



Celebrating 155 Years 1868 - 2023

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March 5, 2023

MARCH

I don't know if the groundhog saw his shadow or not, but I am enjoying this early Spring, even if it makes it a little hard to stay focused on the cold, gray introspective days of Lent. With all the flowers blooming and trees sprouting new green growth, it is important spiritually not to run ahead too quickly to resurrection thinking. There is no resurrection without dying, no true joy without sadness, no true thankfulness without lack or suffering. Lent is a constant reminder that following Jesus is first an act of descending, of giving up, of sacrifice and self-giving. It is about letting go, losing our lives, and surrendering ourselves to God. As Paul put it so powerfully in his letter to the Philippians,

"3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross."

This is the season of giving up things, but more than things, giving up ourselves, our need to be right, to win, to have, to prove. It is the season of fasting, but not just food or sweets or alcohol, but attitudes and overfilled schedules that leave little time for quiet listening for the voice of God searching and shaping our hearts.

As much as I love Spring, warm weather, azaleas, March Madness, the Players Championship (but not St. Patrick's Day, sorry y'all!), I need to hold on to Lent. It's a long way yet to Jerusalem and Jesus has a lot to say to us on the way to dying in order to live.

Ben

MORNING WORSHIP
SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023
8:45 & 11:00 A.M.
Second Sunday in Lent

Welcome and Announcements Ben Martin

*Welcome to worship. Thank you for joining us. **Please remember to silence your cell phones and refrain from flash photography during the service.** We pray this hour will be a meaningful and grace-filled encounter with God through music, word, and fellowship. If needed, hearing devices and large print hymnals are available in the Narthex.*

Nursery & Children's Worship: *If needed, the nursery for infants to 3 years old is located on the first floor, and Children's Worship for ages 3 to 3rd grade is located on the second floor.*

Chiming of the Hour (11:00) Benjamin Simpson

Lighting of the Candles (11:00) The Acolytes

Introit (11:00) Prayer of Thanksgiving arr. Singenberger

* **Hymn** (insert) The Heavens George Wilson

* **Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed Jennifer Thompson

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.

* **Gloria Patri** GREATOREX

(Dismissal for Children's Worship)

8:45 Children ages 3 - 3rd grade line up at the door on the right side of the sanctuary to go to Children's Worship on the second floor. Following the service, they can be picked up on the second floor.

11:00 Children ages 3 - 3rd grade leave through the doors at the front of the sanctuary and go to Children's Worship on the second floor. Following the service, they can be picked up from the Fellowship Hall.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer Jennifer Thompson

* **Scripture Lesson** (Pew Bible, pgs. 2-3) Genesis 3

Sermon "It's Not Supposed to Be This Way Part 2:
Where It All Went Wrong" Ben Martin

Holy Communion

Invitation and Confession

Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love Him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

All: 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.

All pray in silence.

Pastor: 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!

Congregation: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Jennifer Thompson

Offertory Voluntary (8:45)

arr. Michele Murray

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Anthem (11:00)

Soon Ah Will Be Done

William Dawson

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

During the 11:00 a.m. service, please remove the attendance sheets from the book and give to the acolytes as a symbolic offering of our presence in worship.

To tithe, text wesleymmc to 77977 or place your offering in the offering plate. Online giving is also available on our website.

* Doxology No. 95

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

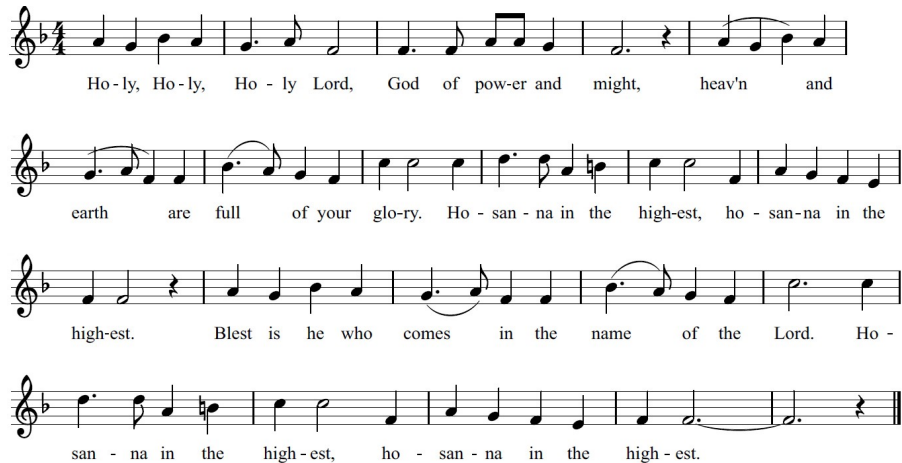
Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to our Lord and God.

