



February 26, 2023

First Sunday in Lent

Pre-recorded Video on Youtube

<https://youtu.be/AjP2qSkMb6w>

Music by Pastor Adam Bissell

In the Garden

The Old Rugged Cross

Call to Worship

Welcome pilgrims on the way to the cross.

We are learning to follow Jesus. For those who feel Christ near, **May we not turn away from the discomfort of the journey ahead.** For those who feel as far from Christ as the desert is from the ocean,

May we find Christ in the wilderness with us.

For all of us who stumble and fall in our silence, indifference, and lack of generosity, **May we reach for the hand of Christ, who raises us up to continue on the journey.** Pilgrims on the way, come let us worship God!

We come to worship God as we learn to live inside out! Amen.

Announcements

New Testament Reading: *Matthew 4:1-11*

Message "If You Fall Down" - Pastor Adam Bissell

Offertory Prayer

Generous God, as we remember Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, we acknowledge the temptation that pursues so many of us: to measure our worth, our power and our security by what we have. As we offer these gifts to you this morning, we pray that you might deliver us from the temptation of building our lives around what belongs to us. Continually lead us to the conviction that what matters is that we belong to you.

We pray in the name of our Savior and Redeemer.

Amen.

Intercessory Prayers

The Lord's Prayer #895 UMH

Please join us for our in-person service next Sunday, March 5, 2023 at 10:30am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Member Class

The first new member class for 2023 will be offered soon!

Please contact the office or Pastor Adam if you are interested!

Religion and Race

There are several resources available for adults, youth and children at the r2hub.org - a United Methodist resource. In honor of Black History month, take advantage of the articles, videos and materials available there for the expansion of your soul.

West Side Reads

Westside Reads will be reading ***The Last Slave Ship*** by Ben Raines. Our discussion about this book **March 26 at 7:00pm** on ZOOM. If you would like to participate, please contact Ann Andraska at yellowstonefun4@gmail.com or Cindy Heflin at heflinl@gmail.com.

Another Lent Book Study Coming Soon!

We will be inspired by the book, "Outflow: outward-focused living in a self-focused world," by Steve Sjogren. This encouraging study releases you into a simple, organic strategy -- and Biblical way of life - that will impact you and those around you! Sign-up via the Weekly or look for the sign-up clipboards in the Welcome Center. Facilitated by Lay Speaker Mark Averill. Wednesday day/evening and/or Sunday afternoon for gathering in a group. Childcare is a possibility!

Thursday Bible Study Group

We will be reading Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws by Adam Hamilton. Join us on Thursdays starting **March 16th** via Zoom. Contact Ann Andraska at yellowstonefun4@gmail.com for more information.

Welcome Mary Kate Rae!

Please welcome our new Sunday School teacher - Mary Kate Rae. Kids 5 - 11yrs old will be invited to join her to go downstairs after in-person services.

Reflection/Journal Questions

1. What might we learn about ourselves from each of these temptations Jesus faced?
2. What might you be called to be or do differently this Lenten season?
3. The Michigan Conference of the UMC has joined a growing movement seeking to make gun violence prevention a priority for state lawmakers. Are you passionate about this issue? If so, join other Michigan United Methodists for Advocacy Day on March 22 in Lansing for an opportunity to talk to your elected officials.

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