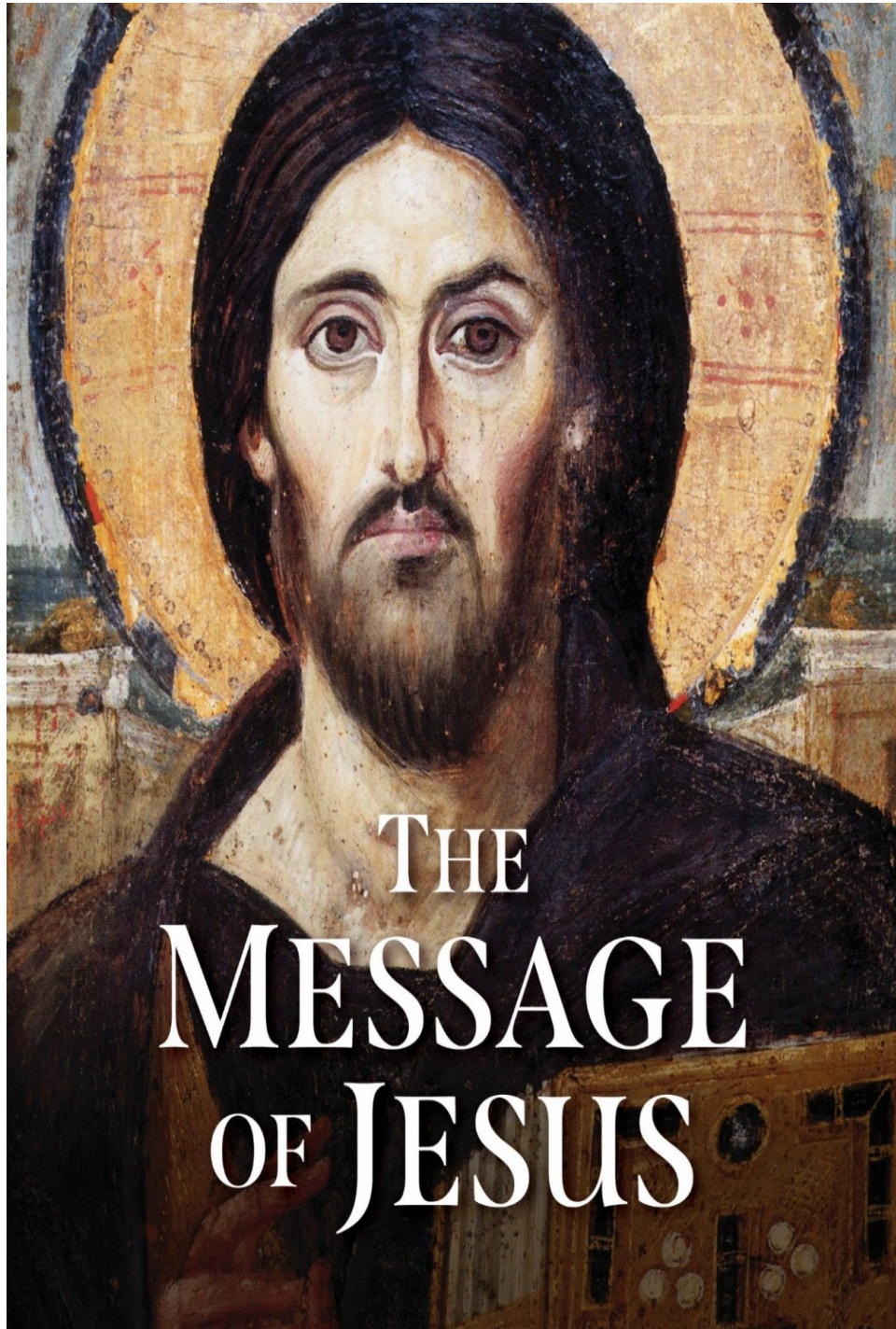


Waupun  
United Methodist Church  
March 5, 2025  
Ash Wednesday worship - 6:00 pm



**Welcome to worship.  
May you find the presence of God wherever you are.**

At the \* sign, please stand as you are able.

