

**Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany**  
**February 20, 2022 – 10:55 A.M.**

\*Please stand as you are able

**ENTRANCE**

**MEDITATIVE MUSIC** Jeanne Banks, Pianist  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. Will Waller  
**CHIMING THE HOUR**  
**OPENING VOLUNTARY** *Near to the Heart of God*—Phillips Lynn Meeks, Organist  
**ACOLYTE MINISTRY**

**GREETING**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Greg Dunlap, Liturgist  
L: God, you are so gracious and good.  
**P: We know it; help us believe it.**  
L: While we run around accepting only those who accept us,  
**P: You choose us before we choose you.**  
L: At times, we only care for those that can care for us,  
**P: Your grace is a free and unearned gift.**  
L: Permeate our "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours" way of being,  
**P: And make us like your Son today. Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* No. 110

**INVITATION TO THE CHILDREN** *Where Children Belong* TFWS No. 2233  
This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.  
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

**CHILDREN'S TIME** Rev. Waller  
*(Afterwards, children in preschool through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade may go to Children's Church.)*

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Luke 6:27-38 New Testament pg. 60  
Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON** *The Anti-Grace Curmudgeon* Rev. Waller

**THE PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS** No. 481

**OFFERTORY** *Ye Heavens, Adore Him*—Phillips

**\*THE DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 94  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,  
Whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**ANTHEM** *Brother James' Air*—Pethel Chancel Choir

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**CALL TO PRAYER** *Make Us One* TFWS No. 2224  
Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.  
Let your love flow so the world will know we are one in you. (repeat)

**SILENT PRAYER**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

**SENDING FORTH**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go* No. 480

**\*THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *As We Go*  
As we go, may your spirit go before us. As we go, may we follow where you lead.  
May we live what we have learned, share the message we have heard,  
and be a light unto the world, as we go.

**\*GOING FORTH** Rev. Waller

**\*POSTLUDE** Mrs. Meeks

*The flowers on the Communion Table are given by Shirley Vaughn to the Glory of God and in celebration of Martha Sue Gibson's birthday. Happy Birthday!*

*The rosebud on the Communion Table is given to the Glory of God and in honor of the birth of Rhea Everett Bowles on February 3 to Josh and Kaitlin Bowles. Grandmother is Sarah Bowles.*

**Serving Today:**

Liturgist: Greg Dunlap  
Acolyte: Waverly Clements  
Greeter: Annette C. Board  
Usher: Sharon Angle  
Children's Church: Nancy Middaugh  
Nursery: Martha Sue Gibson  
Counters: Ina Clements and Ben Whitesell  
Locking Up After Worship: Jim Anderson

**Serving Next Week (February 27):**

Liturgist: Linda Dunlap  
Acolyte: Charlie Mitchell  
Greeters: Sam and Jane Roseberry  
Ushers: Jerry and Linda Davis  
Children's Church: Jessica Mitchell  
Nursery: Callie Angle  
Counters: Martha Sue Gibson, Becky Newbill  
Locking Up After Worship: Jim Anderson

**Prayer Concerns:**

**Our country, our church and those serving in our armed forces; Coronavirus victims and healthcare front-line workers; Linda Wahlberg; Barbara Huffman; Lynn Cooper; Anna Campbell; Betty Dillon; CO Brickey; Dick Shoemaker; Jennifer Cooper; Eva Prillaman; John Cooper; Jeanette Singleton; Arnold Dillon, Sr.; Richard McDaniel (Lindsay McDaniel); Doris Ferguson (wife of Bill Ferguson, former pastor of RMUMC); Everett Cotter (LuAnn Dunbar); Ann Fitzgerald (Terri Naff); Becky Bennett (Jennie Ardis); Matt Foutz (Jennifer Altice); Sophia Moore (CO Brickey); Mike Shea (Enna Roseberry); Tracey Willett (Mike Meeks); Melissa Hays Smith (Marsha Robertson); Debbie Ford (Ben Whitesell); and Dennis Holland (Cyndee Holland).**

