



So must the Son of Man
be lifted up

JOHN 3:14



UNITED MORAVIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Nigel Powell, Pastor | Bro. Oswald Steele, Vice-Chair, Board of Elders

Bro. Patrick Bernard Sr., Chairman, Board of Trustees

Mr. Orlando Alonso, Organist/Choir Director

Watchword for the Week: By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8

Organ Prelude

Mr. Orlando Alonso

*** CALL TO WORSHIP & DAILY TEXT March 15, 2015–**

Rev. Nigel Powell

*** Introit**

Gospel Choir

*** Processional Hymn #550**

“To God Be The Glory”

***Liturgy for Lent 4 (standing)**

Sis. Samar Potter & Rev. Nigel Powell

Delay not your conversion to the Lord, put it not off from day to day.

Let us search and examine our ways that we may return to the Lord.

(Sing)

If my people's hearts are humbled,
If they pray and seek my face,
If they turn away from evil,
I will not withhold my grace.
I will hear their prayers from heaven;
I will pardon every sin.
If my people's hearts are humbled,
I will surely heal their land.

Then my eyes will see their sorrow,
then my ears will hear their plea;
if my people's hearts are humbled
I will set their nation free.
If my people's Hearts are humbled,
if they pray and seek my face;
If they turn away from evil,
I will not withhold my grace.

(Sitting)

Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take words with you and return to the Lord; say to him. “Take away all guilt; accept that which is good, and we will offer the fruit of our lips.” I will heal their disloyalty; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily, he shall strike root like the forests of Lebanon. His shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive tree, and his fragrance like that of Lebanon. They shall again live beneath

my shadow, they shall flourish as a garden; they shall blossom like the vine, their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

Your word, O Lord, endures forever; it is firm as the heavens. My soul weeps for sorrow; strengthen me according to your words. A lamp to my feet is your word, a light to my path.

(Sing)

Come back to me with all your heart.
Don't let fear keep us apart.
Trees do bend, though straight and tall;
So must we to others' call.
Long have I waited for your coming
Home to me and living deeply our new life.

Behold, now is a very acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

The kindness of God leads us to repentance.

Come now, let us set things right, says the Lord. Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow.

Cleanse me of sin that I may be purified; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Sing

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am the dark world's light;
Look unto me your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sin; and in that Light of life I'll
walk, till travelling days are done.

Standing

Our God acts not by caprice but by careful design. Thus all the important acts of salvation have followed a period of purification and preparation.

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.

Before the covenant with the human race was made to Noah, a period of rain separated the just from the unjust.

For forty days and forty nights heavy rain poured down on the earth.

Before the covenant was given on Mount Sinai, Moses underwent a period of

preparation.

Moses passed into the midst of the cloud as he went up on the mountain; and there he stayed for forty days and forty nights.

Before the prophet Elijah could commune with God, he had to undergo a period of pilgrimage.

He got up, ate, and drank; then, strengthened by that food, he walked forty days and forty nights to the mountain of God.

Before the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus experienced a period of testing in the desert.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil.

Before his return to the Father, the risen Lord prepared the disciplines for the church's mission.

He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking to them about the kingdom of God.

Now we are gathered to celebrate another period of forty days, a period of preparation whose goal is the glory of Easter.

Let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us; while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith.

Sing

Come, all Christians, be committed to the service of the Lord;
Make your lives for him more fitted,
Tune your hearts with one accord. Come in to his
Courts with gladness, all your sacred vows renew,
Turn away from sin and sadness,
Be transformed with life anew.

Welcome and Announcements

Sis. Danielle Chambers

Birthday/Anniversary Hymn #447 "With Your Presence Lord"

***Intercessory Hymn #350 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"**

Intercessory Prayer

Prayer Warriors

#1st Scripture Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

Sis. Glennisha Hazel

2nd Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

Sis. Jalah Christopher

***Choral Response #846 "Glory be to you, O Lord"**

***THE GOSPEL**

John 3:14-21

Bro. Oswald Steele

***Choral Response #846 "Praise, Praise, Praise, Praise"**

Worship Selection

Gospel Choir

SERMON

Rev. Nigel Powell

***Hymn**

"In The Cross of Christ I Glory" (Tune 332)

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me,
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,

From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the cross are sanctified;

Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;

All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Sis. Hazel Hazel

***Offertory Sentence:**

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. (Galatians 2:20 NKJV)

***Dedication of Tithes and Offering:**

Loving Lord, who gave so much for us and to us, help us to see more clearly that your pattern of life is our model today. We pray that in that spirit we may bring to you our tithes and offerings and accept them as tokens of what we wish to do in everyday dedicated living. AMEN.

