

Sunday | **March 8, 2020** | 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday of Lent

Diana Pomeroy

Week 2: The Wounds of Dishonoring Authority

Jesus is accused of dishonoring authority, calling himself a king.

Plain print indicates worship leader.

Bold print indicates the people.

*Indicates please stand as able.

Prelude ~ *Karla Stubblefield*

***Opening Hymn:** #454 Open My Eyes, That I
May See

***Response**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Christ shall startle many nations;

**kings shall shut their mouths because of
him;**

for that which had not been told them they
shall see,

**and that which they had not heard they
shall contemplate.**

Christ was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the punishment that made us
whole,

and by his bruises we are healed.

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20:12

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

**Most merciful God, we confess to you that
we have broken your commandments by
our own thoughts, words, and deeds.**

**We have failed to find our rest in you
and have lived in disobedience to your
commandment to worship you as our
one true God. We have not loved our
brothers and sisters as we ought, and
we have not cared for your creation. For
the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have
mercy on us, and give us the healing
power of your love that we may walk**

**again in your ways and live to the glory
of your holy name. Amen.**

God is gracious and merciful, and he desires
that we be made free of the burden of our
sins. Through Jesus Christ, who bore the
cross for our sake and for the sake of the
whole world, there is healing, hope, and life.
Your sins are forgiven in the name of the
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy
Spirit.

Amen.

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 6:1-4

***Gospel Reading:** John 19:12-16

Children's Time ~ *Pastor Greg*

*Following Children's Time the kids may either
attend children's worship or remain here
and worship with the grown-ups.*

Choir Anthem: No Greater Love

Prayer Before the Sermon

**Jesus, Savior of the people, giver of
unending grace, Heal our lives that now
are feeble; bless us in this holy place.
You have come to earth convicted as a
child of gentle reign. By your wounds we
all are healed; worthy is the Lamb that
was slain. Jesus, by your teaching,
healing, sharing meal with one and all,
You invite all those believing, everyone
who hears your call, Warming hearts in
hope unbounded, spreading love
throughout the plain. By your wounds
we all are healed; worthy is the Lamb
that was slain. When the cries to crucify
you were the wounding words to hear,
Even then, you made all things new with
forgiveness and love so clear. By our sin
you were afflicted, on the cross you bore
death's pain, By your wounds we all are
healed; worthy is the Lamb that was
slain.**

Sermon ~ *Diana Pomeroy*

Offertory: I Did Nothing But Believe ~ *choir*

Hymn: #560 Help Us Accept Each Other

Ushers collect prayer requests. Thank you for your prayers, presence, talents, treasure, and witness.

Prayers of the People, and the Lord's Prayer

Let us pray for the Church, for all in need, and for the whole of God's creation. That throughout these forty days of Lent, you may give your people hope that it is Jesus, our Lord, who leads the way and takes into his body on the cross the sins of the whole world.

Heal us, O God.

That we may honor parents, teachers, leaders, and all who work for the good of society.

Heal us, O God.

That those who suffer from injustice and want or hopelessness may find support and strength from family and friends and all in authority.

Heal us, O God.

That we may take up the mantle of the authority of the gospel and be agents of love and mercy to all in need.

Heal us, O God.

For those who have lived lives as your people of grace and faith, that all who have gone before us may be treasured in your parental care and redemption.

Heal us, O God.

Into your healing, wounded hands for our sake, we commend all for whom we pray.

By Christ's wounds, we are healed. Our Father... Amen.

Blessing

May the healing presence of almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

Amen.

Brief Announcements

***Closing Hymn:** #2208 Guide My Feet, Lord

***Postlude** ~ *Karla Stubblefield*

Thank You

Dear Vicksburg United Methodist Church, thank you for the flowers and allowing us to celebrate Gene's life in the Taylor Room. All of the guidance, support, and love is much appreciated by our family and friends and all those who loved Gene. He loved being part of your church family, and we are grateful and comforted by you all in our time of grief. Sincerely, ~ *the family of Gene Zang*

Thank you, everyone, for your prayers. ~ *Joyce Newton*

UMW Spring Fling

Greater Southwest United Methodist Women Spring Fling will be at Oshtemo United Methodist Church, 6574 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo, on March 21, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Register: send \$10 fee & registration form by 3/10 to: Cheryl Rumery, 35686 Mill Lake Rd., Gobles 49055. Registration forms on UMW bulletin in church narthex or online: <https://squareup.com/market/kalamazoo-district-united-methodist-women>.

