

St. Timothys United Methodist Church
3220 Terrace Drive
319-266-0464
<http://www.sttims-umc.org/>



March 22, 2009 – 10:15 am
Fourth Sunday in Lent

(Large print bulletins and hymnals and hearing aid devices are available. A nursery is provided for children younger than First Grade. Ask an usher to help you.)

Gathering

Prelude

"God's Love is Forever"

Koury

(We invite you to use the prelude as a time for centering on God, the Holy, the Spirit, the Living Jesus. Please be considerate of others for whom this is a quiet time.)

Greeting and Welcome

Call to Worship

Responsively

Leader: This is the gathering place of God and all God's people. Give thanks to God for God is good.

All: God's steadfast love endures for all time.

L: Come, all who need justice,

All: God weaves in us the path of life.

L: Come, all who need peace,

All: God weaves in us the way of truth.

L: Come, all who need comfort,

All: God weaves in us a sure hope.

L: Come, all who need healing,

All: God weaves in us the promise of wholeness.

L: Come, all who need community,

All: God weaves in us the love of Christ.

L: Come, all who need God,

All: God weaves in us the heart of the Divine.

***Opening Hymn**

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

Red hymnal, 185

Unison Prayer

May this be a place to celebrate your presence. May we tell stories of your finding us when we are at our lowest, of your reaching us when we feel excluded, of your holding us when everyone else has let go, of your bringing us in when we feel apart, of your touching us when we feel broken, of your calling us when we feel unworthy. May this be a place to celebrate your presence, and show the world your steadfast love for all. Amen.

Praying

Call to Prayer "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" Black hymnal, 2200

Sharing Joys and Concerns

(After each joy or concern, we sing, "**O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.**")

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (sing responsively) Black hymnal, 2278

***Passing the Peace**

Listening to the Word

The Scripture Song "Come, Let Us with Our Lord Arise" Black hymnal, 2084

The Christian Gospel John 3:1-21 Pew Bible, 93

Anthem Piano/Organ Duet
"Morecambe (Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart)" – Atkinson/arr. Carter

Sermon "Light for the Journey" Dick Clark

Sermon Response "Lead Me, Guide Me" Black hymnal, 2214

Responding to the Word

Announcements and Opportunities

Offertory Sentence

Liturgist

In his book, *Running to Paradise*, R. Maurice Boyd tells of a sign which he noticed in a nursery one day. It read, "The best time to plant a tree was twenty-five years ago. The second best time is today." The best time to have said "yes" to God's voice was the first time we heard that voice. The second best time is today.

Offertory "Lenten Song" Eliot

***Dedication Song** "Seek Ye First" Red hymnal, 405

***Prayer of Dedication** Unison

O God, you bless us with gifts beyond measure, and now you give us this opportunity to thank you. Bless our giving of these offerings so that we may dedicate our whole selves to you to be your servants in the Church and in the world. In Jesus' name, amen.

Going Forth

***Closing Song** "What Wondrous Love Is This" Red hymnal, 292

***Blessing**

***Blessing** "Lead Me, Guide Me" Black hymnal, 2214

*"Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me."*

***Postlude** "I Stand Amazed in the Presence" Jordan

* = The Congregation is invited to stand
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