

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 34 South Main Street Rochester, NH 03867 (603) 948-1225 or (603) 948-1179 Email at Office@firstumcrochester.org

February 18, 2024
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

(*) The congregation is invited to stand as able (BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds

THE CHURCH GATHERS

SILENT PRAYER AND TIME FOR CENTERING

PRELUDE: St. Anthony Chorale F. J. Haydn/ Arr. K. McChesney

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*CALL TO WORSHIP ***

Creator God,

you made us from the dust of the earth.

You breathe your Spirit into us, and it gives us life.

Loving Christ,

you walk with us on the dusty roads of our human frailty.

You give us courage to face our shadows, and it gives us hope.

Holy Spirit,

you drove Jesus into the wilderness.

You draw us into our lives, and it gives us gratitude.

We worship you.

We trust you.

We follow you into the desert.

Bless us,

that we may repent and believe the good news. Amen.

501 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



WORDS: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796) and others MUSIC: John Hughes (1873-1932)

CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

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*PRAYER OF CONFESSION ***

We admit we are hesitant to walk
to Jerusalem and beyond with you, God of Glory.
In a world where we worry about tomorrow
before enjoying today,
we race by your moments of silence, of learning.
In that flood of worries,

which can overwhelm us, we may miss that assurance that you have not cut us off from your grace.

In the deserts of our desires, we may ignore that feast of hope, of joy, of life you offer to us.

Forgive us and have mercy on us, Gentle Guardian of our souls.

In humility, may we offer our lives to others.

In love, may we share your grace with everyone we meet.

In hope, may we wait for you all our days, as you come to us in the life and joy of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE ***

In this place we find God's word, God's way, God's love, God's forgiveness.

What more do we need to sustain us as we continue as pilgrims along the Way?

In every wilderness, on every road; in every moment, in every life; in every journey, in every heart, we receive the daily bread we need—God's hope, God's mercy, God's joy.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 9:8-17 (Pg. 6) **

ANTHEM Shall We Gather at the River Arr. Aaron Copland

<u>Copyright restrictions don't allow this morning's anthem from being broadcast. The</u> <u>text is included as well as a link to a website with background on the text.</u>

Shall we gather at the river, Where bright angel feet have trod, With its crystal tide forever, Flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain
Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river, Soon our pilgrimage will cease; Soon our happy hearts will quiver With the melody of peace.

Words & Music, Robert Lowery 1864 PUBLIC DOMAIN.

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

CHILDREN MESSAGE: (WHEN CRILDREN ARE PRESENT)



Text: Matthew 4:1–11, Luke 4:1–13; Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007, © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: EBENEZER, 8 7 8 7 D; Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

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GOSPEL LESSON: N

Mark 1:9-15

(Pg. 812) **

Please remain standing for the Gospel Lesson For the word of God in Scripture, For the word of God among us, For the word of God within us, Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI



WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent. MUSIC: Charles Meineke, 1844 MEINEKE

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SERMON

"People of the NEW COVENANT -Wilderness Bootcamp" ££

THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD



500 Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart



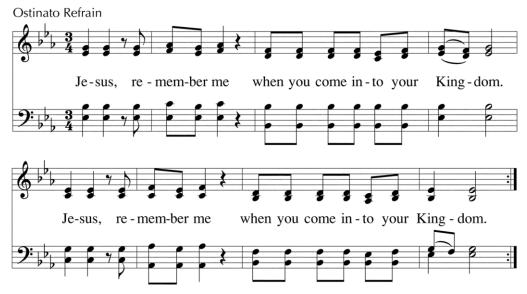
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER SONG





Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community, 1981 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994 © 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

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INVITATION TO PRAYER:

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

(UMH p. 895)

PRAYER SONG (As above)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

During this time, we are grateful for your continuing financial support of our ministries.

OFFERTORY MUSIC Improvisation Kevin G. Lindsay

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

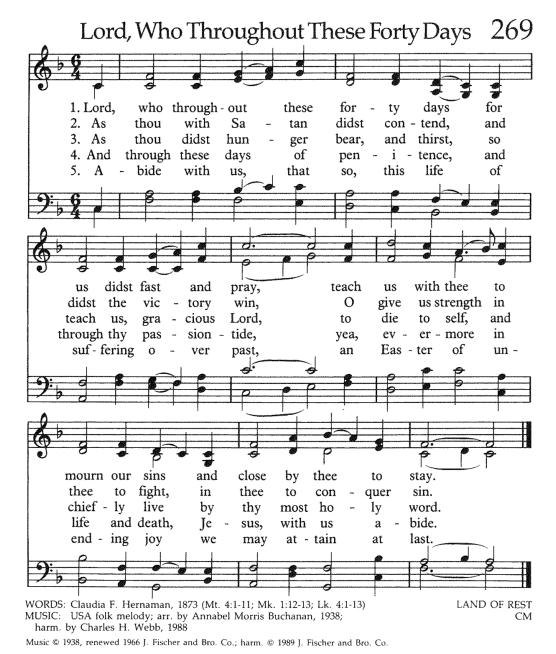


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Offertory Prayer:

THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE



Words: Claudia F. Hernaman © 1989 J. Fischer and Bro. Co. Music: USA Folk Melody arr. by Annabel Morris Buchanan & harm. By Charles Webb © 1989, United Methodist Publishing House; Reprinted & recorded under oneLicense.net #A 711296

*BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY <u>SORTIE</u> *Improvisation Kevin G. Lindsay*

VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

<u>Liturgist:</u> Ken Downes Video and Sound Engineer: John Wilderman

Altar Flowers: In commemoration of Eileen Dass Birthday, given by Vasant Dass.

<u>Image on Cover</u>: Coventry Cathedral - <u>John Piper's baptistery window</u>, from **Art in the**

Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville,

TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54907 [retrieved February 5, 2024].

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Background on image is found HERE

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***Worship elements by Steve Garnass Holmes at unfoldinglight.com

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Looking Ahead

Readings for February 25, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 / Psalm 22:23-31

Romans 4:13-25 / Mark 8:31-38

For more about our ministries please visit our website http://www.firstumcrochester.org/
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