



**LOVE FIRST.
SERVE FIRST.**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF MONTCLAIR & VERONA**



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**WE WELCOME YOU ALL TO OUR SUNDAY SERVICE
AND APPRECIATE YOUR VIRTUAL PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION.**

February 21, 2021 + First Sunday in Lent + 10:00 AM

Bolded text - said in unison by all
* If able, please stand where indicated.

UMH - *United Methodist Hymnal*

TFWS – *The Faith We Sing*

Worship Leader: Nicole Peaks

CALLED TO PRAISE AND PRAY

Prelude

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"-William Bradbury

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, Beloved! Let us worship!

People: **We are gathered to worship the One in whom we place our trust!**

Leader: God, who does all things well, is here! God is among God's people!

People: God is merciful, and God is kind! Together, we have come to praise the One Who keeps covenant and decrees! Let us worship!

***Opening Hymn**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Opening Prayer

Leader: Almighty God, we come to the shores of your presence, reminded that it is here that you cleanse us, restore us, shower upon us, and clean us. Rain down upon us as you reign over us! May your Spirit rest on us. May we, as one body unified at Calvary, experience the blessing and favor of you being pleased with us. Come into this time and space, we pray. Move as only you can. Get the glory, not just now but forever! In Christ's great name, we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

All: To you, Sovereign, do we lift up our souls. We often find ourselves struggling with shame, and we are afraid. Often, we do not know what to believe. We shrink from rigorous pursuit of your ways. Forgive us our laziness; and make us to know your ways; teach us your paths. Lead us in truth and be mindful of your mercy toward us. Deliver us from the sins of our youth; may they not haunt us as we seek you, for your goodness' sake, O God. Hear our prayer in the name of Jesus, the One full of grace and truth. Amen.

(Pausing for Silent Prayer...)

Words of Assurance

Leader: Friends, hear the good news: God through Christ has remembered us with kindness and steadfast love. As far as east is from west, so has God removed our sins. Believe the gospel: in Christ you are forgiven.

People: In Christ we are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

Please share your joys and concerns in any of the following ways:

- Share it in the church's WhatsApp group (First UMC of Montclair).
- Write it as a comment on the wall of the Facebook Livestream.

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Responsive Hymn

Holy Ground

TFWS 2272

We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around;
let us praise Jesus now; we are standing in His presence, on holy ground.

CALLED TO THE WORD

*Psalter Reading

Psalm 25:1-10

Leader: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**People: O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.**

Leader: Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

People: Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

Leader: Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

**People: Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

Leader: Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your
steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

People: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

Leader: He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

**People: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep
his covenant and his decrees.**

Hymn of Illumination

Lead Me, Guide Me

TFWS 2214

Lead me, guide me along the way, For if you lead me I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee. Lead me, oh Lord lead me.

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 9:8-17

Vidal Guzman

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God

said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

***Gospel Lesson**

Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Sermon

"Grace and Power"

Rev. Myungim Kim

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

CALLED TO SHARE

Offering

***Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below:

Praise him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

CALLED TO WITNESS IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn**

O Jesus, I Have Promised

UMH 396

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

2. O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

***Sending Forth**

Leader: Now and always, may the God of your birth be the God of your every blessing!

May favor and peace be multiplied to you so much that you have to give some away!

May you forever be reminded each time you encounter water that its power, which comes from God alone, sustains and makes you whole! Amen!

People: In Christ, the day of deliverance has dawned! Amen!

***Circle of Blessing**

Shalom to You

UMH 666

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Postlude

"Fugue in C Major" – Dietrich Buxtehude

Please continue to pray for all those affected by the pandemic.