

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & PARDON

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.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

COMMUNION LITURGY & RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS

*HYMN OF INVITATION

THE GIFT OF LOVE

#408, v. 1 & 2

WORDS BY HAL HOPSON

MUSIC FROM A TRADITIONAL ENGLISH MELODY

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1. Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
2. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING FORTH

SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING

#664

WORDS BY OMER WESTENDORF

MUSIC BY LELAND SATEREN

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1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe. The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.
2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face. Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children of each tribe and race. With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

POSTLUDE

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

CHARLES WESLEY & JOHN ZUNDEL



“What’s Holding You Back?”

John 3:1-17

March 5, 2023
Communion Sunday Worship Service
Sanctuary & Online
10:00 AM



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Central to DeRidder, Centered in Christ
Our Mission is to Grow and Serve in Christ

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE
GLORY TO THE KING
TOM McLAIN

WELCOME HOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP
EL SHADDAI
MICHAEL CARD & JOHN THOMPSON

***CALL TO WORSHIP - FRANCES COLE**

Leader: Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the Lord!

Congregation: God has blessed us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord.

**The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

GOD, WHO STRETCHED THE SPANGLED HEAVENS

#150
WORDS BY CATHERINE CAMERON
MUSIC BY WILLIAM MOORE
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1. God, who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place, flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space, we your children, in your likeness, share inventive powers with you. Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.
2. Proudly rise our modern cities, stately buildings, row on row; yet their windows, blank, unfeeling, stare on canyoned streets below, where the lonely drift unnoticed in the city's ebb and flow, lost to purpose and to meaning, scarcely caring where they go.
3. We have ventured worlds undreamed of since the childhood of our race; known the ecstasy of winging through untraveled realms of space; probed the secrets of the atom, yielding unimagined power, facing us with life's destruction or our most triumphant hour.
4. As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew, children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you. May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun. Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - FRANCES COLE**

**Congregation: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

SHARING OF OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER *MUST JESUS BEAR THE CROSS ALONE*

#424
WORDS BY THOMAS SHEPHERD & OTHERS
MUSIC BY GEORGE N. ALLEN
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1. Must Jesus bear the cross alone, and all the world go free? No, there's a cross for everyone, and there's a cross for me.
2. How happy are the saints above, who once went sorrowing here! But now they taste unmingled love, and joy without a tear.
3. The consecrated cross I'll bear till death shall set me free; and then go home my crown to wear, for there's a crown for me.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING PRAYER & RETURN OF GOD'S TITHES & GIFTS

***DOXOLOGY**

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

#94
WORDS BY THOMAS KEN
MUSIC FROM *GEISTLICHE KIRCHENGESANGE*
ARR. BY RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
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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!

HYMN OF FAITH *IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY*

#295
WORDS BY JOHN BOWRING
MUSIC BY ITHAMAR CONKEY
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1. In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.
2. When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy, never shall the cross forsake me. Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
3. When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way, from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.
4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified; peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.
5. In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

SCRIPTURE READING - GAYLE BAILEY JOHN 3:1-17

SERMON "WHAT'S HOLDING YOU BACK?" REV. LARAIN WAUGHTAL

ANTHEM
MERCY
WILLIAM BYRD & HENRY PURCELL
ARR. BY HAL HOPSON