

# *The Worship of God*

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church  
2nd SUNDAY IN LENT | 11:00 AM | FEBRUARY 25, 2024

## MUSIC OF PREPARATION

*Elegy*  
Edward Elgar

Nicholas Bowden  
Director of Music & Organist  
Carolyn Hancock, Violin

## INTROIT

*He Leadeth Me*  
arr. Stephen Rotz

Joy Rotz, soprano  
Stephen Rotz, piano

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Kaylen Short  
Senior Minister

## \*HYMN 116

*The God of Abraham Praise*

LEONI

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Apostles Creed*

Rev. Short and People

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy \*catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*universal UMH 881

## \*GLORIA PATRI

MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Short

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:  
"The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you."

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence  
Associate Minister

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

## FIRST READING

Mark 8:31-38

Rev. Lawrence

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*HYMN 334

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

## CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

Rev. Lawrence

## PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence and People

**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 who 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.**

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Short

Children ages 4 years through 2nd grade are invited to attend Wonders of Worship in Room B225.

Children 3rd grade and older are encouraged to stay in the sanctuary for the service.

The nursery is available for infants through 3 years.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

The Rev. Drew West  
Assistant Minister of Families and Children

## OFFERTORY

We Walk by Faith  
Jan Sanborn

Chancel Choir  
Carolyn Hancock, Violin

*We walk by faith and not by sight. We trust in God and not in might.  
For in our darkness He is light. We walk by faith and not by sight.*

*Sometimes trials come our way. We don't know what to do or say.  
But we know God will make a way if we will trust, trust and obey.*

*We walk by faith and not by sight. We trust in God and not in might.  
For in our darkness He is light. We walk by faith and not by sight.*

We trust in God and in His Son. What God has promised will be done.  
And as each journey is begun His Holy Spirit makes us one.

We walk by faith and not by sight. We trust in God and not in might.  
For in our darkness He is light. We walk by faith and not by sight.

We may not fully understand, but we are guided by His hand.  
And as we follow faith's command, God leads us to the promised land.

We walk by faith and not by sight. We trust in God and not in might.  
For in our darkness He is light. We walk by faith and not by sight.

### \*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100th

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ruth 1:8-16

Rev. West

<sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. <sup>9</sup>The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. <sup>10</sup>They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." <sup>11</sup>But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, <sup>13</sup>would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me." <sup>14</sup>Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. <sup>15</sup>So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

"Being Great Neighbors: Presence"

Rev. Short

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Rev. Short

God of all generations,  
**you are present every moment of our lives.**  
You guide us through seasons of challenge  
**and rejoice with us at times of victory.**  
Open us up to new places where we too can be present  
**so that others might glimpse you through us.**  
We pray this in your holy name. **Amen.**

### \*HYMN 475

Come Down, O Love Divine

DOWN AMPNEY

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Short

\*POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Tune*  
William Mathais

Mr. Bowden

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

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Please remember in your prayers:

Van Askew  
Nancy Byers  
Richard Clayton  
Karen Davis

Robbie Gray  
Martha Hale  
Tangie Hubbard  
Cindy Jennings

Doris Kerlin  
Mike Leonard  
Jerry Light  
Ingrid Shields

Brenda Tierman  
Helen Voyles  
Paul Wiley

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AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays 7 PM;  
Wednesdays through Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM

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