

WANDERING HEART

2nd Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

GATHER

***Processional Hymn:** *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* 400

***Greeting** Psalm 22 (selected)

*Call to Worship

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,

the courageous and the fearful,

the hungry and the hopeful,

the impatient and the reserved.

God welcomes the young and the old,

the poets and the prophets,

the faithful and the tired,

the curious and the convicted.

Wherever you are on your journey, wherever your boat is at sea,

there is room for all to gather here.

This is God's house.

Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, there are days that threaten to swallow us,

days when the storms of life feel too big. In those moments,

we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear, spending more energy

hiding from storms than looking for you. Forgive us for doubting ourselves.

Forgive us for doubting you. Rescue us from the storms of today

and from the fears that trap us. With hope in our hearts we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Hymn of Praise: *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* 474

ENCOUNTER

Scripture: Matthew 14.22-33

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Kids Minute

Message: *Rescue Me*

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in a God who moves toward me when storms rage.

I believe in a God who invites me to be brave.

I believe in a God whom the wind and waves obey.

I believe in a God who knows my name.

I believe in a God of love. I am not afraid.

Amen.

TRANSFORM

Time of Prayer

Invitation to Pray: *Come and Find the Quiet Center* (v. 1) 2128

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer 895

Time of Generosity

Offertory

***Doxology** 95

***Prayer of Dedication**

Lord of sea and storm, of sunshine and meadow, we present these offerings as signs of our lives in grateful praise for your love for us. Use these gifts for the ministries of hope and justice in this, your broken world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen. (N Townley)

BLESS

*Benediction

***Hymn of Joy:** *Here I Am, Lord* 593

Announcements

Coming Up

- ◆ **Mon, Feb 26:** Card Club, 12 pm (FLC), Horizons 1pm (FLC), Just for Kix, 4 pm
- ◆ **Tue, Feb 27:** Card Club, 12 pm (FLC); Bible Study, 1:30 pm
- ◆ **Wed, Feb 28:** Coffee Time, 3pm, JAM & Meal, 5:30pm
- ◆ **Thurs, Feb 29:** AA Meeting, 7:30 pm
- ◆ **Sun, Mar 3:** Adult Sunday School, 9 am; Worship & Communion, 10 am; Endowment Task Force,

✚ **Lenten Mission – UMCOR Noisy Offering March 24**

How many screens in your household? (Include your phone & your cars!)
The total is the magic number of coins/dollars to add to YOU Mission Cup this week. Still need one? Pick one up, along with a Faith Map & Lenten Devotional, near the church office. This special offering makes UCMOR response at home & around the world possible!

Scholarship & Ministry Grant Applications Due March 1

Be sure to pick up or request an application now. Submit hard copies by Friday, March 1. Consideration begins March 3.

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, liturgy, artwork & poetry written by Sanctified Arts (sanctifiedarts.org).



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Rescue Me

I'd rather not need rescue.
I'd prefer a five-step plan
and a quick-fix solution.
I'd prefer stubborn insistence
over honest vulnerability,
because rescue requires
asking for help.
Rescue names
the rising water.
Rescue sees
the tired, treading feet.
Rescue feels
the swell of the wind
and the rain at a slant.
But when the floor falls out
and the world is on fire
and my small hands
cannot fix the hurt welling in me,
the prayer that slips out
is rescue
rescue
rescue me.

By Rev Sarah Speed

February 25, 2024

10:00 AM