



West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

Preaching today: Rev. Janice Bowers
300 North Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390
www.westgroveumc.org
610-869-9334



March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday in Lent

11:00 a.m. Worship

Prelude		Betsy Smith
Ministry Opportunities		Pastor Janice
Words of Welcome		Pastor Janice
*Call to Worship		John McGinley
L: This is the fifth step on our Lenten journey, the step of sacrifice.		
P: Be with us, Lord, as we take this step.		
L: This requires the willingness to give all of your life to the Lord.		
P: Be with us, Lord, as we commit our lives to you.		
L: Come, let us worship and offer our voices of praise to God.		
P: Let us open our hearts and spirits to God this day. AMEN.		
*Opening Hymn	"Christ for the World We Sing"	UMH No. 568
*Passing of the Peace		Pastor Janice
Morning Prayer (In Unison)		John McGinley
Lord, be with us this day as we commit ourselves to being your disciples. Be with us as we grow in service to you and our world. Help us to face the future unafraid, trusting in your loving care and presence with us. We pray this in Jesus' name. AMEN.		
Moments for All Ages		Pastor Janice
First Scripture Lesson (pg. 5)	Jeremiah 31: 31-34/Psalm 51: 1-12	John McGinley
Hymn	"And Are We Yet Alive"	UMH No. 553 (vs 1, 4, & 6)
Second Scripture Lesson (pg. 4)	Hebrews 5: 5-10	John McGinley
*Gospel Lesson (pg. 4)	John 12: 20-33	Pastor Janice
This is the Word of God for the People of God.		
Thanks be to God.		
Chancel Choir Anthem	"As You Serve, Remember Me"	Chancel Choir
	Words and Music by Joel Raney	
Message	"Whoever Serves"	Pastor Janice
Sharing our Joys and Concerns	(All are invited to share)	Pastor Jim
Pastoral Prayer		Pastor Jim
Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance		Pastor Janice
Compassionate Lord, forgive us when we falter on this Lenten pathway; when the road ahead seems too uncertain and we are afraid. We admit that following Jesus is not an easy task. Jesus requires us to be willing to make the ultimate commitment of our whole lives and we hesitate and hold back. Draw us back to you, Lord. Give us		

confidence and courage to face the future with hope. Let us place our trust in you that the message of peace and mercy you have given to us through Jesus Christ may be offered to others through our own witness to your healing mercy. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN

Invitation to Offering Pastor Jim

Offertory Betsy Smith

Offertory Prayer Pastor Jim

With hearts washed clean and with spirits made new, we celebrate the joy of your salvation, O God. May the tithes and offerings we share this day reflect the law of love you have written on our hearts. May these gifts bear the fruit of your Spirit, and may they bless those who need it most. Amen.

Closing Hymn "Here I Am, Lord" UMH No. 593

***Benediction** Pastor Janice

***Postlude** Betsy Smith

*** Standing as able.**

Please join us in the Lobby/Narthex for a time of fellowship.
Please stand as you are able* **Bold Print = Say in unison

First Scripture Lesson: Jeremiah 31: 31-34

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their master, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Psalm 51:1-12

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. ⁴ Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. ⁵ Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. ⁶ You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Second Scripture Lesson: Hebrews 5: 5-10

⁵ So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; ⁶ as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.” ⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸ Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹ and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰ having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel Lesson: John 12: 20-33

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. Jesus Speaks about His Death ²⁷ “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—Father, save me from this hour? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰ Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

OPEN ~ GROW ~ SERVE

At West Grove UMC, we love God by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing our faith and serving our community and world in God's name.

Church Office: 610-869-9334

Our Website: www.westgroveumc.org Email us at info@westgroveumc.org

WELCOME, ONE AND ALL!

Faith, hope and love are gifts from God. May you find them here. If you have come as a guest, we hope that you'll leave as a friend and pray you'll be nourished in faith as you hear God's message for you today. Please honor us by signing the Friendship Pad and we encourage you to join us again. For those who need them, there are hearing aids available at the sound booth. Please feel free to ask for them.

PALM SUNDAY CANTATA: Please join us on Palm Sunday, March 24th at 11:00 am as our Chancel Choir presents the cantata--"A Time for Alleluia." From the passion of Gethsemane to the victory of the empty tomb, A Time For Alleluia celebrates the life of Christ and his redemptive work among us. The cantata walks us through the seasons of Christ's life and takes us on a journey of faith that will impact the hearts of all who hear it.

EASTER FLOWERS: Order Easter Lilies, tulips or daffodils to adorn the sanctuary during our Easter Services. Take them home after the Easter Sunday Service. Lilies are \$10.50, Tulips and Daffodils are \$6.95. Order form in the narthex or ask an usher. Drop your check in the offering plate marked "flowers" or drop in the office mailbox marked April. March 24th deadline for orders.

EASTER SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Maundy Thursday service: 7:00 pm.

Palm Sunday (Cantata): 11:00 am.

Easter services: 11:00 am.

Easter Sunrise Service: 6:45 am. in the parking lot of WGUMC.
(inside in inclement weather);

PASTOR JIM'S NEW BIBLE STUDY: April 1st at 6:30 pm. in the sanctuary, Pastor Jim Mundell will be launching a new bible study from the book of Hebrews. The study will delve into Jesus and his duty as High Priest after his resurrection.

