

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 10 March 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent/UMCOR Sunday

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements *(To help us connect, please sign the attendance pad in your pew)*

Greeting: Jesus said:

"I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me
something to drink."

Let us act justly.

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
I was naked and you gave me clothing."

Let us love tenderly.

"I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me."

Let us walk humbly with our God.

May we see Christ in one another,
**that we may be healers and peacemakers
in Christ's name.**
(Matthew 25:31-46, Micah 6:8, Alt.)

Opening Prayer: O God, you so loved the world
as to give your only begotten Son,
that whosoever believes in him
should not perish,
but have everlasting life.
**Grant to us the precious gift of faith,
that we may know that the Son of God
is come,
and may have power
to overcome the world**

(2)

**and gain a blessed immortality;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**
(The Book of Worship 1965, Alt.)

*Opening Hymn: 381 "Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 98 *(Verse 1 only)* "To God Be the Glory"

First Lesson: Numbers 21:4-9

Psalter: *(Insert: Alternate leader and people)* Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Second Lesson: Ephesians 2:1-10

*Hymn of Preparation : 121 "There's A Wideness in God's Mercy"

*Gospel: John 3:14-21

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: 881 "The Apostles' Creed,
Traditional Version"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

*The Peace: Let us offer one another
signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people, let us offer
ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology: 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

(3)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving**:

**Almighty and most merciful God,
from you comes every good and perfect gift.
We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies.
Your goodness as created us, your bounty
has sustained us,
your discipline has chastened us,
your patience has borne with us,
your love has redeemed us.
Give us a heart to love and serve you,
and enable us to show our thankfulness
for all your goodness and mercy
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and cheerfully submitting in all things
to your blessed will;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**
(The Book of Worship 1965, Alt.)

*The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 163 "Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know"

*Blessing**:

May the presence of God the Creator
give you strength;
**May the presence of God the Redeemer
give you peace;**
May the presence of God the Sustainer
give you comfort.
**May the presence of God the Sanctifier
give you love. Amen.**

*(United Methodist Clergywomen's Consultation, U.S.A., 20th.
Cent., Alt.)*

Extinguishing of Candles, Postlude, Going Forth

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing
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