

Second Sunday of Lent

March 12, 2017 11:00 am

"God is Spirit, and His worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." (John 4:24)

Prelude "Shepherd Thy People" (Shea) Sandy Griese

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

L: We are called to go to places that we don't know.

P: We look to the hills for our strength.

L: Our strength is in God, who always goes with us.

P: We gladly walk in faith.

L: Come, let us worship the God who calls us.

P: Come, let us worship the God who walks with us always. Amen.

*Opening Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" UMH 140

Lighting of the Candles

*Opening Prayer (in unison)

"God of ages, we come into this holy space asking for Your blessing. Open our ears to hear the blessing of Your Word as it is proclaimed in story and song this day. And open our hearts that we may become vessels of Your blessing to a world still in need of salvation. Amen."

*Passing of the Peace

Children's Message

Hymn Response "Spirit of the Living God" UMH 393

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

"God of salvation, You shower our lives and our world with love, yet we too often turn away from Your blessing. Free us from unwise choices and redirect our attention to the abundant opportunities to experience Your love. During this Lenten journey, focus our hearts on You, that we may choose the blessing of salvation offered us each day through Jesus Christ. Amen."

Hebrew Scripture Genesis 12:1- 4 Tony Koziana

Gospel Lesson John 3:1-17

L: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

**Please rise either in posture or in spirit.*

Hymn of Faith "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" UMH 297

Message "The Wind Blows As It Chooses" Rev. Wayne Chung
God speaks to Abraham to leave everything behind and go. Jesus speaks to Nicodemus about being born again. How can these happen? God freely takes the initiative. "I, when I am lifted up, will draw all people to Myself."

Giving in Response to God's Love

Offertory Sandy Griese

*Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer (in unison)

*Closing Hymn "Blessed Assurance" UMH 369

Sending Forth God's Light and Love

*Hymn Response "Amen" UMH 898

Postlude "O God Our Help In Ages Past" (arr. Ritter) Sandy Griese

Lection Reading for Following Sunday

Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42

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OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Our Prayers: The Elliott Family following the death of John's father, Sally Lounsbury having surgery this week, Iva Gene Ward recovering from surgery, Deloras Ward recovering from surgery, Olivia Gammel – friend of Chris Heyer, Sarah Stallings, Jerome Stallings, Shirley Wood, Carl Stallings, Sr., Laura Wise – sister of Donna Nestor, Diana Marshall – niece of Martha Wooldridge, Debbie Holloway's mother recovering from surgery, Jack Dorsey, Kathy Wallace, Bill Fowler, Those who travel

