

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

10:30 a.m.

OUR LORD'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

There's a Place for You Here



GATHERING TOGETHER

For Today

In this week's texts, the recurring theme of wilderness and trial raises the question of how we face times of struggle. Do we envision ourselves alone, charged with finding our own solutions? Or might we envision ourselves accompanied in every moment, surrounded by ancestors, angels, God's word and a community of faithfulness?

*As you view and participate in this worship please note that **bolded text** invites ALL to voice.*

Prelude

Welcome

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

ALL voices: I am here!

Graceful Engagement

*Opening Chorus "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" vs. 1 UMH 694

*Call to Worship

Praise be to the Creator of ALL Life!

In God's wisdom, we were made:

In relationship, for relationship.

Interdependence means we rely on each other.

We rely on the earth and all its creatures.

cont.

Call to Prayer “We’re ALL On the Way” vs. 3, R
(see bulletin insert)

by Jacob Nault

Pastoral Prayer for the Cares of the People

The Lord’s Prayer ALL Together

UMH 895

*Invitation to Giving Action

Imagine a world where we ALL feel free to ask for help. Where collective life is less competition and more cooperation. Imagine that for ALL our children, now and to come. Imagine that for our whole planet. In the spirit of that dreaming, let us share with each other what we have and offering a moment of hospitality and greeting saying:

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

Redeeming One, so many people carry burdens too heavy for one. We need communities to hold us. We need communities built on care and creativity, compassion and resource sharing. Bless these resources to freeing us of stories that blame and shame individuals for systemic problems. Deepen our sense of belonging – to God and each other. Amen.

*Responsive Sending Forth

**Behind every thriving individual is a community of support.
Behind so much suffering is a lack of community support.
Let us resist the logics of isolation and individualization.
There is a more gracious way.
A more natural way.
A way where breathing comes easier, and flourishing is shared.**

We offer back what we have.
We know we are never really alone.
Thanks be to the Holy web that holds us.
Thanks be to Love: relational and reciprocal.

*Hymn “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” vs. 3, 4

UMH 694

*Unison Prayer

Gracious Guide, on one level, we know humans have always relied on each other, the land, and You. But we – of this time and place – have inherited newer stories. Ones that prize self-reliance and independence, individualism and willpower. Helpful as they are, they leave us tired. Lonely. Severed from the webs of life. We pray to be woven back into the whole. Teach us, anew, how to help and be helped. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

Children’s Message

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

Children’s Time in the Wesley Room

ALL children are invited to join together just outside the Sanctuary.

Scripture Reading Focus text: Luke 4:1-13 CEB

Response

The Word of God for ALL of us, God’s people.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “Repenting from Self-Reliance”

RESPONDING TOGETHER

(please text prayers to 414-378-4012 and Pastor Kelly will receive them)

Response Song “We’re ALL On The Way” vs. R, 1, 2, R by Jacob Nault
(see bulletin insert)

Shared Community Joys and Concerns

*Our Charge

Let us go with God, to give and receive.

*Final Blessing Respond "Yes!" after each blessing phrase and join in ALL together for the final phrase: "This day and in every day to come!"

*Hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" vs. 1, 5

UMH 139

*Postlude

**Need hearing assistance? Hearing assist devices are available.
Visit our tech room and someone will help you.**

Lectionary readings: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 "Saved from Egypt"; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 "God shall keep you"; Romans 10:8b-13 "You will be saved"; Luke 4:1-13 "The temptation of Jesus"



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

Wendi Haubert, Izzy Veit, Dave Smith, Rebecca Landgraf, Kathy Depies, Decker Henninger, Pat Mehring,
Karen Haubert, Don Mains

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/
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Worship resource: Ministry Matters, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/>, Discipleship Ministries, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/>, Wisconsin Council of Churches Lenten Series

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Our Lord's United Methodist Church is located on the ancestral homelands of the Potawatomi, Sioux (Ochethi Sakowin), Kickapoo, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, and Peoria people's.

We're All On The Way

Words and music by JACOB NAULT

Refrain:

We repent from injustices that benefit us.
We respond for our neighbors with courageous love.
And we sing full of hope that God changes our hearts.
We are learning; we're all on the way.
We are learning; we're all on the way.

vs. 1

For too long, we've relied on ourselves,
haunted by our fear of "the other".
Let's throw systems of violence away,
laboring for justice together!

vs. 2

For too long we've been hungry for power,
self-importance and domination.
Yet Christ calls us to open our hearts
to his work of true liberation.

(refrain)

vs. 3

Now we pray for a way to be made
leading us to more understanding.
Even still God is waiting for us,
giving us the grace for the journey.

(refrain)