

GATHERING, PRELUDE,
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rick's Choice

March 30 UMCOR SUNDAY (aka One Great Hour of Sharing)
April 13 – Book Club - Swift Currents, by David Bruce Grim

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us 381

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION PO

God of all times and places, be with us here and now.
As we read from and reflect on Scripture,
may your Holy Spirit move among us
that we might hear your Word.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 55:1-9 Tom Maher
1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE PO

*Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;*

Merciful God, we confess that we have been quick to judge
others and slow to make changes in our own lives.
We confess that we have focused on others' shortcomings
instead reforming our own.
Turn us, O Lord, from these ways that lead to perishing.
Lead us, O Lord, in your ways that lead to abundant life.
{silent prayers}

dwh

*The prophet Isaiah wrote
let the wicked forsake their way
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
With the assurances of scripture, we affirm...*

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

CHOIR: Just A Closer Walk With Thee 2158

SERMON

HYMN: O Jesus, I Have Promised 396

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

Gracious God, you give to us out of your abundance.
For the material gifts and the spiritual gifts you give us,
we thank you.
We dedicate these gifts of time and talents and tithes to you
and ask that you continue to lead us
as we use these gifts to join your work in this community.
Amen

HYMN: There's within my heart a melody 380

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING PO (alt)

God has moved in all our lives.
God has gathered us together this day.
And now, God sends us into the world to join God's ongoing work.
May the same God who led our ancestors from oppression
continue to lead you;
May the same Holy Spirit whose ways are higher than ours
continue to empower you;
and may the light of Christ continue to shine through each of you
until the day that we are all gathered together again.

We go out in peace, ready to love and serve.
Amen

POSTLUDE Lift Every Voice and Sing 519

*Bulletin Credits: Some of the Liturgy is by the pastor (dwh)
That which is by others is used with permission.*

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 Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Carrico, Jr.

or other sources as noted.

Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary

Year C – Third Sunday in Lent – March 23, 2025

*Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press
from Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion. Copyright 2012*

Scriptures

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

Questions for Reflection:

Luke 13:1–9 tells the story of a fruitless fig tree that the owner is ready to cut down. The gardener, however, asks for a little more time. The gardener wants to tend and cultivate the soil in the hope that figs may yet grow. The gardener is open to a different future for this tree, in spite of its present condition.

Think about my own life, or the life of someone I love, in relationship to this story: What needs special tending? What will cultivate the “soil” of daily life so that new growth, new possibilities, might emerge?

And what can I learn from this gardener about allowing for a different outcome, a new possibility?

Morning Prayer:

Gracious God, this new day carries the potential for growth and new life. Help me to attend to those things in me that need care and attention. Sow your word in me that I may grow in faithfulness and understanding. Shake me out of dull routines, so that I may take part in the good news you continue to tell urgently and passionately. In Christ's name. Amen.

Evening Prayer:

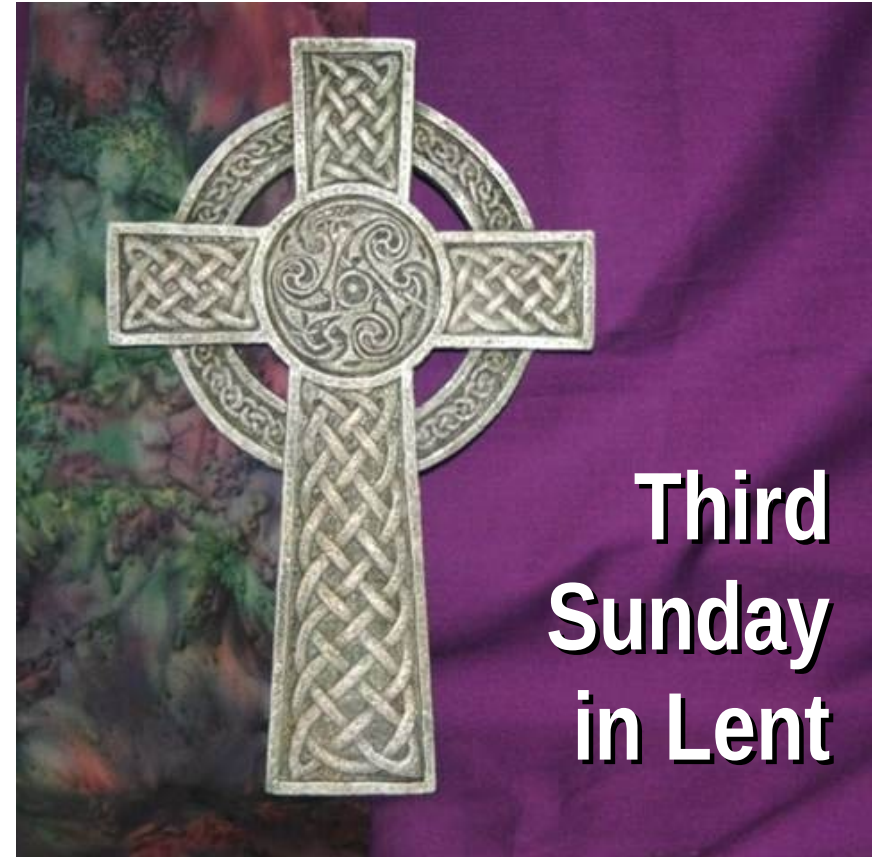
Ps. 63:7, 1, 5, 2, 3

As I lie down this night in the shadow of your wings, God of my life, I know that you will be with me even as you have helped me through this day.

Whether I am weary from the day,
or whether the day has been a rich feast of blessings,
I give thanks for your power and glory,
which are present in every circumstance.

As I give myself over to rest and sleep, I remember that your steadfast love is better than life.

So, I pray, surround me with your love tonight and always. In the peace of Christ I pray. Amen.



Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

11:00 am

Clarksburg United Methodist Church

23425 Spire St., Clarksburg, Maryland

<https://www.facebook.com/clarksburgmdumc/>

website: <https://clarksburgmdumc.org/>

Accompanist: Rick Beede

Choir Director: Cathy Warfield



Pastor: Rev. David Hodsdon

Cell Phone: 240 676 7825

Email: revdwhodsdon@gmail.com

facebook.com/david.w.hodsdon