Coming deadlines

- ScripCents orders are due in the church office by 2:00 Monday, March 16.

For Cheer and Hello

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| David Bretz | Robert & Carmen Parsons |
| Barb Griner | Marv & Kitty Starbuck |
| Flossie Lang | Mina Willett |
| Nona Mattheis | Betty Witcher |
| Beverly Nimmo | |

Today's acolytes are
Mac Read and Vaughan Read

March 1 attendance:
Worship 115 Sunday School 29

In Service to Our Country

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Ryan Miller | Tyler Smith |
| Walker Polsinelli | Geoff White |

This Week's Celebrations

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>Birthdays</u> | 3/13 Barb Addis |
| 3/11 Alan Smola | Nelly Avis |
| 3/12 Chuck Girolami | 3/14 Justin Moberley |

Prayer for Family and Friends

Praise

Praise the Lord!! Lauren is feeling stronger and gaining daily. Lots of doctor appointments this month. Prayers for good news! ~ *Julie Griffin*
Thank you for prayers. Heather Walker's surgery went well. Back home in Memphis. ~ *Vera Walker*
Praises for the birth of our grandson, Parker Len Wilson, born last Wednesday. ~ *Mike and Jody Tuinier*

Updates and New Requests This Week

Kaye Cousins (Laverne Swinehart's friend) is under Hospice care.
Jessie Farr (Joyce Newton's great-niece) is having chemo in preparation for surgery due to cancer.
Amy Hofmeister (Vera Walker's dear friend and ex-neighbor) is back home but fighting infection. Prayers for answers. Possibly a transplant. Prayers for Tyler Lynch as he works at Meijer.
Pat Ryde (Rich and Betsy Myers's longtime good friend in Petoskey) is in serious condition awaiting surgery after a head-on crash last week.
Prayers for Greg and Mardi White and family at the passing of Greg's mom, Fran White.
Please continue to pray for Africa. For peace, justice, and plenty. Pray for Jane (Noni Heikes's friend) and her family and their village as they struggle to exist.

Previous Requests

Shelly Bolton (Phyllis Barrett's daughter) is having her second surgery in a month.
Camery (Teegan Phillips's friend) is battling cancer.
Molly Clements, retired UM missionary, is in Hospice.
Jodie (Charlene Taylor's daughter) is recovering from a very difficult surgery.
Marie King (John and Linda Cleveland's friend) was taken to the hospital just in time, as she has pneumonia, heart problems, and her lungs and liver are infected.
Prayers for Jeff Kudary and family at the unexpected passing of his sister.
Prayers for the Lynn, Kugler, and Young families as Debra Kugler-Young passed into Heaven.
Lynne Melvin's mother-in-law is moving from her home of almost 50 years. Prayers for comfort and peace.
Monique's mother (Amy Phillips's friend) is in the hospital due to cancer that is now in her liver.
Joyce Newton is recovering from surgery.
Janet Snyder (Vera Walker's niece) is recovering from open heart surgery in Montana.
Pray for persecuted Christians around the world.

Thank you

It is amazing to see God working in our church! The coffee hour ministry has taken on a life of its own, and we are so blessed to be a part of this endeavor. We cannot thank you enough for supporting this ministry, providing food, sharing your stories and time with us, and welcoming everyone as ambassadors of the VUMC!

We have new sign up sheets, but God has provided us with a great amount of food through all of you, so they have almost become obsolete. Every Sunday, food gifts fill the table in the coffee area. We have prayed for enough food to meet our needs, and God has never let us down.

We welcome all to enjoy these gifts from God! You do not have to bring food to share these treats. You all have gifts from God that are utilized in the church. This particular ministry is assisted by those with the gift of hospitality, and we are so grateful for all who have answered that call. We are also grateful for those of you with other gifts such as exhortation, music, witnessing, discipleship, etc. God is definitely alive and well in the Vicksburg United Methodist Church! All the glory to God. ~ *Jeff and Cathy Johnson*

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Now We Enter the 1960's in Our Church History...

