**3rd Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 22, 2023**

*Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.*

**Gathering**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship

L: After he was baptized by John, Jesus went by himself to the wilderness

where he was tempted by the devil.

**P: Forty days in the desert, Jesus was tempted** **to become important, spectacular, and powerful.**

L: We too are faced with our own weaknesses and temptations on this journey of life.

**P: Let us look to God who is present with us and never leave us as we journey together.**

\*Hymns of Praise UMH 400 "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

\*Affirmation of Faith UMH 885

Pastor: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true Church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

***Minister and People:* We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.**

**Amen.**

Passing the Greeting

**Proclamation and Response**

Prayers of the People

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology UMH 95

\*Hymn TFWS 2164

“Sanctuary”

**Today’s Scripture: Matthew 4: 1 - 11**

**Today’s Message: “Good, Better, Best”**

*Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.*

*Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”
But He answered and said, “It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’ ”
Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: He shall give His angels charge over you,’
and, In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.’ ” Jesus said to him, “It is written again, You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’ ”
Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.”
Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ”
Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.*

**Sending Forth**

\*Closing Hymn   UMH 128

“He Leadeth Me”

\*Benediction

Postlude

\*Indicates please stand if you are able.

**Financial Report - Week of January 8, 2023**

Weekly Operating Funds Needed: $5,300

Funds Received: $3765.70

Difference $1534.30

***HERTFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH***

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***January 22, 2023***

***Rev. Gene Tyson – Pastor***

***Hertfordumc.org***

 ***Hertford United Methodist Church (HUMC)***