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth...

And so, with Your people on earth, and all the company of heaven
we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n and
earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho - san-na in the
high-est. Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy are You, and blessed is Your Son Jesus Christ...

On the night in which He gave himself up for us, He took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to His disciples,
and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over He took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



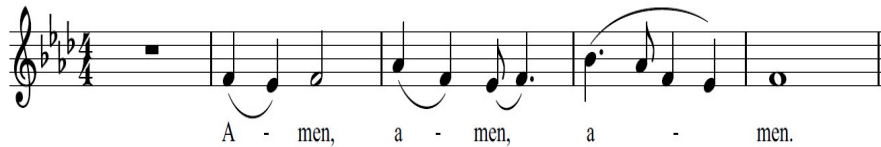
Christ has died; Christ is ri - sen; Christ will come a - gain.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
That we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by His blood.

By Your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we feast at His heavenly banquet.

Through Your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in Your holy church,
All honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.



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 that 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; For ever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread

(Gluten free bread is available. Please indicate your preference by raising your hand.)

Giving the Bread and Cup

We will take communion at the rail. If you prefer taking communion in your pew, prefilled communion cups are available. Please raise your hand and an usher or staff member will bring one to you. Following the service, please place your cup in the trash receptacle located in the Narthex.

Today's communion offering is designated for Wesley Glen Ministries. If you would like to give a donation, please place your offering in the chancel rail when you come to be served.

Prayer After Receiving

All: Eternal God, we give You thanks for this holy mystery
 in which You have given Yourself to us.
 Grant that we may go into the world
 in the strength of Your Spirit,
 to give ourselves for others,
 in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

* **Hymn** No. 301 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross NEAR THE CROSS
 (Stanza Two)

* **Benediction** Ben Martin

Closing Response (11:00) arr. Singenberger
 Prayer of Thanksgiving

Closing Voluntary Lift High the Cross arr. Carolyn Hamlin

* *Please stand as you are able.
 Following the service, please take your bulletins, masks, and all belongings with you.
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Altar Flowers

The flowers by the altar today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my grandmother, Ada Cordes McCrum, and in honor of my mother, Catherine McCrum Lightsey, by Margaret Stanley.

Lilies & Caladiums for Easter Sunday

Lilies and Caladiums will be placed around the altar to the glory of God on Easter Sunday, April 9. You may order plants in memory or in honor of loved ones for \$15.50 per plant. Orders must be received in the church office by Monday, March 27. Order forms may be found at all sanctuary entrances or you can order and pay online.

Grocery Item Needed This Week

Please place donations of peanut butter in marked boxes located in Oliver Hall.

Family Mission Project

Next Sunday, March 12 at 12:15 p.m. Bring a shovel, rake, post-hole digger, and a change of clothes. We'll have lunch in the Fellowship Hall and then go to the Tiny Houses for homeless veterans to plant and to spread gravel. All ages are welcome. Please sign up in advance with Nelle, tbordeaux@prodigy.net.

March Merry Makers

Come join us at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall next Monday, March 13 to hear Ken Rimes tell us about his unique adventure with the Sons of Jubal Men's Chorus and their performance in the Pyongyang Concert Hall in North Korea. He will tell us about their experiences and show us pictures of North Korea. Suzanna will have a yummy lunch for us as well! Please contact Jennifer Baker in the church office at bakerj@wesleymonumental.org or 912-232-0191, or email Jennifer Thompson at jennifert@wesleymonumental.org by this Friday, March 10 to make reservations. The cost for lunch is \$7.

