Prelude

Welcome

Musical Call to Worship

Of The Father's Love Begotten

Opening Litany

One: As we gather, we each bring with us our own regrets, sins, and shames.

All: We gather to worship a God who is rich in mercy!

One: Even though we fall short, Christ came not to condemn, but to save.

All: Our lives are shaped by what God has done: by grace we have been saved!
One: So we live as disciples of Jesus Christ, working for the transformation of the world.

All: Let us worship God in gratitude, in joy, and in hope!

*Hymn Amazing Grace UMH #378

Children's Story Time (Children, ages 3-5, may leave for Sunday School after this.)

Prayer for Illumination

Speak to us now, O God. Open our hearts and minds to understand and to follow what you are saying to us in the message of the Scriptures.

May your Word and your Spirit shape our lives all along this Lenten journey and for all our days. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading Num. 21:4-9 O.T. p. 139 John 3:14-21 N.T. p. 94

For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us. **Thanks be to God**.

*Hymn What Wondrous Love Is This UMH # 292

Sermon Pastor Michelle Mejia

Call to Prayer Open Our Eyes

Confession and Pardon

So much of our lives is focused on outward appearances. It is right that we take a detour to examine our inward life, to be honest with God, with ourselves, and with one another about where we have fallen short and where we need to begin again. So we confess our sins, first in silence, and then aloud.

All: God of all our lives,

we confess that we have gotten caught up in the "good life tangle." We have chased lives that are long, healthy, and above all happy, and we have forgotten that you call us to lives of sacrifice and service.

We have let our lives be shaped by human things:

we long for security from our possessions;

we prefer our own comfort.

We haven't loved you fully.

We haven't loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Forgive us, we pray.

This Lent, take our palm branches and our lives, that we may learn to lay them down in your service, following your way even when we cannot understand.

This we pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

One: Where can we go for forgiveness but to God?

And when we struggle to seek good, God points us to Jesus, our Brother, our Savior, who shows us how to follow him to life worth living.

So beloved people of God, hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners.

That proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, praise God! You are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, praise God! You are forgiven.

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer UMH #895

Music MinistryAmazing Loveby Lloyd Larsen

Aldersgate Choir

Offering and Answering God's Call

Your financial giving supports many wonderful ministries and partnerships. Please prayerfully consider your giving to UUMC. Place your gifts in the front basket, the box in the back of the sanctuary, or make a gift electronically at www.uumcp.org/electronic-giving, or texting an amount to: 301-364-9236

*Doxology Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days v.5 UMH #269

Opportunities to Serve

*Closing Hymn We Are Called TFWS #2172

*Benediction

Postlude

MD Food Pantry Please donate feminine hygiene products and paprika for the month of March.

For Your Calendar:

Mar. 17 Loaves and Fishes; Start bringing in items for Rummage Sale (Apr.19,20)

Mar. 24 Palm Sunday; Choir cantata

Mar. 29 Good Friday service, 7:00 p.m.

Mar. 31 Easter; Egg hunt following worship

Apr. 3 Doug Sloane Memorial Service; 11:00

Apr. 7 Potluck

Apr. 14 Reading Party following worship

Apr.19,20 Rummage Sale

University United Methodist Church

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UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



March 10, 2024

What should we hope for?



By Henri Matisse