

GATHERING, PRELUDE, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 30 UMCOR SUNDAY (aka One Great Hour of Sharing)

*What NEW thing would you like to see
the church try to do in the coming months?*

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee **89**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Sarum Liturgy, ca 1500s*

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18
Philippians 3:17–4:1 and Luke 13:31–35

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE *adapted from PO*

*When humbly we cry out to God, God hears.
So, in confidence and faith, we approach the throne of grace;*

**Eternal God, in times of uncertainty and fear
sometimes we feel that you have become distant, or absent.
We may question why you would conceal yourself from us.
Forgive our doubt. Forgive our lack of spiritual seeking.
Forgive us when we make our faith all about
what you might do for us
rather than how we might serve you
and work at right relationship with you. Amen.**

{silent prayers}

adapted from FotW
*God does not leave us or forsake us.
Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast love.
Take heart. Have confidence and be at peace.*

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven;
Thanks be to God! Amen**

HYMN: Great Is Thy Faithfulness **140**

SERMON

HYMN: I Am Thine, O Lord **419**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INTERCESSIONS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER BRINGING OUR GIFTS

In Christ we are invited and inspired to lives of grateful generosity.
Let us praise the giver of all good gifts through our offering today.

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER *PO*

**God of grace, you provide for us in amazing ways.
May our offerings provide for others and
be used to further Christ's ministry and mission.
Amen.**

HYMN: Be Thou My Vision **451**

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING *adapted from FotW*

The God of reconciliation bless us,
the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ keep us,
and the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us
this day and forevermore.

Amen

POSTLUDE

Bulletin Credits: *Some of the Liturgy is by the pastor (dwh)
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or *via Discipleship Ministries (GBOD), from the Worship Website.
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>*
or *from Feasting on the Word (eg FotW - see also insert)*
or *from the Book of Common Prayer, (BCP - public domain).*
or *authors who have posted with Presbyterian Outlook (eg PO)
This week the author is Teri McDowell Ott*
or *other sources as noted.*

Cover Photo by the Pastor,
*Stole for Lent, Purple Table Cloth, and Celtic Cross
(resolution reduced from original)*

Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary

Year C – Second Sunday in Lent – March 16, 2025

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Scriptures

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

Psalms 27

Philippians 3:17–4:1

Luke 13:31–35

Questions for Reflection:

In Luke 13:35 Jesus says, “And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’” To what sort of “seeing” does Jesus refer? Is Jesus calling for more than a verbal declaration that he is the Messiah? How might I live so that I become a testimony that Jesus is truly the one who comes in the name of God?

Morning Prayer: *Phil. 4:1*

Dear God, I do not know all of the challenges that face me this day, but still I pray:
If I should be tempted by desire for earthly gain, remind me of my citizenship in heaven.
If I should be distracted by hunger, satisfy me with your Holy Spirit until I hunger no more.
Let me walk in the way of Christ
so that my life testifies in deed and word,
“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.”
Amen.

Evening Prayer:

Dear God, great is your mercy to me,
even when I have not remembered you.
Where I have strayed from your path,
forgive my sins and show me the way to salvation.
Grant me rest this night
that I may rise refreshed in my commitment
to the way of my Lord, Jesus Christ,
in whose name I pray. Amen.



Second Sunday in Lent
March 16, 2025 **11:00 am**
Clarksburg United Methodist Church



23425 Spire St., Clarksburg, Maryland
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