



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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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.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

501 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this bar - ren land;
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing stream doth flow;
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious fears sub - side;



I am weak, but thou art might - y—hold me with thy power - ful hand:
let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my jour - ney through:
bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent, land me safe on Ca - naan's side:



Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en, feed me till I want no
Strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more, (want no more,) feed me till I want no more.
shield, (strength and shield,) be thou still my strength and shield.
thee, (give to thee,) I will ev - er give to thee.



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

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

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 CHILDREN ARE PRESENT)

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

Jesus, Tempted in the Desert



1. Je - sus, tempt - ed in the des - ert,
2. Je - sus, tempt - ed at the tem - ple,
3. Je - sus, tempt - ed on the moun - tain
4. When we face temp - ta - tion's pow - er,



Lone - ly, hun - gry, filled with dread: "Use your pow'r," the
High a - bove its an - cient wall: "Throw your - self from
By the lure of vast do - main: "Fall be - fore me!
Lone - ly, strug - gling, filled with dread, Christ, who knew the



tempt - er tells him; "Turn these bar - ren rocks to bread!"
loft - y tur - ret; An - gels wait to break your fall!"
Be my ser - vant! Glo - ry, fame, you're sure to gain!"
tempt - er's ho - ur, Come and be our liv - ing bread.



"Not a - lone by bread," he an - swers,
Je - sus shuns such emp - ty mar - vels,
Je - sus sees the daz - zling vi - sion,
By your grace, pro - tect, pre - serve us



"Can the hu - man heart be filled.
Feats that fick - le crowds re - quest:
Turns his eyes an - oth - er way:
Lest we fall, your trust be - tray.



On - ly by the Word that calls us
"God, whose grace pro - tects, pre - serves us,
"God a - lone de - serves our hom - age!
Yours, a - bove all oth - er voic - es,



Is our deep - est hun - ger stilled!"
We must nev - er vain - ly test."
God a - lone will I o - bey!"
Be the Word we hear, o - bey.

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: [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

Glory Be to the Father

70

The musical score is written for voice and piano in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men. A - men.'

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

MEINEKE
Irr.

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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

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
3. Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King?
4. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;
5. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,
wean it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind.
teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear.
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;
stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
no an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh,
the kin - dling of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

WORDS: George Croly, 1867 (Gal. 5:25)
MUSIC: Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870

MORECAMBE
10 10.10 10

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Sharing of Joys and Concerns*

PRAYER SONG

Jesus, Remember Me

Ostinato Refrain

Je-sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.

Je-sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community, 1981
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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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

Unison

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;

praise God, all crea - tures here be - low:

Harmony

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts!

Refrain (Harmony)

Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
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LASST UNS ERFREUEN
88.44.88 with Refrain

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Offertory Prayer:

THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days 269

1. Lord, who through-out these for-ty days for
2. As thou with Sa-tan didst con-tend, and
3. As thou didst hun-ger bear, and thirst, so
4. And through these days of pen-i-tence, and
5. A-bide with us, that so, this life of

us didst fast and pray, teach us with thee to
didst the vic-tory win, O give us strength in
teach us, gra-cious Lord, to die to self, and
through thy pas-sion-tide, yea, ev-er-more in
suf-fering o-ver past, an Eas-ter of un-

mourn our sins and close by thee to stay.
thee to fight, in thee to con-quer sin.
chief-ly live by thy most ho-ly word.
life and death, Je-sus, with us a-bide.
end-ing joy we may at-tain at last.

WORDS: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873 (Mt. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:12-13; Lk. 4:1-13)

MUSIC: USA folk melody; arr. by Annabel Morris Buchanan, 1938;

harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1988

LAND OF REST

CM

Music © 1938, renewed 1966 J. Fischer and Bro. Co.; harm. © 1989 J. Fischer and Bro. Co.

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 #A711296

*BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

SORTIE

Improvisation

Kevin G. Lindsay

VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Liturgist:

Ken Downes

Video and Sound Engineer:

John Wilderman

Altar Flowers:

In commemoration of *Eileen Dass* Birthday, given by Vasant Dass.

Image on Cover:

Coventry Cathedral - John Piper's baptistery window, from **Art in the**

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

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Background on image is [found HERE](#)

££ Music during sermon:

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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](#)

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