



**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 28, 2021 + Second 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**

*"Canon in D" – Johann Pachelbel*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Pilgrims, we are invited to journey through this season of Lent  
People: **towards the One who calls us each by a new name.**

Leader: Disciples, we walk with Jesus wherever he leads us,

**People: pulling our fears, our doubts, our longings behind us.**

Leader: Believers, we seek to trust the God who always surprises us,

**People: whose promises take on flesh and blood in the good news called Jesus.**

### **\*Opening Hymn**

*Be Thou My Vision*

UMH 451

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart, Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

### **Opening Prayer**

Leader: Spirit of the ages, name us and claim us according to your purposes, as you once called Abram and Sarai long ago. Train our ears to hear your call, and tune our hearts to open at the sound of your voice. As we pick up our cross and follow you, raise us to newness of life. For you call us to be children of your covenant, heirs with your Son, and disciples of your grace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

### **Prayer of Yearning**

**All: Name above all names, visit us in our dreams and shake us from our waking nightmares. For we are tired of stumbling in the dark, blindly following human teachings. When we lose our way and wander from your path, we need your love to heal us and your grace to complete us. When the forces of destruction close around us, grant us the strength to follow Christ. Love us back onto the right paths and restore us to life, through your faithful and transforming love. Amen. (Pausing for Silent Prayer...)**

### **Words of Assurance**

Leader: By saying no to ourselves, and picking up our cross, we find ourselves.

By saying yes to the good news of Christ's spirit, we find faith and wholeness.

**People: Thanks be 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**

### **Children's Message**

Dr. Leslie Lester

## Responsive Hymn

*Open Our Eyes*

TFWS 2086

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.  
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.  
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

## **CALLED TO THE WORD**

### \*Psalter Reading

Psalm 22:23-31

Leader: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

**People: For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.**

Leader: From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

**People: The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!**

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

**People: For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.**

Leader: To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

**People: Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,**

Leader: and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

### Hymn of Illumination

*Come and Fill Our Hearts*

TFWS 2157

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

### Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

David Winful

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

**\*Gospel Lesson**

Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**Sermon****"Way Forward"**

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***Lift High the Cross*

UMH 159

**[Refrain]**

Lift high the cross the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

1. Come Christians follow this triumphant sign. The hosts of God in unity combine.
2. Each newborn servant of the Crucified bears on the brow the seal of him who died.

**\*Sending Forth**

Rev. Myungim Kim

**\*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***"Trumpet Tune" – John Stanley*

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