***Tithes and Offertory Hymn #511 "The Church's One Foundation"**

Presentation of Tithes/Offerings

***Ascription of Praise #817 (Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow)**

***Benediction**

Rev. Nigel Powell

***Recessional Hymn #706**

"God Sent His Son"

Organ Postlude (Congregation Seated)

Mr. Orlando Alonso

#Means the lesson is read responsively. * Means that the congregation stands.

WELCOME

On behalf of the United Moravian Church, I extend a warm welcome to everyone as we gather to worship on this Fourth Sunday in Lent. May we share and experience the love of Jesus; find healing for our hurts and answers to our prayers. Visitors, we are especially glad that you are here with us. Please join us for a moment of fellowship downstairs in the 3rd classroom after our worship service. We invite you to worship with us again and please join our fellowship if you are seeking a church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS MARCH 15, 2015

- We extend a special welcome to the friends and family of Sis. Primrose Samuel. They have joined us in worship to praise God for her 65th birthday.
- The social hall will be in use by Sis. Samuel and her friends after worship and our fellowship hour will be served downstairs in the 3rd classroom.
- The bulletins and flowers that grace the sanctuary today are given to Sis. Primrose Samuel and Bro. Whitfield Nicholas in honor of their birthdays by their sister Goldine Nicholas and Family.
- A bouquet of flowers is given in memory of Jennifer Matthews by her sister Ernestine Harris.
- Today, C.A.R.D will host their annual concert here at United. It will start at 3:30 pm and tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. Please come out and support an organization that helps our people.
- Sis. Murray will be back in the office this week.
- Our telephones were not working well for a couple of days but they are being repaired and functioning. We apologize for the inconvenience it may have caused you.
- Our dear Sis. Janet Aaron passed into the nearer presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Thursday March 5, 2015. The home going service for her was held here on Friday March 13th. Continue giving support to her family during their time of grief.
- Lenten services begin at 7:00 pm every Wednesday until April 1st. Please check the schedule for your group's participation.
- Regular bible studies will pick up again on Wednesday April 8th at 6:30 pm.
- The Women of United are available for one hour after each Sunday service to check anyone's blood pressure. They will be located downstairs in room B10.
- Attention all participants of the August 16, 2014 trip to Sight and Sound Theater. Your trip has now been rescheduled for March 28th. Please confirm your participation with Sis. McKay.

- The March birthdays will be celebrated on Sunday ,March 29th after service. Anyone who wants to participate in the celebration should speak with Sis. Hazel or Sis. Julia Joseph.
- The Metro Youth Council will meet here this coming Saturday, March 21st.
- On Easter Sunday, April 5th, United will have two services. The Moravian Women in Ministry plan to host an 8:00 am worship followed by a breakfast. The Antigua & Barbuda Group is having a fashion show and luncheon after the 11:00 am service.
- The Northern Province is accepting applications for youth delegates, youth entering the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades in the fall of 2015, and 2015 high school graduates, to attend 'Rise Up' the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America National youth gathering, July 15 - 19, 2015 in Detroit, Michigan. The ELCA Youth Gathering is a ministry of the church wide organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to, with and for high school-aged youth. The Gathering, as it is known, is a triennial event that takes place over five days – Wednesday to Sunday, and includes opportunities for worship, service, fellowship, study and holy play. The Northern Province via the 2014 Northern Provincial Synod, will cover the costs of selected youth delegates. For more information go to: <http://www.elca.org/YouthGathering> or contact Rev. Cynthia Rader Geyer, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, ED at cynthia@mcnp.org or 484-554-0102.

