



Monroe United Methodist Church

Rev. Randy Booth, pastor

2227 Fourth St Monroe, WI
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monroeumc.com

March 4, 2018

8:00 and 10:45 Worship

The Church Gathers in God's Name

PRELUDE

John Daane

PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP John Cosin (1594-1672)

Prepare me for worship today, O God: be light to my eyes, music to my ears,
sweetness to my taste, and contentment to my heart. Fill all my senses to
recognize your message of grace. Use me as you see fit. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING CHORUS

**Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.**

**In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.**

**Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day with its shadows o'er me.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN

Lamb of God

Twila Paris

**Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side,
to walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God.**

**Your gift of love they crucified they laughed and scorned him as he died,
the humble king they named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God.**

**O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in his precious blood – my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

**I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side,
to be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God.**

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Søren Kierkegaard

O Jesus, forgive me when I have treated my worship service like
attending the theater or a concert. In those venues, I am a spectator
passing judgment on the performance of others.
I am entertained and quickly move on.

But worship is different. Here, you are the spectator, I am the
participant. I join with the other participants in prayer and praise,
and penitence! Forgive me for assuming a spectator role when you
are the true audience.

Make my actions today deeper than a performance, playing the role of
Christian. Change my heart so I bare myself before you –
a sinner in need of grace. Church is not a theater. I am not an actor.
I genuinely come before you today. Amen.

TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

The Church Hears God's Word

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Mary Honors Jesus

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 22:1-17, NLT

God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called.

"Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

"Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you."

The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac. Then he chopped wood for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. "Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told the servants. "The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back."

So Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them walked on together, Isaac turned to Abraham and said, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"We have the fire and the wood," the boy said, "but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?"

"God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered. And they both walked on together.

When they arrived at the place where God had told him to go, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied his son, Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. At that moment the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Yes," Abraham replied. "Here I am!"

"Don't lay a hand on the boy!" the angel said. "Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son."

Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son. Abraham named the place Yahweh-Yireh (which means "the LORD will provide"). To this day, people still use that name as a proverb: "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

Then the angel of the LORD called again to Abraham from heaven. "This is what the LORD says: Because you have obeyed me and have not withheld even your son, your only son, I swear by my own name that I will certainly bless you. I will multiply your descendants beyond number, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore."

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Peter 1:18-22, NLT

For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days he has been revealed for your sake.

Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory.

You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart.

SERMON

The Church Responds to God

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION at 8:00
SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOYS

RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**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.**

PERSONAL PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER

Lord's Prayer as Confession

I cannot say "Our" if I'm living for myself.

I cannot say "Father" if I don't try to act like his child.

I cannot say "who art in heaven" if I am laying up no treasures there.

I cannot say "hallowed be thy name" if I am not striving for holiness.

I cannot say "Thy Kingdom come" if I'm not doing my part to bring about God's Kingdom.

I cannot say "thy will be done" if I am disobedient to his word.

I cannot say "on earth as it is in heaven" if I'm unwilling to serve him here and now.

I cannot say "Give us this day our daily bread" if I am not relying on him to provide.

I cannot say “Forgive us our trespasses” if I hold a grudge against someone.

I cannot say “Lead us not into temptation” if I deliberately place myself in its path.

I cannot say “Deliver us from evil” if I haven’t put on the whole armor of God.

I cannot say “Thine is the Kingdom” if I am not loyal to the King as his faithful servant.

I cannot attribute to him “the power” if I fear what people may do to me.

I cannot ascribe to him “the glory” if I am seeking honor only for myself.

I cannot say “forever” if my life is focused completely on the things of time.

Father, forgive us for not living up to the petitions of the prayer Jesus taught us. Help us to think through the petitions we pray and put our heart and faith into each one. Amen.

HYMN Old Rugged Cross #504

DEPART WITH BLESSING



Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” (John 14:6)

Our church exists so that all people might
find the Way, know the Truth, and experience the Life!”

Communion At Monroe United Methodist Church –

everyone is invited, no matter your church membership. Our founder John Wesley said that sometimes it’s in taking communion that people experience grace and want to follow Jesus.

We use grape juice instead of wine.

Pastor Randy has gluten-free wafers for communion.

If you are unable to come forward for communion, notify an usher who will in turn notify the communion servers to go to you.