**Forget-Me-Nots:**

**Eleanor Woody**

**Will Waller, Pastor  
Lynn M. Meeks, Director of Music/Diaconal Minister  
Jeanne Banks, Pianist  
Valerie Latimer, Administrative Assistant  
Jennifer Ardis, Nursery Attendant  
Rebecca Dillon, Children's Church Coordinator  
Craig Jamison, Custodian**

## **Meetings and Announcements:**

- **Today, February 20**      **Following worship**, the United Methodist Men will serve a spaghetti lunch. Donations will be accepted. The United Methodist Men use these funds to support the Senior Scholarship program and other needs in the church and community.  
**5:00 p.m.**, Winter Olympics Youth Night
  
- **Monday, February 21**      **7:00 p.m.**, Boy Scouts
  
- **Tuesday, February 22**      **Serve lunch at Stepping Stone Soup Kitchen**  
**12:00 p.m.**, Sunshine Girls will meet at Ippy's for lunch  
**7:00 p.m.**, Jubilant Ringers
  
- **Wednesday, February 23**      **5:00 p.m.**, Wonderful Wednesday  
**7:00 p.m.**, Chancel Choir
  
- **Thursday, February 24**      **Serve lunch at Stepping Stone Soup Kitchen**  
**6:30 p.m.**, Cub Scouts
  
- **Next Sunday, Feb. 27**      **10:00 a.m.**, Small Groups  
**10:55 a.m.**, Worship  
**12:15 p.m.**, Charge Conference in the Assembly Room  
**6:00 p.m.**, Prayer Partner Dinner
  
- **Wednesday, March 2**      **7:00 p.m.**, Ash Wednesday Service

Assistive listening devices are available outside the sanctuary.

Our Prayer Partner Dinner is scheduled for February 27 at 6:00 p.m. If you are a youth or a prayer partner, please mark your calendar now. We are thrilled to celebrate your friendship of the past year. Since the prayer partners have been unknown to the youth, this will be an awesome night of discovery. RSVP to Valerie Latimer ([admin@rm-umc.org](mailto:admin@rm-umc.org) or 540-483-5338).

All women of the church are invited to the Ladies Bible Study that begins March 1. We will be studying "When Godly People Do UnGodly Things" by Beth Moore. We will meet 9:30-11:30 a.m., in the Assembly Room (Redeemer's SS Classroom). Books will cost \$18 per person. Please notify Linda Walters (757-635-0109; [lindaw@shentel.net](mailto:lindaw@shentel.net)) or Peggy Hodges (540-263-2470; [peggyjhodges@hotmail.com](mailto:peggyjhodges@hotmail.com)) as soon as possible if you plan to participate so we can order books. Invite your friends and family to come too!

Coming this Lent, an old friend returns! We are once again partnering with the other churches in Rocky Mount to host a Lenten Lunch Series. Worship services will be on March 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6 at noon. Sing, pray, and fellowship with believers from around Rocky Mount. Stay for a small meal.

Our bell choir has a couple of openings that we're looking to fill immediately. Payment includes joy, peace, harmony, and satisfaction. No experience needed, although being able to swing a metal object is required. Application is short, all you have to do is talk to Ringmaster Lynn Meeks.

The Franklin County Warming Center at Redwood UMC needs the following: men's deodorant, men's shampoo, shaving cream, shelf staple milk cartons, individual orange juice cups and K-cups. Also, they need towels, sheets and blankets. Please put your donations in the bin that is in the narthex. Thank You!

The March/April edition of the Upper Room is available on the rack in the narthex.

We are collecting rice and cereal for Heavenly Manna this month. Please put your donations in the barrel located in the narthex. Thank You!

*"What a grand old lady I am" to have a gracious, wonderful, loving, caring Rocky Mount United Methodist Church family. Love and gratitude to each. – Peggy Santrock*