

Algona First United Methodist Church



Welcome Serve Love

This Weeks Schedule

March 1

- Men's Breakfast 8am
- Worship 5pm

March 2

- Worship 9am
- Adult & High School Bible Study 10:15am
- Church Chicks 5:30pm

March 3

- LHN 9-11:30am
- Blood Drive 12:30-5:30pm

March 4

- ELO 9-2pm
- Mat Weaving 9-11:30am
- Homestead 9am
- Van Buren 10am
- Prayer Devotion @ 12 noon
- AKTION Club 5pm

March 5

- LHN 9-11:30am
- ELO 9-2pm
- Mat weaving 3:30-5:30pm
- Vine Meal/Worship 5:30pm
- Bells, Adult Bible Study, Kids Club, 5/6th Grade Youth Group, 7/8th Confirmation @ 6:15pm
- Choir & High School Youth Group 7pm

March 6

- LHN 9-11:30am
- UWF Executive Meeting 11:15am
- UWF General Meeting 12 noon

March 7

- ELO 9-10am
- Office closes @12 noon

Prayer Requests

Jean Sabus, Cindy Massey, Tom Larson, Bruce Thomas, Larry Johnson, Bob & Nita Boleneus, Julie Hayes (knee surgery) Steve and Rose King, Dennis Leigh, Liz LeBlanc, The Jan Lindhorst Family.

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome to all who have come in search of something;

People: We have come to seek the living God.

L: Happy are those who find a way and follow that path;

P: We do not make this journey by ourselves.

L: Blessed are those who give their lives over to their Creator.

P: In faith, in trust, with hope, let us worship God.

Unison Opening Prayer

In this moment we come to you and lay our lives before you. May we honor, worship and adore you with every fiber of our being. Father, we proclaim that you are the Holy One, the Lord God Almighty. Your beauty and majesty are beyond compare. On this day we join with all those who worship and confess you as Lord. Lord we adore you. Lord we love you. Lord we bow down and worship you. Amen.

***Song #327** *“Crown Him with Many Crowns” (Saturday)*
“Lay Me Down” (Sunday)

Old Testament Reading *Psalms 100*

Unison Congregational Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, You have called us to a great hope and purpose. You have invited us to cling to You in every season. However, we allow distractions to drag us away from Your presence. Instead of turning to You, we indulge our worries, frustrations, and disappointments.

Forgive us when we seek shelter in our own comfort and control. Teach us again to trust You, O God, our protector. Bring us out of our distress, O God, our deliverer. Grant us the ability to build our lives on the firm foundation of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Song #400** *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” (Saturday)*
“Jesus Messiah” (Sunday)

Sharing of Joys & Prayer Requests

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord’s Prayer

Offering & *Doxology

*Offertory Prayer

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

***Song #292** *“What Wondrous Love Is This” (Saturday)*
“Come To the Table” (Sunday)

Children’s Message

New Testament Reading

John 12:1-10, 20-26
Message *“What Is Your Response to Jesus?”*

Communion

Communion Songs #301 *“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”* & #382 *“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”*

*Unison Benediction

Let us go forth into the world in peace and dedicated to Your service, O Lord. Let us love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of Your Holy Spirit. And may God’s blessing be upon us and remain with us always. Amen.

Sermon Notes

What is Your Response to Jesus? John 12

Deep Gratitude Spilling Over to Lavish Worship: 12

¹Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²Here a dinner was given in Jesus’ honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus’ feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

Deep Hypocrisy Motivated by Personal Benefit:

⁴But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, “‘Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” ⁶He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

Same Evidence produces Opposite Responses:

⁹Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, “for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him . . .” ¹²Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. ¹³Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. ¹⁴So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!” . . .

“Hosanna!” on Sunday, “Crucify!” on Friday: ¹²The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. ¹³They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna!”

Religious “Outsiders” are eager to meet Jesus:

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.”

Reckless abandonment to the will of God:

²³Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

The Choice - To Believe or not Believe:

³⁵Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. ³⁶Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light.” When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.³⁷Even after Jesus had performed so many signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. ³⁸This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet:⁴²Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not openly acknowledge their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³for they loved human praise more than praise from God.