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ARE YOU NEW?

If you would like to find your Worship Plus One, we would love to visit with you and help you explore the First Church groups or ministries of special interest to you! Finding your Worship Plus One will help you meet others, build relationships, and grow stronger in your faith.

For details, please email Lisa Helm (lhelm@myfumc.org), Director of Welcoming Ministries or Dr. Mike Marshall (mmarshall@myfumc.org), Associate Pastor of Leadership Development — and be sure to include your phone number in your email!



Discipleship is the process of being shaped by the Holy Spirit through spiritual practices to become more like Jesus. **Healthy Plate Discipleship** uses a variety of practices to help you more faithfully follow Jesus Christ. Try all six areas to grow strong in faithful discipleship. Learn more at fumcfw.org/healthyplate.



Tuesday, March 21 | 11:30 am | Sanctuary | Luncheon | 12:15 pm | Wesley Hall



June 8 – 13 | \$350 | Memphis and Nashville



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Traditional Service
March 12, 2023 | 11:00 am

“Tough Love”

Matthew 22:1-14

Rev. Lance Marshall
Senior Pastor

Welcome and Announcements
Rev. Brenda Brooks Alexander, Associate Pastor

Prelude: “When He Offers His Hand”
Townes Van Zandt, composer
Crossroad Singers

***Call to Worship**
Rev. Phyllis Barren, Associate Pastor

One: Come, the banquet of hope and praise is ready.
All: We come on your invitation, seeking to be fed.
One: Feed on the love of God in Jesus Christ.
All: We come on your invitation, needing healing.
One: Be healed by God’s gracious mercy.
All: We come on your invitation, longing for forgiveness.
One: In Jesus’ Name, you are loved, healed and forgiven.
All: Alleluia, Praise be to God. Amen.

***Hymn 117: “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”**

***Affirmation of Faith 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.

***Gloria Patri: hymnal page 70**

****Please be seated**

Psalter Reading: Psalm 106
Sung Response: O how He loves you and me! O how He loves you and me! He gave His life. What more could He give? O how He loves you; O how He loves me; O how He loves you and me!
One: Praise the Lord!
All: O give thanks to the Lord who is good; whose steadfast love endures for ever!
One: Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or show forth all God’s praise?
All: Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times!
One: Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people; help me when you deliver them,
All: that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory with your heritage.
Sung response
One: Our forebears made a calf in Horeb and worshiped a molten image.
All: They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that

eats grass.
One: They forgot God, their Savior, who had done great things in Egypt,
All: wondrous works in the land of Ham, and terrible things by the Red Sea.
One: Therefore the Lord intended to destroy them had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach, to turn away God’s wrath from destroying them.
All: Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.
One: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!
All: And let all the people say, “Amen!” Praise the Lord!
Sung Response

Faith Like a Child
“Mister Mark” Burrows, Director of Children’s Ministries

***Hymn 540: “I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”**

Scripture: Matthew 22:1-14
Ashley Boswell, lay reader

Sermon Series: Tough Love
Rev. Lance Marshall, Senior Pastor

Pastoral Prayer

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. *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

Offertory: “Nearer, My God, to Thee”
C. D. Grant, arranger

***Doxology: hymnal page 95**

***Benediction**
One: Our gathering will soon be ended. Where will we go, and what will we do?
All: We will go out to be God’s people in the world.
One: May grace, peace, hope, love, and joy forever accompany you. Amen.

***Congregational Benediction: “I Surrender All” refrain**
I surrender all, (I surrender all,) I surrender all, (I surrender all,) All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

***Postlude: “Rigaudon”**
André Campra, composer

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth – we are glad you’re here to worship with us today!

Please let us know you are here by filling out the attendance pad as it comes by.

Asterisks (*) indicate times when you are invited to stand as you are able.

In addition to your regular contribution, every one dollar (\$1) bill placed in the offering plate during the month of March will support the Methodist Justice Ministries.

The Sanctuary Flowers are in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Uhr, Mrs. Sheila Uhr, Mr. Jack Morris, Mr. & Mrs. E.R. Morris, and Mr. & Mrs. W.S. Hutchison by Mr. Bill Uhr and family.

Lent Banners
The season of Lent provides a blessed opportunity for reflection as we approach the altar of our Lord’s sacrifice with hope in His mercy.

The seasonal wall hangings (paraments) reflect the themes and color of this liturgical season. The purple of Lent represents sorrow and repentance. Grey, the color of ashes, calls us back to Ash Wednesday, when we received this symbol of mourning and humility on our foreheads. The tan fabric suggests desert sands and the arid nature of sin.

The coarse ropes suspended between the fabric panels also carry symbolic meaning. The five groupings of ropes remind us of the five wounds Christ bore on the cross. The rope itself is a symbol of the betrayal of Christ as the soldiers bound him after the kiss of Judas. The stones, woven into the ropes, represent the sin that weighs down our souls. The knots in the ropes suggest the discord in our families, the hurts between married couples, and the absence of peace and joy caused by our pride and failure to depend on God.

These paraments provide a visual reminder of the mercy God offers us not only in the Lenten Season but also throughout the entire year.

Thank you Dianne Fisher for helping make our banners happen.