

Second Sunday in Lent
February 25, 2024
10:30 a.m.

OUR LORD'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
There's a Place for You Here



GATHERING TOGETHER

Reflection for Worship Today

If Ash Wednesday and the First Sunday in Lent set us off on our Lenten journey, this week we find out just what this journey will require of us.

Prelude "My Life Is in You, Lord"

by Daniel Gardner

"With Grateful Heart I Thank You, Lord" from *Worship & Rejoice*

Welcome

One voice: Good morning, Church! I see you!

ALL voices: I am here!

Graceful Engagement

*Call to Worship

One: Lenten travelers, who is this Jesus that we follow?

ALL: He is the Messiah.

One: What kind of Messiah is Jesus?

ALL: He is the Messiah who teaches that he will lose his life and who calls us to lose our lives in order to save our lives.

One: How does it feel to follow a Messiah whose teachings and call are so hard and uncomfortable?

ALL: Some feel fear and anger, while others feel uncertain and anxious, and still others feel resolute and ready to follow.

One: Lenten travelers, we are not alone in our feelings about following Jesus as our Messiah. It is a hard road. The blessing is that we do not travel it alone.

cont.

ALL: Thanks be to God that we share this journey with Jesus and one another as we lose our lives for the sake of the gospel to save our lives through Jesus, our Messiah.

*Opening Hymn "Jesus Calls Us" vs. 1, 4, 5

UMH 398

*Opening Prayer

We gather this day on the second portion of our Lenten journey to the Cross. Last week we looked at our own readiness to follow Jesus. But what about our expectations? We often have fantasies about what lies ahead; picturing ourselves standing lovingly by as Christ heals. Basking in the glow of Christ's love and ministry. We expect that once we have said "yes" to the journey everything will go very well. Give us a reality check, Lord. Help us to understand that the journey has many twists and turns, hills and valleys. Life is not lived on the plain with everything being equal. Prepare our hearts to look at our expectations. Free us from our images of easy ministry so that we can be more effective servants and witnesses for You. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

Children's Time

One: And, Jesus said... ALL: Let the children come!

Handbell Anthem "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" arr. by Becky Perreault
In lieu of applause, the handbell choir would appreciate a respectful silence and collective sigh of appreciation for all Jesus has done for us.

Scripture Reading "The Messiah" Mark 8:29-38 MSG

Response

One: The Word of God for ALL of us - God's people.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Sermon "For the Sake of the Gospel"

RESPONDING TOGETHER

Call to Prayer "Father, I Adore You" all verses

FWS 2038

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Lighting Our Way

Witness

One: Light still comes. Can you see it?

ALL: Even when we're vulnerable, in pain and scared, God invites us to see light in the darkness. Lord, help us to be willing light bearers through the faithful living of our lives. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer ALL Together

UMH 895

*Greeting with Peace and Invitation to Giving Action

One: The peace of Christ be with you! **ALL: And, also with you!**

*Lenten Doxology

TUNE: REDHEAD 77.77.77 (UMH 290)

**Praise the Source who gives us life.
Praise to Christ, who shares our strife.
Praise the Spirit, who sustains,
bearing us through grief and pain.
To the holy Trinity glory, praise, and honor be.**

*Blessing Prayer

God of Boundless Goodness: We have come to this place this day to worship You with our songs, with our words, with our gifts, and with our whole hearts. We are reminded that our discipleship decision involves more than what we bring this day to the altar; it calls us to a place where a cross that is ours alone must be picked up and carried. This, more than anything else, is why we need the community of Your church. Strengthen us, we pray, not just to carry our own cross, but to help our siblings carry their crosses as well. In the name of the one who bore his cross for us. Let it be so.

*Responsive Sending Forth

One: Beloveds, go from this place in the love and power of the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

ALL: We go to meet our neighbors and ourselves with an open heart as we take up our cross and follow Jesus for the sake of the gospel.

*Final Blessing

*Closing Hymn “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart” vs. 1, 3, 5

UMH 160

*Postlude “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” from Worship & Rejoice

Lectionary readings: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:23-31, Romans 4:13-25, Mark 3:29-38

**Need hearing assistance? Hearing assist devices are available.
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Thank you for worshipping with us at Our Lord's!



Scan this QR code using the camera on your phone to contribute a gift to support our church and its ministries. Explore more of our website by clicking the “Our Lord's” header at the top of the page. There you'll find past worship services, information regarding our various ministries, and much more!

Highlighting, with gratitude, these servant leaders for today...

Tech: **Joe Whyms, Dave Smith, Izzy Veit, Wendi Haubert**

Worship leaders: Amy Veit, Sophia Veit, Debbie Huyck,
Sue Albers, Pat Mehring, Chuck Garrigues, Tony
Suminski, **Ken Miller**, Mary Schulz, Wendi Haubert,
Sue Schulkers

Light bearer: Kathy Depies

Musicians: Sue Broker, **Sue
Schulkers**, Dave Smith (midi)

Coffee host: Don Mains

Handbell choir: Sue Schulkers, Leah Perreault, Lois McGarry, Debbie Huyck, Pat Garrigues, Karen Haubert, Christ Clements, Becky Perreault

CBA: Wendi Haubert/finance@ourlordsumc.org

Office Administrator: Tabitha Manning/office@ourlordsumc.org

Pastor: Kelly Fowler/pastorkelly@ourlordsumc.org

*Find us on Facebook and watch our live-streamed Sunday services at www.facebook.com/OurLordsUMC/

*Visit us on our website at www.ourlordsumc.org

Worship resource: **Ministry Matters**, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/>, **Discipleship Ministries**, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/>, Doxology from “Praising God: The Trinity in Christian Worship”, by Ruth C. Duck and Patricia Wilson-Kastner

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