Honduras Mission Trip Report

Wednesday, March 29 from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Learn about the recent mission trip to Santa Elena, Honduras, from nine church members who led a Bible school and also built two homes in three days!

Finances: (02-26-23)

Total Budget for the Year \$2,083,655.68
Actual Revenues Year-to-Date \$413,072.46
Actual Expenses Year-to-Date..... \$339,632.26

St. Patrick's Day

Our annual St. Patrick's Day Pancake Breakfast (to raise money for youth trips and missions) is coming up soon! You can help by donating pancake mix, bacon, or a number of other items. Our students will work as servers, but we will also need adult volunteers to help in the kitchen and collect money. We will be serving pancakes, bacon, and green grits on the morning of the parade, Friday, March 17, from 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. \$5 for adults/\$3 for children. Everyone is invited!

VBS & Summer Fun Daze Dates

*Please note at this time, registration is only open to children and extended family of Wesley members.

- June 5 - 9 Vacation Bible School from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon for children 3 years old - 5th grade
- July 17 - 21 Summer Fun Daze from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. for children Kindergarten - 3rd grade

Register for both today at www.myvbs.org/wesleymonumental

A Record of Our Faithfulness

Attendance: (2/26/23)

8:45 AM Worship	79
11:00 AM Worship	378
Online Worship Views	178
Total Worship	635
Nursery	17
Children's Worship	52
9:45 AM Sunday School	162

Assisting in Worship Today - 8:45 Service

Children's Worship: Charli Weeks

Communion Stewards (setup and transition): TBD

Greeters: Lori Miller, Ethel Burriss

Ushers: TBD

Offering Steward: Jeff Miller

Partners in Prayer: Carmine Cowart

11:00 Service

Acolytes: Andrew Wilkes, Christopher Butler

Children's Worship: Sarah Labrot

Communion Stewards (clean up): TBD

Greeters: Kim & Mehmet Ergul **Offering Steward:** Brian West

Ushers: Brian West, Mehmet Ergul, Ted Moore, Jim Pannell, Jon Pannell, Johnny Phelps, Willie Roberds, Ken Spriggs

Partners in Prayer: Gail Brannen

Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church

March 5, 2023

Sermon Extended

Monday	Genesis 3	Where does this story speak to my story?
Tuesday	Genesis 3:1-6	What does it tell me about how temptation to sin works? How do I rationalize my choices to do what I know I shouldn't?
Wednesday	Luke 4:1-13	What does this teach me about the Devil and how to resist him?
Thursday	Genesis 3:7-13	What do we learn about our responses to our sin?
Friday	Proverbs 3:5-8	What would it look like for me to trust God? What would change? What does it look like in my life to not trust God?

Sermon Notes

As a Praying Church...

We ask you, Lord, to be with those who are attending the Confirmation Retreat at Epworth this weekend. Let the truths of Your Word settle in their hearts.

This Week at Wesley

Sunday, March 5

- 8:45 AM Worship Service, SNC
- 9:30 AM Coffee, FH
- 9:45 AM Sunday School, EB & OH
- 11:00 AM Worship Service, SNC

Monday, March 6

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 1:15 PM Eli's Place Lunch & Learn, FH
- 5:30 PM Trustees Mtg, OH 310
- 6:00 PM Trombone Choir Rehearsal, SNC

Tuesday, March 7

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Sunny Side Up
- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 9:00 AM Young Mothers' Bible Study, OH 310
- 9:00 AM Bible Buddies, OH 308
- 11:00 AM Staff Mtg, OH 310
- 5:30 PM Evangelism Comm. Mtg, Zoom
- 5:30 PM Wesley Gardens Comm. Mtg

