

+ Our Lenten Journey to the Cross & The Empty Tomb”



+ The People of Mount Zion-Finksburg +

The First Sunday in the Season of Lent+ February 26, 2023+

Worship 9:55 a.m.

Wm. Louis Piel Pastor + Leslie Gabler, Director of Music

Ushers Joyce Iglehart & Lew Wimmer

TODAY’S KEY PASSAGES OF HOLY SCRIPTURE +

+ Question: What was the first thing Jesus did after his baptism and his temptation in the wilderness?

- (1) Matthew 4.18-22 “As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee.....Jesus chooses disciples
- (2) Luke 4.18-30 “Jesus goes to the synagogue in Nazareth, reads from Isaiah, tells the story of Elijah and that God spoke to no one of them except a widow Naaman, the Syrian, and because he mentions her they try to run Jesus out of town.”

Musical Prelude Let us prepare for the worship of God by listening. + God is still speaking +

Congregation Singing (1) “How Majestic Is Your Name” (black) #2023 Songbook
(2) “Awesome God” #2040 (black) “The Faith We Sing” songbook

Our Worship Theme

+ Question:

What was the first thing Jesus did after his baptism and his temptation in the wilderness?

- (1) According to Matthew 4.18-22 (Luke 6.12-16) “As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee.....Jesus chooses his disciples.
- (2) According to Luke 4.18-30 “Jesus goes to the synagogue in Nazareth, reads from Isaiah, tells the story of Elijah and that God spoke to no one of them except a widow Naaman, the Syrian, and they try to run Jesus out of town.”

Next Sunday March 5th Second Sunday in Lent + Holy Communion

(a) Message “Jesus has to deal with his disciples and that isn’t easy”

(b) Message “Jesus has to deal with the religious leaders and that isn’t easy because they want to kill him!”

(c) Message “Jesus has to deal with Simon Peter who is up one day and down the next” – a reflection of many of us!

(d) Message “Jesus has to deal with the crowds who one day are with him shouting “Hosanna” and the next day “Crucify-Kill Him!”

Call to Worship (Unison-Over)

As the season of Epiphany gives way to Lent
As the color green gives way to purple As darkness begins to give way to light
and winter sleep to fresh beginnings,
We come today to be reminded of God's amazing love for us.
Like the green shoots of renewed life,
stirring beneath the soil,
We welcome an awakening of God's word in our lives.
In this time of reflection and repentance,
We journey with our Lord to Jerusalem, Holy Week and Resurrection
We affirm our identity, we claim our security,
as children of God.

Opening Hymn for Lent “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” UM Hymnal #269

Opening Prayer

We Welcome our Children

Even if we do not have children in congregational worship we remember all God's children.

“Jesus love me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.” UM Hymnal #191

Informal Moments + Reception of our Tithes & Offerings

Offering Response (Hymnal #94) “Praise God” with Alleluias

Anthem “Lamb of God” The Faithful Few “Hear the story from God’s Word, that kings and and priests and prophets heard. There would be a sacrifice, and blood would flow to pay sin’s price. Precious Lamb of glory, Love’s most wondrous story, heart of God’s redemption of man.”

Message “What was the first thing Jesus did after his baptism and his temptation in the wilderness?

Matthew 4.18-22 “As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee.....Jesus chooses disciples
Why did Jesus need to choose disciples and what is the significance for us?”

Video “Our Lenten Prayer” (The is a bulletin insert with the “prayer” words. Please take it with you and use it for your daily devotions this week.

Morning Prayer and our Lord's Prayer (Unison)

+ Our Prayer Song + "People Need the Lord" (black) #2244 "The Faith We Sing"

(Unison) O God, help us to use this season of Lent to examine our attachments, and to sense where You invite us to live more simply and deeply.

Shine the light of Your love into the private corners of our lives where we have acquired so much clutter that it has begun to restrict our freedom.

Grant us the strength to free ourselves from appetites and needs that drive us into taking, having and wanting more than we need or have time for.

Teach us that in letting go we become free, rather than deprived, generous rather than covetous, and spacious rather than restricted.

We offer You our Lenten observance, and today we place our feet on the road to Easter, and walk the Way that You have walked before us. Amen.

(Let us pray the "Our Father" together)

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

Message

Question+ "What was the first thing Jesus did after his baptism and his temptation in the wilderness?"

Luke 4.18-30 "Jesus goes to the synagogue in Nazareth, reads from Isaiah, tells the story of Elijah that God speaks to none of them except a Syrian widow and they run Jesus out of the town? Why? What is the message and how does it apply to us?"

Closing Hymn "Spirit Song" "O Let the Son of God enfold you" + UM Hymnal #347

Closing Words – Sending Forth (In Unison)

This morning, we have sung, we have prayed,
we have worshiped together.

Now we go back out into the world.

We came together to build relationships, relationships with each other,
and our relationship with Jesus.

We go out as people who are strengthened by our connections
Ready to love and to serve.

Ready to carry God's love to the world.

As you journey through the ups and the downs of the coming week,
let us remember that God, who has invited us into relationship, is always with us.

Go with God, as the people of God.

So be it! Amen

We Sing Together “God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide uphold
you. With his sheep securely fold you. God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet. Till we meet at Jesus’ feet, till we meet, till we meet. God
be with you till we meet again.”