



March 26, 2023

In Ministry

Minister:

Scott Wagoner

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Organ:

Carmen Farlow

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Piano, & Voice:

Wanda Simmons

John 16:19-22

¹⁹ Jesus knew they wanted to ask him, so he said, “Are you trying to find out from each other what I meant when I said, ‘Soon you won’t see me, and soon after that you will see me’?” ²⁰ I assure you that you will cry and lament, and the world will be happy. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman gives birth, she has pain because her time has come. But when the child is born, she no longer remembers her distress because of her joy that a child has been born into the world. ²² In the same way, you have sorrow now; but I will see you again, and you will be overjoyed. No one takes away your joy.

Message:

The Gift of Joy

Open Worship: In this time of open worship, Friends take time to center down, wait on God to provide ministry to your soul and see if God wishes to use you as an instrument of grace.

Hymn: The Summons (see Incert)

Benediction:

Postlude

Thoughts For Reflection:

Joy is a gift that is there even when we are sorrowful, even when we are in pain, even when things are difficult in our lives. The joy that Jesus offers is a joy that exists in very, very difficult situations...If there is anything the church wants to teach us it is that the joy of God can be with us always - in moments of sickness, in moments of health, in moments of success in moments of failure, in moments of birth, in moments of death. The joy of God is never going to leave us."

(Henri Nouwen, *Following Jesus*)

High Point Friends Meeting

Prelude :

Festive Psalm of Praise

Welcome & Announcements:

Centering Prayer: "Loving God, may the joy of Your salvation be the joy of our hearts. We offer gratitude for the moments of joy this past week that lifted our hearts and strengthened our soul. Open us up to life's celebrations when they come our way. May we receive joy as a gift and not an obligation. Amen."

Hymn:

Joyful, Joyful # 14

Prayers & Concerns:

Offertory:

God So Loved the World

Choir:

Fairest Lord Jesus *arr. Derek Hakes*

Scripture :

John 16:19-22

Hymn:

Precious Lord, Take My Hand #422
