



***What you hear  
whispered, proclaim  
from the housetops.***

WILLIAMSPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WILLIAMSPORT, OHIO 43164

June 20, 1993, 10:45 AM

Mike Swanton - Pastor

Eileen Easterday - Liturgist

Jean Valone - Organist

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FATHER'S DAY

Prelude: "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"  
arranged by Wesley Hanson

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of Guests

Registration of Attendance

(Please include your address)

Calendar and Announcements

\* Call to Worship: Romans 12:1,2

L. I appeal to you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

P. DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWAL OF YOUR MIND,

ALL. THAT YOU MAY PROVE WHAT IS THE WILL OF GOD; WHAT IS GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE AND PERFECT.

\* Hymn of Praise "God of Our Fathers" #408  
(Red Hymnal)

Unison Prayer: "Three Things We Pray"

THANKS BE TO THEE, O LORD JESUS CHRIST, FOR ALL THE BENEFITS WHICH THOU HAST GIVEN US; FOR ALL THE PAINS AND INSULTS WHICH THOU HAST BORNE FOR US. O MOST MERCIFUL REDEEMER, FRIEND, AND BROTHER, MAY WE KNOW THEE MORE CLEARLY, LOVE THE MORE DEARLY, AND FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY, FOR THINE OWN SAKE. AMEN.

The Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

Special Music: The Pickaway Brass  
"Amazing Grace" arr. by Jeff Matthews  
"Ivory Palaces" by Henry Barra-Clough

Children's Message: Children and Pastor Mike

Hymn "Faith of our Fathers" #710  
(Blue Hymnals)

Prayer for Illumination The Pastor

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 18:16-19; I Peter 5:1-3

Message: Christian Fatherhood

Response to God's Word:

Prayer by the Pastor

The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" -Bach  
\* Doxology

\* Hymn "Happy the Home" #445  
(Blue Hymnal)

\* Taking the light into the World

\* Benediction

\* Benedictional Response "Lord Dismiss Us" #671

\* Postlude "March Pontificale"  
by Charles Gounod

Moments of Fellowship before parting.

#### PARISH CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tues. 7:30 P.M. Bible Study on the gospel of Mark  
in the youth room.

Sat. 6:30 P.M. Wedding of Melissa Mowery and  
Rick Conley.

NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 27 Vacation Bible School meeting  
right after worship in the youth room.

7:30 P.M. "Vespers" service at the Community  
square: Deer Creek Cooperative's annual fellowship  
and service. Our church will furnish beverages.  
Others will bring finger foods. Let's have a good  
representation from Williamsport this year!

(NOTE: "vespers" is a Latin term meaning an early  
evening worship service.)

# God's Day Ends in the Morning

**T**hroughout our Bible this thought prevails, that sunset is the beginning of the day. . . .

This conception roots far back beyond the Bible when the earliest tribes were nomads of the desert. In the heat of the desert sun they kept in their tents. In the cool of the evening life could actively begin.

But does this not have more meaning than that expressed in the custom of these ancient people? Was there not in mind a deeper consideration?

*Out of the night* came God's first creative act; namely, Creation. The primary fact was darkness and mystery. It was out of this void that God created his world and all that dwells within it.

To know that it was out of the darkness that God created suggests to us that he is active too in the darkness of our night. All of the universe belongs to him.

Not only was it out of darkness that God created light, *but out of the darkness of our experience many times comes the dawn*—day begins in the evening.

It is when we are broken in spirit, when life crowds us in a corner, when we are in despair, when our human resources fail . . . light begins to break for us. It is not the end but the beginning of new life.

We see this truth revealed in the Cross, *darkness hovered over Christ*. His disciples were in despair. The earth darkened at the Crucifixion.

Then . . . the day ended with the Resurrection. The Cross was in reality the beginning of the day. Love broke forth on the world. The bonds of death were broken.

Adapted from *Devotions for Adult Groups* by Wallace Fridy.  
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