



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 18, 2024

First Sunday of Lent

*As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation
as we prepare to worship God together.*

Prelude

Out of the Depths I Call to You, O Lord

J. S. Bach

Choral Introit

Lead Me Lord

Call to Worship

Leader: There are some journeys for which we long.

People: But the journey to the cross looks as though it will be difficult.

Leader: The way of discipleship and faith is fulfilling but can be difficult.

People: We would prefer something easier. We are not ready for this trip.

Leader: Put your hearts at ease. We are not traveling alone.

People: With God's help, we can complete the journey. Let's take the first step together!

Hymn No. 269

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

LAND OF REST

1. Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,
teach us with thee to mourn our sins and close by thee to stay.
2. As thou with Satan didst contend, and didst the victory win,
O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to conquer sin.
3. As thou didst hunger bear, and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,
to die to self, and chiefly live by thy most holy word.
4. And through these days of penitence, and through thy passiontide,
yea, evermore in life and death, Jesus, with us abide.
5. Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering over past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

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Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: The season of Lent is here again and, as with so many times before,
we find that we are not really ready for this journey of discipleship.
So many things claim our lives
and prevent us from being ready to take the steps in faith.
As we look at our barrier of readiness,
help us to remember that Christ is with us, every step of the way.
We are not alone.
Christ will help lift our hearts and spirits and direct our paths.
Enable us, loving Savior, to take this journey of faith to new life with you. Amen.**

Announcements

Children's Time

Prayer of Illumination

Psalter

Psalm 25:1-10

Samuel Sebastian Wesley



Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righ-teous-ness;
make thy way plain be - fore my face.

Response

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- 2 **O my God, in you I trust,
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.**
- 3 Let none that wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are clothed with treachery.
- 4 Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
- 5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
**for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.**

Response

- 6 Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
- 7 **Remember not the sins of my youth, or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**
- 8 Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore the Lord instructs sinners in the way,
- 9 and leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches them their way.
- 10 **All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep the Lord's covenant and testimonies.**

Response

Epistle Reading

[I Peter 3:18-22](#)

Hymn No. 2105

Jesus Tempted in the Desert

EBENEZER

1. Jesus, tempted in the desert, lonely, hungry, filled with dread;
“Use your power,” the tempter tells him “Turn these barren rocks to bread!”
“Not alone by bread,” he answers, “Can the human heart be filled.
Only by the Word that calls us is our deepest hunger stilled!”
2. Jesus, tempted at the temple, high above its ancient wall:
“Throw yourself from lofty turret; angels wait to break your fall!”
Jesus shuns such empty marvels, feats that fickle crowds request:
“God, whose grace protects, preserves us, we must never vainly test”

3. Jesus, tempted on the mountain by the lure of vast domain
 “Fall before me! Be my servant! Glory, fame, you’re sure to gain!”
 Jesus sees the dazzling vision, turns his eyes another way:
 “God alone deserves our homage! God alone will I obey!”

4. When we face temptation’s power lonely, struggling, filled with dread,
 Christ, who knew the tempter’s hour, come and be our living bread.
 By your grace, protect, preserve us lest we fall your trust betray.
 Yours, above all other voices, be the Word we hear, obey.

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Gospel Reading

[Mark 1:9-15](#)

Sermon

The Day After Your Name Goes on the Most Wanted List

Dr. Matt Bates

Affirmation of Faith No. 883

A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God’s world.
 We believe in God:
 who has created and is creating,
 who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
 to reconcile and make new,
 who works in us and others by the Spirit.
 We trust in God.
 We are called to be the church:
 to celebrate God’s presence,
 to love and serve others,
 to seek justice and resist evil,
 to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
 our judge and our hope.
 In life, in death, in life beyond death,
 God is with us.
 We are not alone.
 Thanks be to God. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Anthem

Pater Noster

TR Jarrell

Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer
 The Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer No. 895

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name.
 Thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those that trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power**

and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn No. 292

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.
2. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of life
to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.
3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme I will sing.
4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.

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Benediction

Choral Response

Lead Me Lord

Postlude

Fugue from Sonata in D No. 6

Felix Mendelssohn

*The altar flowers this morning are given in honor of Barry & Jayne Penn Hollar
by Florence Clay Bishop.*

*The rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Arthur Watson Deel,
son of Rachel Bates and Andrew Deel and grandson of Rev. Matt and Amy Bates.*

Reminder!

Help us know that you worshiped with us this morning by signing the online attendance pad [here](#).

*Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us throughout the week to make all the worship services
this week possible.*

Welcome!

Centenary United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation, extending hospitality and encouraging full participation of all, regardless of age, race, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, education, economic background, and physical or mental ability.

We are glad that you have joined us today! If you are a new guest, we hope that you experience a warm welcome! Please return soon and consider us for your church home. If you are interested in church membership, please speak with a pastor.

Announcements

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH - The Smethie Circle of the Women in Faith (UMW) will meet on **Wednesday February 21, 2024 at 1:30 pm**

at Ginter Park UMC. The unit will meet monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at 1:30 pm. There is a large parking lot just off Laburnum Ave. A few steps into the side door and into a lovely room which is the first door on the left.

HAVE YOU BEEN LOOKING TO BE MORE INVOLVED? Do your spiritual gifts include Helping, Comforting, Discerning, Pioneering and/or Problem Solving? *The Serving Team* is looking for members to join our efforts. If you would like to get involved, please contact the church office. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 25th via zoom. We will be working to discuss serving opportunities to make available March – May.

THE COTTON PATCH GOSPEL - Imagine Jesus born in the 1940's in Gainesville, Georgia, when Herod was Governor in Atlanta. The Good Samaritan is a Black truck driver, the Apostles are a bluegrass quartet, and John the Baptist is a hellfire and brimstone revival preacher.

That's the setting for Tom Key and Russell Trez' stage adaptation of radical preacher and New Testament scholar Clarence Jordan's *Cotton Patch Gospels*, with music by the late Harry Chapin (*Cats in the Cradle*). Led by Rev. Brooke Willson, we will meet at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall for each of the seven Sundays of Lent. We'll view a portion of the stage production of the musical, and then talk about how it helps us hear the old, old story in new, new ways.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY –Join us on Zoom at 10:00am. An email with more information and the Zoom link is sent out every Tuesday. If you would like to join us, contact the church office for the details and to be put on the email list.

Upcoming Events

February 19	<i>Office Closed – President’s Day</i>	
February 20	Noon	AA
February 21	10:00 am	Zoom Bible Study
	1:30 pm	United Women in Faith (Smethie Circle) at Ginter Park UMC
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
February 23	10:30 am	Friday Lunch Program
	Noon	AA
February 24	9:00 am	<i>Cotton Patch Gospel</i>
	10:30 am	Worship – In person and online