UMW COLLECTION OF FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS: During the month of March, we will be collecting feminine hygiene products for our food pantry families. A tote will be located in the lobby for this collection. Please consider how you may help with these donations.

WGUMC IS ECSTATIC TO ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT OF OUR NEW PASTOR:

Rev. Choi was appointed as WGUMC's new pastor and will take over the position beginning July 1st, 2024. Read more about Rev. Choi on the insert inside this bulletin.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Round up your kids and grand kids and get ready to dive into the fun from July 15th-19th call Xavier for all the details at 610-612-7377, or email him at Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org, or call the church office at 610-869-9334, or email us at office@westgroveumc.org.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

NEED PRAYER?

Prayer Requests: Please do not leave prayer requests on the prayer chain email. It is not monitored. Email April Spencer at office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334 or **Email Susan Paisley** at sbrintonpais1@verizon.net or call 610-529-8699. Your request will be shared with the prayer chain, and if you would like, it will be noted below in the bulletin Prayer List.



Renee Bergstrom
Linda Sue Black
(Hruz)

Dianne Bunch
(Stuhrke)

Sandee C (Jim
Mundell)

Beth Castaldi (K. Smith)

Courtney Castaldi (K. Smith)

Dan Castaldi (Castaldi)

Cindy (Karen Hruz Neighbor)

Joann Coates

Dante Danilshenko (Grace
Kennedy)

Dan and Liz DePaul (Jackson)

Irma Devom (Stryjewski)

Linda Eyster (Combs)

Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)

Joyce Flowers (Mullen)

Richard Heacock

Jennifer Hertzog (Jackson)

Karen Hruz

Lynn Jackson

Michele Johnson (Spencer)

Maria Kanno (Mullen)

Debbie Kennedy (Coates)

Erica Libdell (Stryjewski)

Ted Lynam (Stuhrke)

Tom Kuch (Kuchs)

Lenny Marten (K.
Smith)

Jim May (Mullen)

Jill and Jay, Fran
Miller

Richard Minnick

Betty Mundell

Tim Mullen

Doug Paine (Jackson)

Vivian Paisley

Family of Dan DePaul
(Jackson)

Don Nixon (Mullen)

Brian Radcliffe (Hruz)

Michael Raineri

Rick Renzulli (McGinley)

Sam Reyburn (Shiplet)

Steve Scheufele (Kuch's)

Roann Schneider (P. Mullen)

Levi Schrum (Carmichael)

Mark Sharrat (P. Mullen)

Connie & Jobe Simcox

David Shaver (Hruz)

Connie & Jobe Simcox

Linda Shiplet

Ian Smedley (Heist)

Reed Smith

Rick Spencer (Kim Smith)

Rosanne (Kapp-Benner)

Flora Spiegel
(Strewjewski)

Heidi Streibel, (Edel
Mullen)

Gail Stuhrke (Stuhrke)

Jeannie Sullivan

Josephine Tena

Maira Tena

Mary Weidman (Miller)

Jill Williams (Miller)

Hazel Winters & family
(Joan Saller)

Kay Yates



Nathaniel Howard,
Philippines
(Wayne & Pam)

Brian Kubo—Washington
(Mullen)

Chris Weidman—Idaho
(Miller)

Dalton Wolfe-U.S. Marine
Corps

Drew Zumpino—USA
(Beauchamp)

God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship

*It is your tithes, offerings, and
gifts that impact and change
lives for Christ!*

Report from March 10, 2024

General Offering: \$3,063.00

Building Maintenance Fund: \$70.00

Attendance: In-Person and You Tube

8:30: 13 11:00: 59 You Tube 3

**Food Pantry: 136 families on 03/13 &
03/14 Food donations are appreciated.**

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday Morning Servants

Digital Audio: 8:30	Aiden Steltzer
Live-Stream & Audio:	Michael Duvall
Sound Booth Rotating:	Will Stuhrke, Doyle Stuhrke, Maggie Stuhrke and Reed Smith
Officiating:	Rev. Janice Bowers & Rev. Jim Mundell
Music Director:	Betsy Smith
Memory Bells Director:	Lavenia Civitella
Moment For All Ages	Pastor Janice Bowers

Today: 03/17/24

Next Week: 03/24/24

Nursery Aide:	Open / Open	Open / Open
Roamers	Cindy Haley	Priscilla Barkman
Counters:	Len & Ruth Kuch	Dave Talley & Vicki Owens
Lay Reader:	John McGinley	Richard Stuhrke
Ushers:	Cindy Haley & Paulette Bryan	Virgil & Linda Brown
Greeter:	Nancy & Scott Renk-Wise	Priscilla Barkman

Would you like to be a Sunday Morning Servant? We would welcome your participation as an usher, greeter, lay reader, acolyte (children grade 3 and above), nursery attendant, Children's Worship leader, or Sunday School teacher. If you have an interest in serving in any capacity on Sunday mornings, please contact April Spencer in the church office at 610-869-9334 or office@westgroveumc.org for more information.