**Bold print** = Congregational Response

Prelude

Welcome

Video Call to Worship

“You Alone Have the Words of Eternal Life, O Lord

**Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe Jesus Christ brought God’s Kingdom near, calling all people to repent and believe the good news.**

**We believe his death on the cross exposes both the reality of human sin and the depths of God’s selfless, sacrificial love.**

**We believe his resurrection is God’s ultimate victory over sin, hate, evil, and death.**

**We believe that through the Holy Spirit, Jesus still calls us and all to repent and believe the gospel, yielding our hearts to God alone, embodying in our lives the justice, mercy, and love of God’s rule.**

**\*Opening Hymn      Red #462      on supplement      “’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”**

**Psalm Response                      Red #750                      on supplement                      Psalm 19**

Bible Reading

John 6:60-69

<sup>60</sup> Many of his disciples said, “This is very hard to understand. How can anyone accept it?”

<sup>61</sup> Jesus was aware that his disciples were complaining, so he said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup> Then what will you think if you see the Son of Man ascend to heaven again? <sup>63</sup> The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup> But some of you do not believe me.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning which ones didn’t believe, and he knew who would betray him.) <sup>65</sup> Then he said, “That is why I said that people can’t come to me unless the Father gives them to me.”

<sup>66</sup> At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him. <sup>67</sup> Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, “Are you also going to leave?”

<sup>68</sup> Simon Peter replied, “Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. <sup>69</sup> We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God.” New Living Translation (NLT)

Pastor’s Message

“Words of Life”

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving over the Ashes

Imposition of Ashes

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God,**

**we confess we have failed to live as your holy people.**

**We have cared for ourselves at others’ expense.**

**We have not answered your calls for justice and peace.**

**We have harmed the creation you entrusted to our care, and have ignored your image in our neighbors.**

**In your mercy, forgive us.**

**By your Holy Spirit, empower us to live as loyal subjects of your realm, and as more faithful followers of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(We pause for a moment of reflection.)

**Words of Assurance**

(based on Colossians 1:13-14)

God has saved us from the power of darkness,  
bringing us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,  
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.  
Believe the Good News: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!


**The Lord's Prayer**

\*Closing Hymn            Red #600            on supplement            "Wonderful Words of Life"

**\*Blessing**

May the God who rules all things,  
Jesus Christ to whom all knees shall bend,  
and the Holy Spirit who spreads the Kingdom of Heaven  
bless you and keep you, now and always. **Amen.**

Today's Worship Ministers:	<b>All of us – wherever we are</b>
Tech Operators:	Brady Bronson and Val Dolgner
Worship Music Leader:	Sue Rens Guell
Worship Leader/Preacher:	Pastor Steve Miller

<p><b>Waupun United Methodist Church</b> Church phone: 920-324-9721 Church website: <a href="http://waupunumc.com">waupunumc.com</a> Church e-mail: <a href="mailto:waupunumc@gmail.com">waupunumc@gmail.com</a> Pastor's e-mail: <a href="mailto:waupunumcpastor2019@gmail.com">waupunumcpastor2019@gmail.com</a> Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-697-9045 Church Facebook page: United Methodist Church-Waupun</p>	
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**The Message of Jesus Bible study**

More than three billion people claim to follow Jesus. But aside from a few verses, how many actually know what he taught?

For the next six weeks, beginning Wednesday, March 12, you are invited to learn again, or for the first time, what Jesus actually said and how that impacts your life as a follower of Jesus.

The 6-week study will begin at 6:00 pm each Wednesday evening until April 16, and I encourage you to be present this year although we will livestream the study. The study book is more important this year and they are available for \$15 from the church office or on-line.