



**We proclaim
Christ crucified.**
For God's
foolishness is
wiser than
human wisdom,
and God's weak-
ness is stronger
than human
strength.

1 Corinthians

1:23,25

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

LIBERTY POLE — Sun. Worship 9:00 AM — S6759 Hwy. 27 — (608) 675-3630

VIROQUA — Sun. Worship 10:30 AM — 221 S. Center Ave. — (608) 637-3551

February 21, 2010

1st Sunday of Lent

*Please stand if you are able

PRELUDE *a time to prepare for worship through prayer and meditation*

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP - VIR.

WELCOMING WORDS

(please sign the attendance sheets)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively) *Psalm 138:4-6*

All the rulers of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,

for they have heard the words of your mouth;

and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord,

for great is the glory of the Lord.

For the Lord is high, but regards the lowly;

yet knows the haughty from afar.

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) "First Sunday in Lent"

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

(from *The Book of Common Prayer*)

*HYMN OF PRAISE "We Believe in One True God" Hymnal No. 85

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH the Apostles' Creed Hymnal No. 881

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS & CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Hymnal No. 895

CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE - VIR.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Matthew 10:28-42*

(insert)

SPECIAL MUSIC - L.P.

CHOIR ANTHEM - VIR. "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Lovelace

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *I Corinthians 1:18-29* (insert)

*HYMN - L.P. "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Hymnal No. 298

*HYMN - VIR. "Lamb of God" *The Faith We Sing* Hymnal No. 2113

SERMON "The Cross In Our Faith" Pastor Ethan Larson

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN "Lift High the Cross" Hymnal No. 159

*BENEDICTION

*THREEFOLD AMEN (unison) Hymnal No. 898

*POSTLUDE

LIBERTY POLE

VIROQUA

USHERS Steve & Angie Hornby Jerry Schroeder & Dan Casper

GREETER Joanne Hornby

ACOLYTE Tyler Pierce

NURSERY ATTENDANT Melissa Weinau

LITURGISTS Bryce Funk Janet Welch

Last Sunday's attendance: 51 69

Last Sunday's offering: \$617 \$970

Pastor Ethan Larson

Organists: Joyce Funk (Liberty Pole), Kathy Hanson & Barb Casper (Viroqua)

Choir Director (Viroqua): Lynn Whitney

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pastor@viroquaumc.org

THE WVRQ RADIO BROADCAST today is given in memory of Grandpa Zitzner and Grandma GG, from their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

THE LIBERTY POLE BULLETINS today are sponsored by Fred and Joyce Funk in memory of John and Helen Zitzner.

THE VIROQUA BULLETINS today are given in honor of the Education Committee.

CALENDAR

today	5 PM	Viroqua Education Committee serves meal at Fortney Hotel
Tues.	7:30 PM	joint Staff/Parish Relations Committee meeting at Viroqua
Wed.	noon	Lenten Bible study at Viroqua (see below)
Wed.	1:15 PM	prayer service at Viroqua
Wed.	4 PM	confirmation class at Viroqua
Wed.	4:30-6:30	Taco Supper at Viroqua
Wed.	6 PM	choir practice at Viroqua
Wed.	7 PM	ecumenical Lenten service at Viroqua, Fr. Cook preaching

The Book of Job gives us lots to think about. A **Lenten Bible study** based on this book of the Bible will begin this Wednesday, February 24th and continue each Wednesday throughout Lent. The group will meet from 12:00 to 1:00 pm at the Viroqua Church. Bring your lunch and join us for this study.

Viroqua Community Theatre presents "**Nonsense!**" Come join the Little Sisters of Hoboken in an evening of fast-paced comedy, music and dancing, a perfect cure for the mid-winter blues! "Nonsense" will be presented Feb. 26 and 27 at 8PM, and Feb. 21 and 28 at 2PM, all at the historic Temple Theater. Tickets on sale at the door, and at businesses around town for \$15, or \$12 for children and seniors.

Matthew 10:28-42

²⁸ Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. ³⁰ And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

³² "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. ³³ But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to turn

" 'a man against his father,
a daughter against her mother,
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—
³⁶ a man's enemies will be the members of his
own household.'

³⁷ "Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸ and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

⁴⁰ "He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward. ⁴² And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."

1 Corinthians 1:18-29

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written:

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

²⁰ Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²² Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

²⁶ Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may boast before him.