

Third Sunday in Lent
March 12, 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 *Sinfonia*—Bach Mrs. Meeks, Organist
ACOLYTE MINISTRY

GREETING

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Ina Clements, Liturgist
L: Lord, we come into the house shouldering not only our burdens, but our
boastings.
P: Forgive us for thinking we can earn our salvation.
L: We think ourselves to be better than the other guy, more accomplished
than the other gal.
P: Humble us, O Lord.
L: As we move through this day, reveal to us our pride, and instill in us
poverty of spirit.
P: Deepen our dependence on you and grow our devotion to you alone.
Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *Gather Us In* (vs. 1-3) TFWS No. 2236

***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 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 2nd grade may go to Children's Church.)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

A MOMENT FOR OUR GIDEONS Bob O'Bryan

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 18:9-14 New Testament pg. 76

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God!

SKIT *Am I Guilty: A Voice from the Mob* Suzanne Ross

SERMON *Jesus and the Ones He Saves: Slumped in the Shadows* Rev. Waller

OFFERTORY *Rock of Ages*—Smith
(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 Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

ANTHEM *Lamb of God*—Larson 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

***CLOSING HYMN** *I Stand Amazed in the Presence* (vs. 1-3) No. 371

***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

CCLI License Number 2745989

*The flowers on the Communion Table are given by Ina Clements to the
Glory of God and in loving memory of Lewis Clements (March 10) and Blanton Cooper
(March 14) who are celebrating their birthdays in heaven.*

Serving Today:

Liturgist: Ina Clements
Greeter: Kevin Clements
Acolyte: Jovie Angle
Usher: Benny Gibson
Children's Church: Betty Worley
Nursery: Emily Waller
Counters: Martha Sue Gibson, Becky Newbill

Serving Next Week (March 19):

Liturgist: Brandi Altice
Greeter: Linda Handy
Acolyte: Landry Foutz
Usher: Sammy St. Clair
Children's Church: Susan Hatchett
Nursery: Avery Tosh
Counters: Ina Clements, Ben Whitesell

Prayer Concerns:

**Our country, our church and those serving in our armed forces; People of Ukraine;
Eleanor Woody; 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.; April Wyatt Scott; 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); Mike Shea (Enna Roseberry);
Debbie Ford (Ben Whitesell); and Dennis Holland (Cyndee Holland).**

**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, March 12** **5:00 p.m.**, Youth Meeting
- **Monday, March 13** **April Newsletter Deadline**
7:00 p.m., Boy Scouts
- **Tuesday, March 14** **9:30 a.m.**, Ladies Bible Study
7:00 p.m., Jubilant Ringers

- **Wednesday, March 15** **Noon**, Community Lenten Service at Redwood United Methodist Church
5:00 p.m., Wonderful Wednesday
7:00 p.m., Chancel Choir

- **Thursday, March 16** **6:30 p.m.**, Cub Scouts
- **Next Sunday, March 19** **10:00 a.m.**, Small Groups
10:55 a.m., Worship
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., Youth Meeting

- **Wednesday, March 22** **Noon**, Community Lenten Service at Rocky Mount Baptist Church
5:00 p.m., "It's Just A Phase - So Don't Miss It" Parents' Book Discussion

- **Thursday, March 23** **Serve lunch at Stepping Stone Soup Kitchen**
- **Tuesday, March 28** **Serve lunch at Stepping Stone Soup Kitchen**
12:00 p.m., Sunshine Girls will meet at Ippy's for lunch

- **Wednesday, March 29** **Noon**, Community Lenten Service at First Baptist Church of Rocky Mount

Assistive listening devices are available outside the sanctuary.

Youth! Tonight we will enjoy some home cooking from Mrs. Linda Walters - sloppy joes and mac & cheese sound perfect. We'll continue our discussion begun last week about being a follower of Jesus Christ in this world. Are we to be different? Assimilate? Something else? See you tonight at 5.

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

At the Building Q&A on Sunday, many wanted to summarize their thoughts about the Kitchen and Fellowship Hall Refurbishment. To get your thoughts in, please send them to admin@rm-umc.org. Those who did not attend the meeting are welcome to share their thoughts too. These will be collected today and sent to the Building Committee for review.

Parents (and Children's Ministry supporters)! Ever wished you had a "what to expect" book for the years *after* your child was born? You can now! You're invited this spring to explore the book, "It's Just A Phase - So Don't Miss It". Join other parents exploring what kids need, from ages 0 to 18, led by Tammy Burdick. You'll learn and discuss each phase over the course of 3 sessions, held once a month. The first session will be Wednesday, March 22, with dinner at 5:00 p.m. and discussion from 5:15 - 6:30 p.m. Books are \$20 through the church. If you're in, RSVP to Tammy, either in-person or through GroupMe to get a headcount for dinner.

For the next few weeks, the church is holding a paper drive for the Bernard Health Center/Free Clinic. They are in need of toilet paper, paper towels, and boxes of tissues. There is a large box in the narthex and another next to the elevator on the first floor.

Kids and youth! This year, we're offering lenten boxes so you can collect money for a local charity. Lenten boxes enable kids to link their money with their faith. We believe that Lent is a perfect season for giving because we remember the gift of eternal life Jesus gives from Calvary. You will be collecting money towards the Franklin County Resource Center, a place for families in crisis, seeking safety and security.

Kids and youth: start collecting your pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters for the Lenten boxes. Collections will be brought forward and blessed on Easter.

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

Valerie Latimer, Administrative Assistant, will be on vacation this week.

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