

WESLEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Order of Worship **Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

January 29, 2023

7:30 am

Welcome

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson, Senior Pastor

Call to Worship

Rev. Sandra McNiel, Lector

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

ST. PETER

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!

It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast;

'Tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary, rest.

Jesus, my Savior, shepherd, friend, My prophet, priest, and king,

My Lord, my life, my way my end, Accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart, and cold my warmest thought;

But when I see thee as thou art, I'll praise thee as I ought.

Till then I would thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath;

and may the music of thy name refresh my soul in death. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Romans 6:1-16

Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ

was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus. Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace. Well then, since God's grace has set us free from the law, does that mean we can go on sinning? Of course not! Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living.

This is the Word of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Reverend Clark Chilton

"Faith & Works, Grace & the Law: whom to obey?"

Solo

How Can I Keep from Singing

American Folksong/arr. Richard Walters

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation. I hear the real, though far off hymn that hails a new creation. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging. It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest round me rears, I know the truth, it liveth. What though the darkness round me close, songs in the night it giveth. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging. Since love is lord of Heaven and earth, How can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble, sick with fear and hear their death knells ringing: When friends rejoice both far and near, How can I keep from singing?

In prison cell and dungeon vile our thoughts to them are winging? When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing? No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging. It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from

singing?

Dismissal and Blessing

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson

Closing Voluntary

Grand Choeur Dialogué

Eugène Gigout

Participating Today

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson, Senior Pastor

Reverend Sandra McNeil, Lector

Reverend Clark Chilton, Associate Pastor of Contemporary Worship and Evangelism

Mr. Walker Brown, Tenor Soloist

Mr. Chris Massey, Audio Video Technician

Mr. Frank Pifferetti, Director of Traditional Music Ministries and Organist

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