

Faith United Methodist Church

March 7, 2021

I Am



Take a deep breath. I am so thankful for you leading worship today.

Centering

*When Keith is finished playing the prelude, stand and say:
Our centering scripture comes from Exodus 3 beginning with verse 14:*

¹⁴God said to Moses, 'I am who I am.' He said further, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "I am has sent me to you. The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you": This is my name for ever, and this my title for all generations. Exodus 3:14-15

Welcome

Grace and Peace in the name of Jesus Christ, what a joy to gather together for worship. As we have centered ourselves in scripture let us prayer...

Opening Prayer

Holy God, be present with us as we come to know you more deeply in our lives. Help us to see your work in the world in ancient days and this day. Draw our hearts and minds closer to you so that we will be committed to doing your work in your world. Through Jesus Christ, who showed us the way, we pray, **Amen.**

Music

Prayer of Illumination

Let us pray:

O Lord open our hearts and lives to your word so that we may be transformed into faithful disciples. **Amen.**

Our scripture reading comes from the Gospel according to St. John chapter 6 beginning with verse 35, hear now a reading from God's holy word.

Scripture Reading

John 6:35-48

³⁵ Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; ³⁸for I have come

down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

⁴¹ Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' ⁴²They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' ⁴³Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life.

The Word of God, for the People of God. Thanks Be to God. **Amen.**

Music director will send me new title & words to print.

Special Music

*O God Our Help In Ages Past
(please reflect on these words silently)*

*O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.*

Witness

I Am: The Bread of Life

Music

Words printed here for silent reflection after the sermon.

Joys & Concerns

It is now the time in our service where we lift up the joys and concerns of our community: - write down what you can, name of person needing prayer and person who shared...do your best, God's got the rest.

Prayer of the People

In peace let us pray:

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. You are the Way, the Truth and the Life, as your children, draw us all closer to you in our daily life and work.

You are the bread and the wine as your body in the world help us work for

justice, freedom, and peace in all that we do.

You are the light of the world, shine through us as we love and care for the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

You are the Good Shepherd, guide & protect all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; comfort the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

You are the Door, so help your Church, all who proclaim the Gospel, our Bishop Scott, our Superintendent Romonica, pastors, deacons, lay leaders, for all who serve you to welcome your people.

You are the Resurrection and the Life, so grant eternal life to those who have died and hope for all who grieve.

In silence we name our own needs and the needs of others...

For your mercy is great so we gather all these prayers that have been spoken and those written on our hearts to you through Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

Offering & Prayer for the Gifts of the Community

As our practice during Covid, our gifts of tithes & offerings can be placed in the basket in the back of our sanctuary on your way out. We give thanks to God for what we have already received, what will be given and the acts of service done in God's name, let us pray:

O God, our hope, transform our gifts and the acts of giving into ministries of love and compassion to all the persons this church serves in your name. **Amen.**

Music

2 quick announcements –

First, thank you so much to Mary, Kathy and everyone who helped make the garage sale a success.

Second, next Sunday 3/14 is Daylight Sunday, where we spring forward 1 hour. Don't forget!

Benediction

Receive now this benediction:

Go forth from this time and place, knowing I Am has called you to walk the way with Christ the truth who gives us life eternal. May our experience be shared with those we meet. May the blessing of God, Father, Son & Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Margaret Arceneaux
 Paul Arceneaux, Jr.
 Sidney Arceneaux
 Kim Craigen Ard
 Lucian Adams
 Dolores Anderson
Family of Johnny Battaglio
 Brenda Bermaster
 Lloyd Betar
 Mary Bevil
 Roland Blanchard
 Bonnie Blankenship
 Donna Suppa Bolton
 Jo Bordeaux
 Pat Borel
 Glenda Brooks
 Jean Brooks
 Kent Broussard
 Ann Campbell
 Norma Campbell
 Robert & Roxie Castilaw
 Jared Castolenia
 Matthew Cerda
 Tana Champeau
 Rebecca Chance
 Billie Cherry
 Kim Wilber Conn
 Derick Cooper
 Kyle & Beth Craigen
 Dakota Crutchfield
 Jimmy & Emily Davis
 Bobbye Dean
 Mary Delafosse
 Tammy Dufour

Prayer List
 Julie Duplichan
 Keven Dupre
 Marli Dupuy
 Joe Floyd
 Sheila Frederick
 Lorene Green
 Rachel Grimmett
 Robert Hargraves
 Connie Hebert
 MaryJo Hebert
 Susie Hesselteine
 Edna & Raymond Jones
 Selwyn Jones
 Alice Kethley
 Kristi Key
 Ray & Tammy Lake
 Bud Landry
 Clyde Landry
 Fred Ledesma
 Alice & Louis Loftin
 Orianna Marchand
 Matt Markos
 Barbara Martin
 Gary & Vicky Minaldi
 Linda Meyers
 Ron & Michelle Mueller
 Joyce Murphy
 Eric Neal
 Leslie Brown Newton
 Arnold Northcut
 Kelly Simmons Owens
 Jim Padgett
 John & Candance Perkins
 Melva Phillips

Harlan Phipps
 Mercedes Pierson
 Justin Plake
 John Pool
 Kenny Puckett
 Charles Quinn
 Beverly Reese
 Buddy Renkema
 Nikki Castilaw Rice
 Edward Rivet
 Randy & Darlene Rivett
 Floyd Roche
 Ezekiel Romero
 Joann Savelle
 Shawna Shaw
 Loretta Shearer
 Brooke Simon
 Harriet Simpson
Family of Smitty Smith
 James Sowell
 Kim Streed
 Bob Taylor
 Sadina Hammock Ward
 Mary Alice Weitzel
 Herschel Williams
 Mary Rose Williams
 Gail Wright
 Greta Zeralsky



faithfannettumc@gmail.com + 409.794.1121 (office) + 832.792.4951 (Pastor)

We are called to be:

Transformed by God's love, Christ's sacrifice and the Spirit's work in our lives.

Engaged with all of God's children from the small to the tall, the near and the far.

Celebrate, worship & praise God as we care for each other.

Share the Good News of God's love in our thoughts, words and deeds.

Attributes

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