

**BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**10:30 a.m. Sunday 9 March 2025**

**First Sunday in Lent**

**ENTRANCE**

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

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

\*Greeting\*\*:  
Let us sing to the Most High,  
**The God in whom we trust.**  
Those who love the Lord will be delivered;  
**Protected are those who know God's name.**  
*(Psalm 91)*

\*Opening Prayer\*\*:  
Almighty God,  
whose blessed Son endured  
temptation of the devil  
to lead the way of salvation:  
**Be present to us,  
and do not withhold your mercy from us,  
that we might always cling to you;  
Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever. Amen.**  
*(Gelasian Sacramentary, Alt),*

\*Opening Hymn: 2234 "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence"

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Prayer for Illumination: 266 *(Verse 1 only)* "Heal Us,  
Emmanuel, Hear Our Prayer"

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalter: *(Insert, alternate leader and people)* Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Response: 110 *(First line only)* "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

(2)

Second Lesson: Romans 10:8b-13

\*Hymn of Preparation: 468 "Dear Jesus, in Whose Life I See"

\*Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:1-13

Sermon

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

Children's special moment

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/Offerory

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

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving\*\*:  
Almighty God,  
from the beginning you have watched over your chosen people.  
You took a wanderer and made him into a nation  
that was great among the nations.  
**You have given your angels charge over us  
that we should not be afraid.**  
**In this time of renewal, fill us with your Holy Spirit.**  
**Give us courage to resist temptation.**  
**Guide us by your grace as we do works of mercy.**  
**We offer you our gifts and ourselves**

(3)

**in thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*The Lord's Prayer: 895

**SENDING FORTH**

\*Closing Hymn: 555 "Forward Through the Ages"

\*Closing Prayer^:

May the God of hope fill you  
with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*(Romans 15:13)*

\*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude/Going Forth

\*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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