

**PRELUDE,** *Living for Jesus* **2149**  
**GATHERING,**  
**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Thursday – 10 Commandments Study continues.  
Next Sunday – The Power of Love in “Les Mis” – Many Characters  
WCUMC - “Daniel” trip to Sight and Sound, Lancaster, PA,  
Tuesday, July 9, 3 pm show.  
Let Judy Pontius know if you'd like to go by March 15.  
Tickets will then be ordered.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**HYMN** *The God of Abraham Praise* **116**

**PRAYER** *FotW*

Holy Spirit, open our hearts to receive your Word,  
reveal to us the good news,  
and enable us to trust in the promise of salvation  
in Jesus Christ. Amen.

**SCRIPTURES** *Romans 4:13–25*  
*Mark 8:31–38*

**CONFESSION** *alt from FotW*

Merciful God, we confess that we fall short  
of the bar Christ has set for us.  
We claim to follow Jesus  
but have not taken his path of sacrificial love.  
We profess to be disciples, but we are not willing  
to bear the cost of discipleship.  
We affirm the virtue of self-denial, but  
we indulge our selfish desires & seek earthly gain.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for sincere repentance  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

{silent prayers}

*God does not forsake us.  
Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast love.  
Know that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and be at peace.*

Thanks be to God. Amen.

**HYMN** *Be Still, My Soul* **534**

**SERMON SERIES** *Themes of Faith Illustrated in “Les Mis”*  
*Today: Law, Justice and Javier*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** **886**  
**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**INTERCESSIONS**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**BRINGING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**DOXOLOGY**

**PRAYER** *FotW*

Almighty God, we thank you for  
the covenant you established with Abraham and Sarah,  
which you have opened to us  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Accept these offerings with the dedication of our lives,  
that we may be for the world a sign of your abiding love  
and a testament to your enduring promise.  
In Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God,  
now and forever. Amen.

**HYMN** *Take Up Thy Cross, the Savior Said* **415**

**PRAYER & SENDING**

*Beloved people of God;  
I invite you, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent  
by self-examination and penitence,  
by prayer and fasting, by works of love,  
and by meditating on the Holy Scriptures.  
May the grace, hope, peace and love of God  
our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer  
be with us all, now and forever.*

Amen

**POSTLUDE** *Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone* **424**

## Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary

### Second Sunday in Lent

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#### Scriptures

**Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16**

**Psalms 22:23–31**

**Romans 4:13–25**

**Mark 8:31–38**

(or Mark 9:2–9)

#### Questions for Reflection

Jesus asks his disciples to deny themselves,  
take up their cross, and follow him.

How do you practice self-denial for the sake of the gospel?

Is every instance of self-denial an act of obedience to Jesus?

Can some forms of self-denial foster oppression?

#### Morning Prayer:

Lord Jesus, help me walk with you this day.  
If you lead me where I fear to go,  
give me courage and keep me true,  
that I may bear my cross without shame  
and live in the promise of life eternal. Amen.

#### Evening Prayer:

Jesus, if I stray, show me my fault, forgive my sin,  
and set me rightly on your path.  
Keep me on the way of the cross,  
and lead me to the eternal joy of Easter. Amen.

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<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>

or from *Feasting on the Word* (eg **FotW** - see also insert)

or from *Presbyterian Outlook* (eg **TMO/PO**)

or from the *Book of Common Prayer*, (**BCP** - public domain).

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SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

*For the Sake of the Gospel*

DEPTHS OF LOVE WORSHIP SERIES

# February 25, 2024 Second Sunday in Lent

## Clarksburg United Methodist Church

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