Wednesday, March 8

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 11:00 AM Bible Study w/Ben, OH 310
- 4:45 PM Call to Prayer, OH Parlor
- 5:30 PM Dinner, FH
- 6:00 PM Joyful Noise Choir, EB
- 6:00 PM Children's Choir, EB
- 6:00 PM Youth Bible Study, EB 4th Flr
- 6:00 PM Philippians Study, Led by Ben Martin, FH
- 6:00 PM Book Study, Led by Jennifer Thompson, OH 207
- 6:00 PM Enneagram Study, Led by James P. Owens
- 6:00 PM Young Mothers' Small Group, OH Parlor
- 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, EB 4th Flr

Thursday, March 9

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place
- 12:00 PM Bible Study with Nelle, Zoom

Friday, March 10

- 9:00 AM Eli's Place

OH = Oliver Hall	EB = Education Building
SNC = Sanctuary	FH = Fellowship Hall
WG = Wesley Gardens Retreat	

Pastor on Call This Week

Ben Martin 912-547-1835

Wednesday Night Supper

March 8, 2023

Menu: TBD

To make a reservation, email bakerj@wesleymonumental.org. If you attended WNS during the Fall, your reservation will carry over to the Winter/Spring semester.

In Our Prayers....

Lynn Pruett, Sally Davis, Byron Rogers, Palmer Hood (brother of Ge-Juan Wilkes), Mike Eckmann, Sara Hardwick (sister of Cassie Beckwith), Dennis Deal (cousin of Patricia Jacobs), Lynn and Dan Kurtz, Connie Kurtz (mother of Dan Kurtz), Hannah Rowland (daughter of Bren and Chet Kos), Robert Green, Lynn Strickland, David Gelaude, Hope Lassiter (sister of Will Weeks), Ashley Post, Angela Chancey (niece of Cynthia Willett), Ken Brownfield, Katie Adrian, Shari and Mel Hubbard, Bryan Vance (father of Chris Vance), Chad Gamble (brother of Kim Watson), Cindy and John Burton, Oscar Cook, Doris Rothenberger (mother of Susan Colgrove), Michele Bazemore, Suzette Parker, Emily Perry (granddaughter of Joyce and Richard Zehl), Tim Mooney, Dale and Becki Fisher (cousins of Holly Conger), Valery Hanks, Dewayne Barfield (brother of Shirley Turner), Camille Herring (sister of Wade Herring), Harriett Gattis (mother of Clayton Gattis), Matthew McClain, Jane Bostwick (mother of Meb Ryan), Walter Thomas (brother of Mark Thomas), Grant Kassinger (nephew of Peggy Jolley), Sally Polk (sister of Peggy Jolley), Danielle Robertson (granddaughter of Ceil Waters), Alyssa Jones (granddaughter of Rusty Holt), Jerry Comunale (brother-in-law of Cynthia Willett), Ella Ealy (granddaughter of Carolyn Roth), Ryan Davis, Martha Sloan, Fenton McEvoy

At Home/Extended Care

Bella Grace Bartels, Pat Beasley, Harriet Bland, Grace and Olin Bockes, Roz Evans, Bob Harman, Marilyn Holleman, Sandrae McCorkle, Edith Roszkowiak, Ruth and Elton Stuenckel, Doug Stutzman, Mark Thomas, Cindy Telljohann, Lois Wooten

Military Serving Abroad/Stateside

Daniel Ealy, Michael Sailors, Dajuan Monley, Jason Childers, Chris Watson

The Heavens

The heavens declare Your magnificent love.
The sun and the moon light our lives from above.
The mountains and seas bring us wordless Your song.
They lift our hearts to You and bear us along.

Thou Ground of our being, true guide of our hearts,
Our leader most faithful through life's ugly parts,
We lose that You love us in our dark of night.
Forgive us and send us true speakers of light.

When our lives seem hollow and nothing is true,
We long for connection and closeness to You.
We see glimpses of You in others' bright eyes.
We hear echoes of You in those who are wise.

Deliver us, O God, from our doubt and fear.
We live in assurance that You hold us near.
Instill in us knowing that You will prevail.
We know that Your love and delight cannot fail.

Text: George Wilson (1938 – 2020)
(Wesley Monumental Choir Member)
Tune: ST. DENIO 11 11 11 11