

# **Heritage United Methodist Church**

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Welcome to worship at Heritage United Methodist Church.

We invite you to worship, grow & serve with us to see transformed lives reflecting the love of Christ!

#### Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Maria Campbell

Song of Praise

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days v 1,4,5

#269 UMH

## **Opening Prayer**

God, you are our deliverer. As you led your people through the wilderness, lead us. Guide us, the people of your Church, so that we may walk through the wilderness of our world. Teach us the way to be faithful followers of Jesus. Open our hearts and cleanse our spirits so that we are free to serve you. AMEN.

Scripture Joel 2:12-17

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

Amazing Grace My Chains are Gone

#### Preparation for Lent

Anthem

At Your Feet, Surrender (Fielding, Bremnes, Cash, Langridge, Cash)

Jacob Eppel

**Epistle Reading** 

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

# 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.

Hymn

Change My Heart, O God

#2152 TFWS

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on

your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

#### Meditation

Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance

Litany of the Ashes

Thanksgiving Over the Ashes

Imposition of the Ashes

Hymn Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes v 1,2,3 #2138 TFWS

Holy Communion

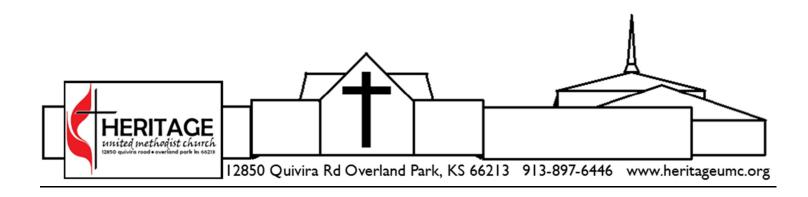
Hymn Grace Alone #2162 TFWS

Blessing

Postlude

All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure." -1 John 3:3

Senior Pastor, Rev. Maria Campbell Worship Song Leader—Jacob Eppel Pianist—Jenny Memmott Organist—Margaret Cinotto Liturgist—Rod Gerdes



### Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days v 1,4,5

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray, teach us with thee to mourn our sins and close by thee to stay.

And through these days of penitence, and through thy passiontide, yea, evermore in life and death, Jesus, with us abide.

Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering over past, an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

### Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me I once was lost but now I'm found Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow The sun forbear to shine But God who called me here below

Will be forever mine Will be forever mine You are forever mine

# Change My Heart, O God

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you. You are the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

### Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes

Sunday's palms are Wednesday's ashes as another Lent begins; thus we kneel before our Maker in contrition for our sins. We have marred baptismal pledges, in rebellion gone astray; now, returning, seek forgiveness; grant us pardon, God, this day!

We have failed to love our neighbors, their offences to forgive, have not listened to their troubles, nor have cared just how they live, we are jealous, proud, impatient, loving overmuch our things; may the yielding of our failings be our Lenten offerings.

We are hasty to judge others, blind to proof of human need; and our lack of understanding demonstrates our inner greed; we have wasted earth's resources; want and suffering we've ignored; come and cleanse us, then restore us; make new hearts within us, Lord!

#### Grace Alone

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith, every difference we will make is only by his grace. Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine, every blessing left behind is only by his grace.

Refrain – Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide. Christ in us our Cornerstone; we will go forth in grace alone.

Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach, everywhere we share his peace is only by his grace. Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away, every sorrow turned to praise is only by his grace.

Refrain – Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide. Christ in us our Cornerstone; we will go forth in grace alone.