Many of you sitting here this morning remember the 1960's very well. You most likely were young 20's, some married with children. Your concentration was on raising a young family with one income. Your children had nearby grandparents to help with their "rearing" and to give the parents a free break now and then. Even without grandparents, it was easy to find many capable young ladies to babysit for 50 cents per hour. And there was always a young man to mow your lawn for \$2.50 to \$3.00.

One income could meet necessities, even paying for your own healthcare! My husband and I had our firstborn in 1960. The total bill for the doctor's entire 9 months and follow-up care was \$95. Franklin Hospital's bill was a grand total of \$110 for a 3-day stay. We still had to make payments, but it was doable. How long would it take a two-income couple to pay off the expenses of a firstborn child in 2020?

Our church in the 1960's was filled with young families with an average of three children...sometimes more. We had a group called "Young Adults" who met once a month to socialize. We had what was called a progressive dinner at one another's homes (this was a new take on what would be named a small group today). We loved it for the socializing and the gathering of new recipes. TV did not offer daily recipes to tempt...which was too bad, because the mothers had more time then to experiment.

Our church was thriving. During the 1960's, we had an average attendance of 207 at the church services, and Sunday School had 200. The EUB Church, which we were destined to unite with in 1968, had 140 at church services and 130 at Sunday School.

Marriages, baby showers, baptisms were almost a weekly thing. Young couples had a busy, thriving social life. Youth groups were very busy with many attendees of our church, mostly supervised and taught by one or more volunteer couples of our church members. Our school system understood and valued the church in their students' lives, keeping Wednesdays and Sundays open with no competing school opportunities. This was wise on their part. Otherwise, the parents of 1960 would have picketed the schools in favor of their choice of church life!

I cannot end this week's memories without also mentioning that our church and family life in Vicksburg was idyllic. Not true of our United States at this time. There was turbulence and riots depicted every day on our TV's, not to mention the 1963 assassination of our then President John Kennedy. Here in Vicksburg, we led a very insulated life. Question-Was this God's blessing for us because we put His Word first in our own and our families' lives? More next week of the 1960's.

*Thoughts, memories and research
by Nancy Fulton*

please see more on the other side

This Week's Calendar

Today

- 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class in the youth room
- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for everyone
- 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. High School Youth in youth rooms

Monday, March 9

- 6:30 p.m. Pickleball in the FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop in the Taylor Room

Tuesday, March 10

- all day Schoolcraft Twp. elections in the FLC*
- 2:00 p.m. Sew What Now God, Taylor Room
- 3:00 p.m. HELIX (middle school youth)
- 6:30 p.m. Scout Pack in the Taylor Room

Wednesday, March 11

- 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Winners, Taylor Rm
- 2:00 p.m. Caring Ministries in the Library
NO BELL CHOIR OR CHOIR PRACTICE
- 6:30 p.m. Friends of Vicksburg Youth, Taylor Rm
- 6:30 p.m. Pickleball in the FLC

Thursday, March 12

- 5:30 p.m. Preschool Board in the Library
- 6:30 p.m. Scouts Distr. Roundtable, Taylor Rm
- 7:00 p.m. Discipleship study at the Franklin home

Friday, March 13 - Pastor's Day Off

- 10:15 a.m. Blood Drive in the FLC till 4:15
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner/Euchre Tourn., Taylor Room

Saturday, March 14

no church activities are scheduled

Next Week

Sunday, March 15

- 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class in the youth room

Thursday, March 19

- 9:30 a.m. Susanna Wesley Circle, Taylor Room

Saturday, March 21

- 8:30 a.m. Loaves & Fishes in the FLC till 9:30a

Flowers for the church altar

We need flowers for Sundays. There is a sign up sheet for this. If you need help, contact Dee Morton about ordering flowers from Heirloom Rose in Schoolcraft for \$25.

VUMC's Mission Statement



The General Rule of Discipleship

To witness to Jesus Christ in the world, and to follow his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

please see more on the other side