

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

March 9, 2025 – 10 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Living our Faith, Nurturing Families, Serving our Communities.

*GREETING

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

"Softly and Tenderly"

Susan Finger

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mary Brown

ONE: On this first Sunday in Lent, we join Jesus in the wilderness, a place of wild and dangerous things, of testing and temptation away from the security of home.

ALL: God, rescue us in the wilderness!

ONE: Once again, we watch and listen as Satan throws out temptation upon temptation, and we find our security in Jesus, who does not waiver from the truth.

ALL: God, rescue us within the wilderness!

ONE: Once again, we face our own frailty and realize that the wilderness is not nearly as dangerous as our choices to prioritize selfish gain and hoarding of power.

ALL: God, rescue us through the wilderness!

ONE: Once again, we call upon God in the wildernesses of our lives, and we trust God's faithful reply: "Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name."

ALL: "When you call to me, I will answer; I will be with you in trouble; I will rescue you and honor you." Thanks be to God! Amen.

*HYMN

"How Great Thou Art"

#77

1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.
(Refrain)

3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.
(Refrain)

OFFERING TO GOD

FASTING FOR LENT

OFFERTORY

"Kyrie"

Merrilyn Vance

Wesley Bells

*DOXOLOGY

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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Merrilyn Vance

ANTHEM

"Are Ye Able"

Wesley Bells

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Mary Brown

LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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.

*HYMN

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

#297

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus, I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land; a home
within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the
burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

2. Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders, I
confess: the wonders of redeeming love and my
unworthiness.

*GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13 (MSG)

Mary Brown

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." ⁴Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'" ⁵The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I

can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷If you worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" ⁹The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; ¹¹they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" ¹²Jesus answered, "It is said: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

This is God's Word for God's people today.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

An Opportune Time

Rev. Boruff

LENTEN CREED

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God.

Our Creator knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs. This is our faith that we humbly profess in Jesus' name. Amen.

HYMN

"Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross" #301

1. Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain, free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.

Refrain:

In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

4. Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
Just beyond the river. (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

MUSIC FOR SENDING

"Postlude on Diadem"

Susan Finger

**Please stand as you are able.*

THANK YOU

for assisting in worship!

Worship Leaders: Mary Brown & Merrilyn Vance

Music: Wesley Bells

Sound Tech: Jim Hudson

Visual Tech: Matt Stout

WELCOME

Welcome to worship on Sundays and all programs & ministries throughout the week!

Announcements

- **GUESTS:** Welcome! There is a gift bag for you at the Welcome Center. Glad you joined us and hope you will come again!
- **COMMUNITY CAFÉ:** 71 guests were served last Sunday. It was a blessing to serve the community.
- **LENTEN STUDY:** "The Message of Jesus" begins on Wednesday, **March 12** at 6 p.m. in the North/South Parlor. ALL are welcome!
- **DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR LENT:** "40 Days of Jesus Always: Joy in His Presence" by Sarah Young. Pick up your copy and engage with God everyday through Lent!
- **LENTEN BREAKFAST SERIES:** All are welcome at 8 am. for breakfast and a speaker at Lapel Trinity UMC on **March 15.**
- **BAPTISM/RE-AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM:** Sunday, **March 30 at 2 p.m.** Confirmation students and mentors will be baptized or re-affirm their baptism by immersion at the Anderson University Pool. You are encouraged to come! If you wish to receive baptism by immersion contact Pastor Corinne.
- **LIBRARY:** If you have books that you have read and need returned to the church library, please do so. We are taking inventory.
- **J.O.Y. LUNCH: March 21** at 11:30 a.m. with Dr. Brian Dirck, AU History Professor as our presenter. Arby's Reuben Sandwich will be the meal. Make a reservation by **March 19.**
- **EGG HUNT:** Donate your candy and treats. Volunteer your time and talents on **April 5** at Davis Park. And attend with family and friends!

We give thanks for today's:

Ushers: Bill Kahle, Dorinda Cassidy, Richard Cassidy, Bob Ballenger

Greeters: Becky Ball, Kay McConnell, Kaylyn McConnell

Fellowship Time: Miriam & Charlie Jones

First United Methodist Staff:

Director of Music and Organist: Susan Finger

Pianist: Michele Murray

Finance: Gene Brueggen

Office Manager: Judy Whitney

Production Director: Matt Stout

Digital Communications: Matt & Erin Stout

Security: Richard Falkenberry

Sound Technicians: Jim Hudson, Richard Cassidy,

Mark Murray

Custodian: Eddie Stephens, Ann Bull

Weekly Schedule

Sun 03/09

10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	Downtown
11:15 am	Confirmation Class	Youth Room	Downtown
2:00 pm	Worship		Primrose
4:30 pm	Food@First	Narthex	Downtown

Mon 03/10

1:00 pm	AARP	Fellowship Hall	
5:00 pm	Exercise Class		Davis Park
6:00 pm	AA Big Book Study	North/South Parlor	Downtown
6:00 pm	Alpha Brass Rehearsal	Alpha Brass Room	

Tues 03/11

9:00 am	Sew Group	Fellowship Hall	Downtown
10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Conference Room	Downtown
4:15 pm	AACC Rehearsal	Sanctuary/Choir Room	Downtown
6:30 pm	Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall	Downtown

Wed 03/12

9:00 am	Energy Assistance Day	Door #2	Downtown
9:00 am	Helping Hands Pantry	Door #3	Downtown
3:00 pm	Coffee with Corinne		Facebook
5:00 pm	Exercise Class		Davis Park
6:00 pm	Bells	Bell Room	Downtown
6:00 pm	Lenten Study	North/South Parlor	Downtown
6:00 pm	First Kids Club—Game Night	Fireplace Room	Downtown
6:20 pm	Kids Choir Rehearsal	Younger Kids Room	Downtown
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir	Choir Room	Downtown

Thurs 03/13

Fri 03/14

9:00 am	Bible Study	North/South Parlor	Downtown
12:00 pm	Downtown Devotions		Facebook

Sat 03/15

9:00 am	AA Meeting	East/West Parlor	Downtown
9:00 am	Budget Benders & Willing Workers	Parlor Kitchen	Downtown
1:00 pm	Ambler Anniversary Party		Davis Park

Sun 03/16

9:00 am	Trustees Meeting	Conference Room	Downtown
10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	Downtown
11:15 am	YA Gathering	Youth Room	Downtown
2:00 pm	Worship		Primrose
4:30 pm	Community Cafe	Fellowship Hall	Downtown



First United Methodist

FAITH FIRST. FAMILIES FIRST. ANDERSON FIRST.



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March 9, 2025 – 10 a.m.

Pastor: Corinne Boruff
Director of Family Ministries: Ally Hall
Ministers: Congregation