

## *Gathering*

Prelude

“Cortège and Litanie”  
Dr. Katie Meloan, *organ*

Marcel Dupre

Welcome

Dr. John McLarty

Call to Worship\*

*Leader:* We face choices every day- choices to love, to turn away, to build up, or to tear down.

***People:* Too often, we choose what is easy over what is most faithful.**

*Leader:* Jesus once faced the ultimate choice- to save himself or to save humanity.

***People:* Jesus chose love and sacrifice. Jesus chose to redeem us. Let us worship today with grateful hearts.**

Hymn\*

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” v. 1-3

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1. **Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to the throne thy tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God’s praises sing.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.**
2. **Praise the Lord for grace and favor to all people in distress;  
praise God, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious now God’s faithfulness.**
3. **Fatherlike, God tends and spares us; well our feeble frame God knows;  
motherlike, God gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet God’s mercy flows.**

Ministry Moment

Special Music

“By My Side” from *Godspell*

Stephen Schwartz

Abby Martin and Stormie Harris, *duet*

Midwestern State University production of *Godspell*, directed by Dr. Grace Edgar

April 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. and April 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m.

*Where are you going? Can you take me with you? For my hand is cold and needs warmth. Where are you going? Far beyond where the horizon lies, and the land sinks into mellow blueness. O, please take me with you. Let me skip the road with you. I can dare myself. I'll put a pebble in my shoe and watch me walk, I can walk and walk. I shall call the pebble dare. We will talk together about walking. Dare shall be carried. And when we both have had enough, I will take him from my shoe, singing: "Meet your new road." Then I'll take your hand, finally glad that you are here by my side.*

Congregational Prayer

Rev. Georgia Harrison

**Merciful God, the weight of the world's broken choices is carried in the suffering of your Son Jesus. Despite our failures, you choose to love, to forgive, and to offer redemption to your beloved creation. Teach us to follow your example, choosing grace over resentment, faith over fear, and love over selfishness. May our lives reflect the power of your choice to save us. Amen.**

Call to Prayer and Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer and 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.**

### *Proclamation*

Hymn\* "What Wondrous Love Is This" v. 1-2 292

- 1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.**
- 2. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of life  
to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, to lay aside his crown for my soul.**

Children's Sermon for All Ages Kim English

Scripture Mark 15:1-15 53

Sermon *The Questions and the Choice* Dr. John McLarty

### *Response*

Affirmation of Faith\* The Apostles' Creed 881

**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.**

**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.**

Receiving of the Tithes and Offerings

*To give by phone text a dollar amount to (940) 241-9831.*

*To give online visit [www.fumcwf.org/donate](http://www.fumcwf.org/donate)*

*Mail gifts to FUMC, P.O. Box 2125, Wichita Falls, TX, 76307*

Offertory

“O God Beyond All Praising”

arr. Dan Forrest

Chancel Choir

*O God beyond all praising, we worship You today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end: we lift our hearts before You and wait upon Your word, we honor and adore You, our great and mighty Lord. For Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free, and we through Him are given the final victory. Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring, that we who know your favor may serve you as our King; and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless You still: to marvel at Your beauty and glory in Your ways, and make a joyful duty our song of praise. Our sacrifice of praise.*

Doxology\*

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**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.**

## *Sending Forth*

Invitation to Christian Discipleship\*

Hymn\*

“I Stand Amazed in the Presence” v. 1, 2, 4

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**1. I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene,  
and wonder how he could love me, a sinner, condemned, unclean.**

***Refrain:* How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be:  
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior's love for me!**

**2. For me it was in the garden he prayed: “Not my will, but thine.”  
He had no tears for his own griefs, but sweat drops of blood for mine.**

**4. He took my sins and my sorrows, he made them his very own;  
he bore the burden to Calvary, and suffered and died alone.**

Benediction\*

Postlude

“Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven”  
Dr. Katie Meloan, *organ*

Robert E. Kreutz

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\*The Congregation will please stand.

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## Upcoming at FUMC

**First Wednesday Dinner** is the first Wednesday of every month during the school year. Join FUMC for dinner on April 2 at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The cost of the meal is \$5/person or \$20 max/family. This month's meal includes sloppy joes, fries, salad, and peach cobbler.

**Park Work Day** Help clean up our church park on Saturday, April 5! School for Little People is hosting a Park Work Day beginning at 9:00 a.m. Help us prepare the park for upcoming events like the Palm Sunday Egg Hunt and School for Little People's Anniversary Celebration. For more information, contact the church office.

**Bible, Arts, and Music (BAM) Camp 2025** registration is open! Children who have completed Kindergarten through 5th grade (complete) are invited to attend *Into the Light: Encounters with Jesus* this summer (June 16-20). This year, children will learn that Jesus is the Light of the World through Bible stories, music, dance, and art. Register online at [www.FUMCWF.org/BAM](http://www.FUMCWF.org/BAM). Advanced registration is required to attend.

**BAMazon Wishlist** We're looking forward to Bible, Arts, and Music (BAM) Camp this summer! The Children's Ministry has created an Amazon Wish List of items for this year's BAM camp, including decorations, craft supplies for camp projects, and more. All donations are appreciated! To view the wish list, visit [www.FUMCWF.org/BAM](http://www.FUMCWF.org/BAM). Please place orders by April 30.

**Praying Through Holy Week** Join Georgia and Charles Harrison for Praying Through Holy Week 2025: The Prophetic Jesus Challenges The Modern Church, based on a book by Luke Timothy Johnson (Perkins Lecturer 2012) called Prophetic Jesus, Prophetic Church: The Challenge of Luke-Acts to Contemporary Christians. This annual lunchtime devotional takes place Monday, April 14—Friday, April 18, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. in the Hospitality Room (110), with soup and bread served daily. RSVP online at [www.FUMCWF.org/LENT](http://www.FUMCWF.org/LENT). For more information, contact Georgia Harrison at [gharrison@fumcwf.org](mailto:gharrison@fumcwf.org).

**Easter Lily Orders** Easter Lilies, given in honor or memory of loved ones, can be ordered through April 6. Lilies are \$15 each. Order forms are available in the church office and online at [www.FUMCWF.org/LENT](http://www.FUMCWF.org/LENT). Fill out and return the order form with payment to the church office by April 6. Please remember to send an order form to the office when paying online.