilant Ringers
- **Wednesday, January 25** 5:00 p.m., Wonderful Wednesday
7:00 p.m., Chancel Choir
- **Thursday, January 26** **Serve lunch at Stepping Stone Soup Kitchen**
5:00 p.m., New Member Class
6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts
- **Next Sunday, January 29** 10:00 a.m., Small Groups
10:55 a.m., Worship
5:00 p.m., Youth serving food at the Warming Shelter of Franklin County
- **Sunday, February 5** **Following Worship, "Share the Love" Potluck**
- **Monday, February 6** 11:00 a.m., United Women in Faith Meeting

Assistive listening devices are available outside the sanctuary.

There will be an open new member class on January 26 at 5:00 p.m. in the office (2nd floor). If you have been considering joining the church and would like to know more about the church, please attend that evening.

Join RMUMC for a potluck lunch on Sunday, February 5 after worship in the church fellowship hall to "share the love" with church members, families, and friends. We will celebrate LOVE and just have lots of FUN! Bring all your family and friends and a potluck dish to share.

The Franklin County Office of Aging is holding its seventh annual "Soup for Seniors" non-perishable food collection during the month of January and will end the first week in February. The food items needed for the elderly include low sodium soups, crackers, canned meat, and peanut butter. Please no glass containers or expired items. Your items can be put in the plastic bin in the Narthex or you may take the donations directly to the Office of Aging, Essig Center, 295 Technology Drive. Thank you so much for helping to end senior hunger in our community!

Copies are available of the 2023 officers, outside of the sanctuary, in the narthex.

We are collecting rice and cereal for Heavenly Manna this month. Please put your donations in the barrel located in the narthex. Thank You!

Please join us on January 29 after church at 12:30 p.m. for a reception for Jack Collins' 90th birthday on February 4. No gifts please. – Martha Collins & Family

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