

**First Sunday in Lent**  
**February 26, 2023 – 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** *Amazing Grace*—Paxton Mrs. Meeks, Organist  
**ACOLYTE MINISTRY**

**GREETING**

\***CALL TO WORSHIP** Charlie Mitchell, Liturgist  
L: God, we enter into this season of Lent full of expectation.  
**P: Move in us transformation.**  
L: Search us and know our hearts,  
**P: Test us and know our anxious hearts.**  
L: See if there is anything offensive in us,  
**P: And lead us in the paths of everlasting.**  
L: You dawn a new day in us all; may this be the start of that new time.  
**P: And fulfill your purposes in us always. Amen.**

\***HYMN OF PRAISE** *Be Thou My Vision* No. 451  
\***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' Creed* No. 881  
**INVITATION TO THE CHILDREN** *Where Children Belong* TFWS No. 2233  
This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping 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 1:46-56 New Testament pg. 53  
Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**  
**SKIT** *Am I Guilty: Caiphas* Rodney Cundiff  
**SERMON** *Jesus and the Ones He Saves: The Lowly No More* Rev. Waller

**OFFERTORY** *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*—Southbridge  
*(Please tear off the pew pad attendance sheet and place in the offering plate.)*

\***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** *O Lord, Have Mercy* Chancel Choir

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**CALL TO PRAYER** *O Lord, Hear My Prayer* TFWS No. 2200  
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

**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**

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS** No. 38  
Sammy and Cindy St. Clair  
Cindy Turlington

\***CLOSING HYMN** *He Leadeth Me* No. 128

\***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 Rob Lamar and Rebecca Harriett to the Glory of God and in honor of their son, Matthew's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 27.*

**Serving Today:**

Liturgist: Charlie Mitchell  
Greeters: Nathan and Callie Angle  
Acolyte: Jovie Angle  
Usher: Benny Board  
Children's Church: Serena Jamison  
Nursery: Martha Sue Gibson  
Counters: Linda Handy, Charlotte Hill

**Serving Next Week (March 5):**

Liturgist: Benny Gibson  
Greeters: Tim and Sandra Funk  
Acolytes: Kelly Peterson, Terri Naff  
Usher: Steve Angle  
Children's Church: Martha Sue Gibson  
Nursery: Suzanne Ross  
Counters: Bobby Thompson, Jack Watts

**Prayer Concerns:**

**Our country, our church and those serving in our armed forces; People of Ukraine; Debbie Caulder; Jack Dillon; Jason Lavinder; Hazel Henderson; Peggie Foster; Kathleen Higgins; Lillie Hatchett; Jerry Davis; Barbara Huffman; Lynn Cooper; Anna Campbell; Betty Dillon; CO Brickey; Dick Shoemaker; Jennifer Cooper; John Cooper; Arnold Dillon, Sr.; Dr. Matthew and Amanda Billups (Jack Watts); Paul and Barbara Scaffaci (Nancy Middaugh); Don Angle (Steve Angle); Cheryl Peck (Sandra Funk); Janis Odom (DJ Pritchard); Becky Bennett (Jennie Ardis); Mike Shea (Enna Roseberry); 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  
Brad Hodges, Custodian**

## Meetings and Announcements:

- **Today, February 26**      **Following worship**, Question and Answer Session about the potential renovation of the kitchen and fellowship hall  
**5:00 p.m.**, Youth Serving a Meal at the Warming Shelter (pick-up at 7:30 p.m. from Redwood UMC)
  
- **Monday, February 27**      **7:00 p.m.**, Boy Scouts
  
- **Tuesday, February 28**      **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, March 1**      **Noon**, Community Lenten Service at Rocky Mount Christian Church  
**5:00 p.m.**, Wonderful Wednesday  
**7:00 p.m.**, Chancel Choir
  
- **Thursday, March 2**      **6:30 p.m.**, Cub Scouts
  
- **Next Sunday, March 5**      **10:00 a.m.**, Small Groups  
**10:55 a.m.**, Worship  
**5:00 p.m.**, Youth Meeting
  
- **Monday, March 6**      **11:00 a.m.**, United Women in Faith Meeting
  
- **Tuesday, March 7**      **9:30 a.m.**, Ladies Bible Study Begins
  
- **Wednesday, March 8**      **Noon**, Community Lenten Service at Rocky Mount United Methodist Church
  
- **Sunday, March 12**      **Don't forget to "spring forward!" Daylight Saving Time Begins!**
  
- **Monday, March 13**      **April Newsletter Deadline**
  
- **Wednesday, March 15**      **Noon**, Community Lenten Service at Redwood United Methodist Church
  
- **Sunday, March 19**      **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.

Assistive listening devices are available outside the sanctuary.

Join the building committee today for a question and answer session for the next steps for a Kitchen and Fellowship Hall refurbishment. They will be on hand to answer questions from you in the Fellowship Hall right after worship today.

(over)

All women of the church are invited to the Ladies Bible Study that begins March 7. We will be studying "The Armor of God" by Priscilla Shirer. We will meet 9:30-11:30 a.m., in the Assembly Room (Redeemer's SS Classroom). Books will cost \$25 per person. Please notify Linda Walters (757-635-0109; lindaw@shentel.net) or Peggy Hodges (540-263-2470; 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!

Everyone is invited to join in the community Lenten Services. Each service is listed below and will begin at 12:00 noon. A light lunch will be served following the service provided by the host church.

March 1	Rocky Mount Christian Church
March 8	Rocky Mount United Methodist Church
March 15	Redwood United Methodist Church
March 22	Rocky Mount Baptist Church
March 29	First Baptist Church of Rocky Mount

Save the Date! Vacation Bible School will be June 26- 29!

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!