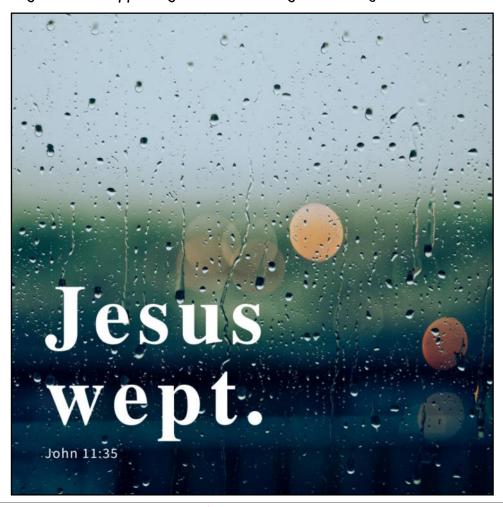


Van Meter UMC

Nurturing children, supporting families, creating community as we share our faith.



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

March 3, 2024 * Third Sunday after Epiphany

Assistive listening devices are available from ushers.

PRELUDE

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES:

Hymnal 526

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING THE PEACE:

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us greet one another with signs of peace and love.

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Please remain standing as you are able.)

Lenten travelers, why are you here?

We gather to praise our Holy One in worship and to reset our attitude and faith.

Lenten travelers, what happens when we gather to worship?

We listen and proclaim. We sing and pray. We repent and encourage.

Lenten travelers, how do we do the work of worship?

We bring all that we are to be present to our God and to one another.

Lenten travelers, what work does our God do in worship?

We are raised up so that we can delight in life together in the Holy Spirit with one another.

Lenten travelers, come, let us worship our God together!

Come, let us be fully present in Christ as One. Amen.

^{*}Indicates stand, as you are able. **Bold** indicates all join in. FWS indicates *The Faith We Sing* book.

(Please be seated.)

UNISON PRAYER:

O Holy One, we come to You on this day to be in full communion with You.

We come with our hearts heavy, knowing that all is not well in Your world.

Each day we, too, weep with grief and sorrow.

We humbly ask, O Lord, that we might find forgiveness and grace, but also inspiration as to how we can go forward in our lives with such human loss in our world.

We are somehow given such a gift in Your empathy for our sorrow, as we see You weeping.

We know that You have a plan.

We know that You have a way to carry out that plan.

Help us to not be in Your way

as You carry us with You through what is needed.

We are so grateful for Your living presence in our lives.

We can feel You with us, helping us to feel that we belong with You.

We know that You have an ultimate plan of resurrection for all things.

Please help us to help You to live out Your plan for Your infinite Holy Kin'dom.

Amen

HYMN of PREPARATION

When Jesus Wept

(sing twice) Hymnal 2106

OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS
PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Beth

OUR TIME OF GIVING

We humbly ask for your tithe to the Holy Spirit to be shared through our church as we provide ministry through our local, state, and world UMC connections. We are very grateful to be able to share in ministry with you as our generosity is greater shared together.

*DOXOLOGY Hymnal 95

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC: Chancel Choir

In Remembrance

SCRIPTURE READING: John 11:1-27; 32-44

L: The Living Word of God for the people of God

P: Thanks be to God

MESSAGE: Rev. Beth Harbaugh

"Jesus Wept?"

HOLY COMMUNION on screen

We practice an open table. All are welcome to receive communion.

*CLOSING HYMN: Hymnal 367

He Touched Me

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please be seated for a moment of reflection.)

We hope that you have been uplifted by the Holy Spirit in worship of our Triune God. We have all been present and engaged with one another through the Oneness of Christ in Love and Peace. Please take these blessings with you and enliven the Holy Spirit in others to also bless them in their daily lives.

VAN METER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH vmumc.org

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All the Church Members

Organist/Choir Director:

Mike Cooper

Pianist

Melody Laake

Usher/Greeters:

John & Holly Gilliland

Acolyte:

Tyler Redmond

Liturgist:

Christy Jungman

Visual Tech:

Erik Redmond

Fellowship:

Leslie Herman

Janitorial:

Hoppes Family

Administrative Assistant:

Shirlee Cagle

Kids Care Director:

Jess Jaspers

Director of Youth and Children's Ministries:

Miss Courtney

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Ron Carlson

Bishop:

Kennetha Bigham-Tsai