**2015 COMING
EVENTS**

Mar. 18 th	Lenten Service –Jamaica Group
Mar. 22 nd	Worship Service –Evangelism Committee
Mar. 25 th	Lenten Service –Youth Group
Mar. 29 th	Palm Sunday
	APRIL
Apr. 1 st	Lenten Service –U.S.V.I. Group
Apr.2 nd	Holy Thursday
Apr. 3 rd	Good Friday Service at 12:00 Noon
Apr. 5 th	Easter Sunday - Services at 8:00 & 11:00 am

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Sis. Nevaeh Campbell	1	Sis. Henrietta Gumbs	18
Sis. Elaine Merchant	4	Bro. Rolston Dolphin	18
Bro. Jonathan Tripp	4	Bro. Matthew Walker	19
Bro. Jahir Williams	4	Sis. Mary Mason-Simpson	21
Sis. Glennette Edwards	9	Sis. Maxine Powell	24
Sis. Telisha Campbell	10	Bro. Zaron Lumsden	25
Sis. Beverly Farquharson	11	Bro. Iva Grant	26
Bro. McKenzie L. Smith	12	Sis. Audrey Walker	26
Sis. Joyce Anderson	15	Bro. Marvin Nicholas Jr.	27
Sis. Primrose Samuel	15	Bro. Ernie Simpson	29
Bro. Shayne McKay	17	Sis. Alicia Allick-Goudie	29
Bro. Shomari Chinnery	17	Bro. Harold Manning	30 ^a
Bro. Whitfield Nicholas	17	Sis. Jade Simon	31
Sis. Joycelyn Valentine	17		

**PRAY & GIVE SUPPORT TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS
AND THEIR FAMILIES**

**Sis. Jannette Abel
Sis. Vernice Abel
Sis. Sis. Madiana Baptiste
Alicia Benjamin
Sis. Anna Bishop
Bro. Tralane Donovan
Sis: Ludwina George
Sis: Millicent Hodge
Sis. Eva Joseph
Sis: Minerva Joseph
Sis. Carmelita Keith
Sis. Catherine Knowles
Sis. Rose Lemond
Sis. Bernice McLean
Sis. Hyacinth Pelle
Bro. Berwin Roberts
Sis. Winifred Thomas
Bro. Luvey Williams
Sis. Iris Woodley**

When we are not in the best of health it is always comforting to know prayers and support are available. Remember those who are unable to join us week to week. To add them to our list of infirmed members call the church office at 212-722-2109.

Listening to the Sermon

Use the space provided below to make your personal notes. Reflect prayerfully and thoughtfully on them over the coming week. Seek the help of the Holy Spirit to apply God's truth to your heart and life.

SERMON TITLE

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Main points to remember

1.....
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2.....
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3.....
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Having heard the sermon, I have decided on the following:

1.....
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2.....
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3.....
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Happy
Birthday!

**To Sis. Primrose Samuel and
Bro. Whitfield Nicholas**

*May your special day be filled with the glory and
wonder of His abiding love, and may you feel his
presence throughout the coming year.*

Displayed

There's a certain vulnerability that comes with reclining in a dentist's chair, a tray of shiny, pointy instruments arranged near your elbow, a trickle of water gurgling in the spit sink near your head. Behind you, you might hear the snap of latex as the hygienist pulls on gloves, or the dentist humming out in the hallway. Maybe there's music being piped in that either soothes you or annoys you; but in either case, it fails to distract you from what you know is coming, and your anxiety ticks up a level.

While you wait for the team to begin prodding your mouth, you tilt your head all the way back, your neck pressed against the smooth leather, and you look up at the ceiling. Placed exactly where you can see it best is a poster—a gorgeous landscape photo overlaid with an inspiring quotation. It provides you with a focal point on which to concentrate while you undergo the procedure that will bring you healing and relief.

Look up.

In his preamble to some of the most famous words ever spoken, John 3:16, Jesus references the past and foreshadows the future as he talks of being “lifted up.” Put on display. Raised on, presumably, a cross. He would become a focal point for all who would see beyond themselves and see him. He would be the source of healing and relief for those would put aside their own agendas and trust in his saving ways.

“For God so loved the world . . .” Indeed. But in order to claim all of the wondrous benefits associated with Jesus, in order to know the peace and power, the comfort and courage, both in this world and the next, we need to look up.

*Chris Johnson, pastor, Fry's Valley Moravian Church,
New Philadelphia, Ohio*

The Moravian Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2015

