



United Methodist Church of Antioch

4th Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

~Please note, the worship service is recorded and streamed to the internet.

PRELUDE

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

WELCOME

MISSION STATEMENT (Unison)

The mission of the United Methodist Church of Antioch is to grow in faith, to worship God following the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to be instruments of God's love through the Holy Spirit as we reach out to our community and the world.

** Invites you to stand as you are able, or to sit with gusto!*

THRESHOLD MOMENT

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

L: Let us join together in opening our hearts to the love of God. Before we even utter a word, we can be assured God will offer us grace and a way forward. For this reason, we can be honest with what most pains us most about our own thoughts and actions. Let us pray: Holy and Merciful One, in this season of discernment we come bringing our deepest longings, and our failed attempts at satisfying them. We have often looked for love, for acceptance and security in the halls of the perceived power of public opinion or unexamined

presumptions about others not like us rather than the real power of love and care for one another.

P: We yearn for lives that matter, we desire relationships that thrive, we want less regret.

L: At times we fail to see that you have already given us what really matters: your love and acceptance. You provide opportunities all around us to make a difference in the lives of others by affirming their worth and dignity. You give us a fresh start each day, inviting us to do better. In this silence, we bring to you our pleas for openness to a different way of living.

Silence

My friends, be assured by the Psalmist who says that “the Lord is our shepherd... whose goodness and mercy follows us all the days of our lives.” Let us respond together:

All: We open our hearts, our minds, our souls, our vision to the ways of love created by God, embodied in Jesus, and already moving in us by the Spirit. We are forgiven, loved, and freed! Amen!

***HYMN #381** *Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us*

CHILDREN’S TIME

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

-Psalm 23; John 9:1-41

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff — they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my
life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole
life long.



As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?”

He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.”

They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.”

Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided.

So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.”

He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"

Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."

The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him."

Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he."

He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind."

Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?"

Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

L: The word of God for the people of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM (10:30am service)

UMCA Choir

Shepherd Me, O God

REFLECTION

Rev. Katie Voigt

Look for the Shepherd

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys/Concerns

... Let us pray, singing “God have mercy” in Greek, “Kyrie Eleison:”

Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison

God have mercy. In this singing we lift up this world to you with our love:

Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison

...God have mercy. In this singing we lift up this community to you with our love:

Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison
Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison

God have mercy. In this singing we lift up each other to you with our love:

Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison
Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison

... God have mercy. In this singing we open ourselves to your love:

Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison
Kyrie, Kyrie Eleison

***THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)**

Our Father, who 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 who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*

***DOXOLOGY #95**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***WE DEDICATE OUR GIFTS TO GOD (Unison)**

Holy God, thank you for sharing your gifts with us. Now, we share what you have given us with you. As a community we celebrate that these gifts come in many and varied forms: time and talents, service, evangelism and witness, gifts and financial resources. You have blessed us in abundant ways! Help us to share in that same abundant manner that you teach. Teach us your shepherding ways so that we might share them with the world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

NURTURING LOVE

***CLOSING HYMN Red Hymnal #454**

Open My Eyes, That I May See

***WE GO FORTH WITH BLESSING (Responsively)**

L: Go forth into the world, looking for love in all the right places!

P: We will look for signs of The Shepherd, tending to the world around us with love!

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

P: And also, with you. Amen.

***POSTLUDE** *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Red indicates "The United Methodist Hymnal"

Black indicates "The Faith We Sing" One License # A-739071

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Please note: There will be no Sunday School next Sunday, March 26.

-Mark your calendars for a love feast on Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 6:30pm. We will share a meal together, so we need you to RSVP on the sign-up sheet in Wesley Hall by Palm Sunday at the latest. Thank you!

-Butter Braid orders and payments are due by Thurs, March 23. Orders can be picked up in Wesley Hall Tues, April 4 between 1-2:30pm. Please see Kim if you have any questions.

-PADS: Requested items this month include gift cards for groceries, fast food, gas (Jewel, Walmart, McDonald's, Thorton's); granola bars, protein bars, Pop Tarts; microwavable dinners (Banquet, mac & cheese, chili); fruit cups, dried fruit (raisins); and individual bags of chips and cookies/desserts can be used by our lunch team or delivered to St. Mark. Monthly collections will be delivered to St. Mark and will support their site; extra supplies will be sent to PADS Main Site in Waukegan. Please contact Carol Cichonski if you need pickup of your donation.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Today

March 26

Greeters

8:00am	Dawn Vogel	Judy Degand
10:30am	Carol Dunn	Janet Fluck

Ushers

8:00am	Irv Metz	Wayne Buck
10:30am	Jerry Topcik	Tom Kessell

Soundboard

8:00am	Denny Sathoff	Walt Cichonski
10:30am	Chris Shannon	Phil Georgia

Liturgists

8:00am	Bob Raukohl	Denny Sathoff
10:30am	Joanne Rae	Jeannine Leonhart

Coffee Servers

8:00am	Walt & Carol Cichonski	Denny & Leta Sathoff
10:30am	Margaret Zaller Vivien Gueffier	Chris Hofius- Krampe <i>Helper needed</i>

Church Openers

Heather Menzer	Mike DeBenedetto
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Worship Attendance/Giving for Sunday March 12, 2023:

8:00am -29	General Fund: \$3,734
10:30am-47	Building: \$80
	UMCOR/Disaster Response: \$130

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Today UMCOR Sunday
Worship, 8:00am & 10:30am
Church Chat/Choir/Sunday School, 9:15am
Ushers Mtg, 9:30am
Missions Mtg, 11:50/Kitchen
New Members Class, 2pm/Wesley Hall
AA, 8-9pm/White Room
- Mon, March 20 UMCAP, 9am-2pm
AA, 10-11am; 8-9pm/White Room
Quilters, 9am-12pm/Green Room
- Tues, March 21 UMCAP, 9am-2pm
Confirmation Class, 4-6pm/All Saints Rm
AA, 6-7pm/White Room
- Wed, March 22 UMCAP, 9am-2pm
AA, 10-11am; 8-9pm/White Room
Trustees, 6:30pm/Wesley Hall
- Thurs, March 23 UMCAP, 9am-2pm
AA, 6-7pm/White Room
- Fri, March 24 AA, 10-11am; 6:30-7:30pm;
8:30-9:30pm/White Room
- Sat, March 25 AA, 6-7pm/White Room
- Sun, March 26 PADS Sunday
Worship, 8:00am & 10:30am
Church Chat/Choir, 9:15am
New Members Class, 2pm/Wesley Hall
AA, 8-9pm/White Room



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ANTIOCH

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See us on Facebook!

Pastor- Rev. Katie Voigt
Music Director/Organist-Debbie Gillette
Choir Director-Nicole Heyl
Custodians- Michelle Mennes & Kelly Kiple
Office Administrator-TeKeesha Fisher
UMCA Christian Preschool Director- Kim Dodd
(847) 395-1362

Scan below for March's Newsletter



Please Note:

Deadline for the Newsletter is the 15th of each month-**for the FOLLOWING month**

Send info to editorumca@att.net in Word Doc form or body of email.

Next deadline is April 15th for the May newsletter.

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.