



FIRST ^{united} methodist CHURCH

113 West Central Avenue | Van Wert, Ohio 45891 | 419-238-0631 | vanwertfirst.net

Leaders in Today's Worship

Pastor: Christian Taylor

Projectionist: Cayden Laukhuf

Director of Music: Scott Turner

Sound Technician: Ron Allison

Worship Leader: Jeremy Laukhuf

Videographer: Kurt Massillo

Acolyte: Elora Hogan

Screen Creators: Cheri Oechsle, Melody Taylor

Usher Coordinator: Neil Shaffer and Dave Lichtle, Assistant



We have so many opportunities for you to engage with our church community.

Here are just a few:

- **Acolyte** - The acolyte is an important part of our worship service and worshipping community. We are in need of your help to fill this position and we invite anyone in the congregation to learn what it is and what it means to be an acolyte. Contact the church office or Pastor Christian.
- Our Youth group needs some help with **meals** for their group meetings on Sunday. Nothing fancy. Grab a friend and make a pot of soup! Call Sierra or Teresa to sign up.
- Our kiddos in the K-2 range, need an **assistant** on Sunday mornings, 9-10am. You won't regret this...these kids will make you smile. Cristi Laukhuf is your contact.
- Wednesday Nights needs **clean up** folks and dessert **bakers**. Sign up on the media board (outside Krout by the kitchenette).
- Coffee Hour host/hostess - looking for someone to take the 4th Sunday each month. Contact Jana. **Position Filled! Thank you.**
- **Greeters** on Sunday morning - need greeters and someone to help schedule them. Contact Jana.
- **Projectionist** for Sunday Mornings - we will train you. Contact the office.
- **Communion Stewards** and a **Coordinator**. Shirley Jarvis has been our coordinator, but needs to step back. Stewards prepare communion once a month. The coordinator schedules people.
- Middle School Students need a Sunday Morning **teacher** February - April. Contact Teresa.



January 21, 2024

“For God So Loved Creation”

Our Vision Statement:

Enlarging the circle of disciples through Jesus

Thanks for joining us today! If you have any questions while you are here this morning, you can find an answer at the Welcome table, which is inside the doors off Jefferson Street. Whatever your circumstances, and no matter where you've been, you matter to God, and you matter to us. We are glad you are here! If you are a first time guest with us this morning, ***Welcome!*** Please stop by the welcome table and pick up a welcome packet.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

#170

“He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.” John 1:10 NIV

**indicates please stand if you are able
Please fill out the attendance pad and pass it to your neighbor*

Welcome & Announcements Eric McCracken

Prelude *Adagio in G Minor* by Remo Giazotto

***Call to Worship** Eric McCracken

Leader: For God so loved the world;

People: The sparrows, the mountain lions, the fish and the people.

Leader: For God so loved the world;

People: In success and failure, in sickness and health, in mediocrity and extraordinary.

Leader: For God so loved the world;

People: Enough to become one of us, enough to suffer along with us, enough to offer new life for us.

Leader: For God so loved the world;

People: Let us worship God!

***Song** *Open the Eyes of My Heart/He Leadeth Me*

***Opening Prayer** Jeremy Laukhuf

Great Triune God, we have gathered here in your name as an act of faith, believing that you are not only among us, but that you love us. It is often hard to recognize your love, see your mercy, and feel your presence. Help us today in our worship, that we might be transparent to your grace, as you reveal yourself to each one of us. Amen.

Chat with the Children Judy Krites
Children will be dismissed to AWE

Life in the Church Eric McCracken

***Scripture** John 3:16

Anthem *God So Loved the World* by John Stainer Chancel Choir
Gloria Wendel, accompanist

Series **Church Traditions**
Message “For God So Loved Creation” Pastor Christian Taylor

***Hymn** *O, How I Love Jesus*

Prayers of the People
The Lord’s Prayer

Giving of Tithes & Offerings (Children return from AWE)

Offertory *O, How He Loves You and Me* arr. Fred Bock

***Doxology** *I Surrender All*

***Prayer of Gratitude**

***Spoken Benediction:**

Postlude: *Allegro Non Troppo* by Edward Broughton

*You are invited to be seated and enjoy the Postlude or leave quietly in peace.
Thank you for worshiping with us!*

KID’S MINISTRY AWE

Children preschool through 5th grade have an opportunity to build their relationship with Jesus through uplifting songs and impactful Bible lessons by attending our Alternate Worship Experience. Children will be released to AWE after praise and worship and return during offering time. AWE will not meet Communion Sundays which is the first Sunday of the month.



H2O Mentor program - Our H2O middle school aged mentoring program is in need of more adults! Make a difference in a student’s life by spending 40 minutes 1x/week with them at school. Find out what it’s like by asking current mentor, Kay Okuley about it.

Teddy Bear Sunday - Our Women’s Ministry team is collecting Teddy Bears on Sunday, February 18th. The bears will be given to the hospital and first responders to comfort a child. Bring in a bear no more than 12” tall with no child endangerment attachments and place it at the altar. Bears will be blessed during worship that morning.

Wednesday Meal - Come enjoy a hot meal Wednesdays at 5pm in the basement dining hall. This week’s meal is Meat Loaf, Corn Casserole, Bar-b-queed Green Beans, Hot Dog/Bun, Tossed Salad and Dessert

Thank you - Thank you First Church for your kindness to Haven of Hope shelter this past week. Your thoughtfulness means so much.

Church office—419-238-0631 ext. 302 or firstchurch@vanwertfirst.net