

Forgive me, most merciful LORD. I confess that I have broken faith, broken trust, wounded relationships, for this I repent. Come and restore that which has been broken. Yes, restore, remake, rekindle, rebuild, heal, comfort and knit together that which I have torn. O God, pour out your mercy. Grant a spirit of forgiveness to prevail in all. Embrace me again to life and right standing with you, O God and to the fellowship of love and compassion that is your Church. I am always, every moment, in need of you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: O Child of Christ, listen well, and be comforted. God loves you and has brought you to this place to clothe you with the Righteousness of Jesus Christ and to cleanse you by the washing of Christ's blood. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord's Prayer
Distribution of the Elements

***CLOSING SONG** *Amazing Grace* #378 Vs. 1,2,4,6

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE *Toccata* Douglas Wagner

You may be seated to enjoy the postlude or leave quietly in peace.

THE OFFERING ENVELOPES HAVE ARRIVED!

They are on the table outside the church office. If you have any questions, please contact the office.
419-238-0631 or firstchurch@wcoil.com

NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Word of the Lord
Seeing Jesus in the Prophets
Thursdays, 1:30pm, Conference Rm
10 Week Study led by Melinda Farmer & Annette Hoverman.
First Meeting January 13.

Uptown Kid Praise Packs are available in the Narthex (near the Welcome Table) for your children to use during worship. Please return the bags after worship.

Office Manager - Job Opportunity

If you are friendly, warm, detail-oriented, honest, and love contributing to something of significant value then raise your hand. First United Methodist Church of Van Wert, Ohio is hiring an office manager. We love walking alongside folks to know and follow Jesus Christ. At FUM, you can be a member of a team who creates spaces for special connections with God and others. We're looking for someone who has a command of MS Office software and office equipment, competency in keeping accurate records of Accounts Receivable and other church data. We're looking for someone with confidence in working with others and creating a welcoming environment.

You can also catch a vision of FUM by visiting our website at www.vanwertfirst.net. All requests for this full-time opportunity should be directed to firstchurch@wcoil.com. You may also phone 419-238-0631. Pastor Chris Farmer would be happy to forward you a detailed description of this position and respond to any questions. Thank you



Pastor Chris Farmer
January 2, 2022
10:45 am

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm 51:1-2 KJV

WELCOME

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
EPIPHANY SUNDAY

10:45 AM
JANUARY 2, 2022

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Embracing, equipping & empowering persons to evangelize through Jesus.

CONTACT US

We are so glad you have joined us today! We want you to feel at home here. You can find out what is happening around here on our website: www.vanwertfirst.net and check out our Facebook Page for inspiration and information.

Of course, we do have a telephone: 419-238-0631

And the post office finds us at 113 W. Central Avenue, Van Wert, OH 45891

KID'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT 10:45

NO AWE TODAY—COMMUNION

Nursery Ministry (infant to age 2) is located near the Jefferson Street entrance. You may drop your child off at any time during the service. There are also rocking chairs located at the back of the sanctuary for your use.

AWE our Alternative Worship Experience is for children, age Kindergarten and up. Children will be dismissed from the service. Children may be picked up at the Scheidt Room (Kindergarten & up). Preschool Movin & Groovin in Faith (ages 3-5 years) will be upstairs in Room 203 and can be picked up there after worship.

GIVING:

In the wooden boxes around the sanctuary.
On line @ vanwertfirst.net
Text: 419.963.3557
Thank you for your faithfulness.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Lead Pastor	Chris Farmer
Liturgist	Bob Spath
Organist	Scott Turner
Choir Director	Paul Hoverman
Acolyte	Aiden Bockrath
Sound Engineer	Ron Allison
Videographer	Dave Thompson
Projectionist	Grace Dowler
Usher/Greeters	Neil Shaffer

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

Bob Spath

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING STATEMENT

VOLUNTARY

Good Christian Men, Rejoice!

arr. Paul Laubengayer

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The newborn Jesus Christ is with us.

People: Praise the Lord! Hallelujah!

ANTHEM

A Little Light Was Born

M. Barrett

OPENING PRAYER: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of minds and hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may love you more completely and worthily glorify your Holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

What Child Is This

#219

*SCRIPTURE

Psalm 51:1-12

Joe Falk

SONG

Create in Me a Clean Heart

K. Greene

Jake Wilder - soloist

SERMON

Series: Let Go to Hold On

Pastor Chris Farmer

Let Go of Regret to Hold On to Forgiveness

SONG

Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant Us Peace)

#376

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Confession: My soul is deflated within me, O Living God. Yet even in the crush of conviction, I sense a flicker of hope for you have assured me of your desire to inflate me with your abounding mercy. I humbly acknowledge that I have done harm to others, to myself, and to You. I have neither peace nor rest. I am deeply aware of my unrest knowing the stirring of your Holy Spirit who works in us, even for our good. As a child of Adam and Eve, I am prone to run from your presence and from my conscience. I am fearful of what you might speak, fearful of what obedience might require. It pains me to bring my failures into your light. I am tired of running and hiding, O Lord.

(Pause in Silence)