

March 2021

THE GOOD WORD

Taylorsville United Methodist Church
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The Story of Christian Symbols told by Taylorsville UMC Stained Glass Windows

Window Five – The Graper Cluster and Vine



Above is just the inset of the Grape Cluster image

Note: there is just a hint of the grapevine

March is the month of Lent and Palm Sunday and I wanted the symbol for March to represent this period, but the windows that were remaining did not seem to fit the season – UNTIL, I did some research. The image actually represents many things and one, although not in the picture, is a big part of what grapes represent and that is where they grow – the vineyard. We will start with the word vineyard in dissecting this image. The vineyard has two definitions: abundance and prosperity, and the spiritual church. In the Bible, the church sometimes translates to Israel. The vineyard definition can also extend to the grapevine, which is shown in the window, but not emphasized. However, Jesus is also represented by the vine symbol, but unlike Israel, which can be unfaithful, Jesus is always faithful, so his description is supplemented with the word “true”. John 15: 1 - *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener"*. Another meaning of the grapevine is the importance of making new connections. They take over anything that they touch and continue to grow. Sounds like what Christians have done!

The grape cluster, like many of the images represented by the window, also has many interpretations. First, grapes are very much associated with wine, which is what Jesus used to describe the blood of the new covenant at the last Passover meal. Grapes are a sign of communion. In Deuteronomy grapes are listed as one of the seven crops associated with the fertile Promised Land of Israel. In case you are wondering, the other six are dates, figs, olives, wheat, barley and pomegranates. Although, we would love to think the grape cluster window can only represent good, there are negative interpretations associated with failure of the vines to thrive, that related to a sinful life. In the final judgment, God's wrath against sin is portrayed as a winepress, squeezing those who have been thrown into hell. A bit gruesome, but effective in making you a believer.

I believe the selection of the grape cluster image for the window by our predecessors was definitely related to the happier definitions. When writing these articles, I love the fact that in researching the symbols I not only learn new facts, but can live in the past with the saints that did so much for the church decades ago to reflect their faith and love of Jesus Christ. Our grape window is the symbol that says “do this in remembrance of me”- Is that Lenten enough for you!

May the Road Rise to Meet You during March--(I

had to put something Irish in a March newsletter 🍀 !) ---

Pastor Patty



Ancient mosaic in a church of the vine and grapes

Taylorsville United Methodist Church Opening for In-Building Services

Due to the recent events concerning the status of COVID-19, I reached out to the re-entry team to get their opinion on opening the church to in-building services again. On Monday, February 22, 2021 the Re-entry team and Church Council unanimously voted to move worship back into the church sanctuary effective **Sunday, March 14, 2021**.

Two major reasons were pivotal in coming to our decision; first, the statistics are showing vast improvement in all the areas we measure – positivity rate of new cases, hospitalizations and deaths, all those rates have dropped dramatically over the last two months. The second reason is the percentage of folks in the church who have received at least one vaccination and many who have received both immunizations, resulting in a much lower risk level.

The information below will look familiar. They are the guidelines we used when we opened up last October and nothing much has changed from that time. When we closed in December, we were holding two services; however, we will only be having one service at 10:00 a.m. with this re-opening. A determination at a later date will be made to see when it is feasible to move back to two services. Also, effective on March 14th will be the resumption of Sunday School for adults and kids in the education building and the social hall in the basement of the church. See schedule and guidelines below:

Sunday School classes will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at approximately 9:45 a.m.

Children's Sunday School: Education Building–Children's Sunday School room

Adult Sunday School:

Class One – Facilitators – Steve Novick/Jeff Taylor – Education Building – Dining/Living Room

Class Two – Facilitator – Dee Haines – Church Social Hall

Information on class curriculum will be communicated by facilitators.

Worship Service (only one service until further notice)

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Church – Sanctuary

Guidelines

- Both parking lots are available for parking. Park where you will, there are no requirements for parking lot spacing.
- Hand sanitizers are located at the front door to the sanctuary, Education Building and the office door. When entering in any one of those three areas, please use the sanitizer.
- Attendees are required to wear masks. One will be supplied, if needed.
- Bulletins will be sent out electronically in advance. A printed version at the back of the sanctuary will be available and will also be displayed on the TV in sanctuary. Bulletins will have been printed several days in advance to ensure there is no chance of contagion.

Taylorsville United Methodist Church Opening for In-Building Services - continued

Guidelines-continued

- When entering the sanctuary, an usher will greet you and, if necessary, will assist you to a seat. Physical distancing spacing will be displayed by yellow markers on back of the pews.
- No singing is allowed, but music will still be part of the service.
- If you want a Bible, bring your own from home. (All Bibles have been collected from pews.)
- Communion will be held, as it was in the parking lot. It will be on the first Sunday of each month and you have the option of bringing your own elements or partaking of the elements that will be provided by the church.
- Giving can be placed in the offering plates on the shelves in the back of the sanctuary.
- Attendance will continue to be taken to comply with tracking regulations.
- Restrooms will be available, but will not be able to be cleaned between usage.
- At beginning and ending of service, socializing should be kept to a minimum and on nice days moved outside.

These guidelines were put in place, not only to comply with recommendations from the conference and state, but for you and others attending church to stay safe and healthy.

Live streaming of the service will be discontinued. This decision was made because of copyright issues which have arisen more frequently due to the music used in the service.

For those of you who cannot attend in person, do not worry, the service is being recorded in its entirety and will be posted for viewing on the website, within an hour or so after the service has ended. You will probably be able to access the recording by noon each Sunday.

Please remember to continue giving by mail if you cannot attend in person.

We want to state firmly that your pastor and church leaders are taking every precaution to ensure your safety. We want you to feel comfortable with the decision to return to church inside the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact the church by calling 410-875-4101 or emailing TaylorsvilleUMC@comcast.net. We will do our best to address your concerns.

Our God is an awesome God and we hope you can join us in the sanctuary on **March 14th** and remember that is the same day daylight savings time begins. Let this be our final move so we can worship the Lord every Sunday in our sanctuary and celebrate His Glory.

May the peace and love of Christ be with you – Pastor Patty Robinson



Next Church Council meeting is **March 22nd. Information will be emailed out.**

April Newsletter Deadline is: **March 23rd**



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|----|---------------|----|-----------------|
| 5 | John Bennett | 13 | John Eaton, Sr. |
| 8 | Joey Martin | 15 | Steve Iden |
| 10 | Lew Wimmer | 29 | Joe Martin |
| 12 | Billy Shankle | 30 | Sam Grimes |

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 20 | Jeff and Debra Taylor |
| 25 | Ray and Candy McConchie |

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed in the Newsletter, please let the office know.

Inclement weather policy:

Church: Due to COVID restrictions on the number of persons attending church, the church services are on Facebook Live or our website at: www.taylorsvilleumc.org until March 14th.

Beginning March 14th we are re-opening our sanctuary for in-building services at 50% capacity.

Church Office: If Carroll County Schools are closed due to bad weather, the church office will also be closed.

Coming Soon...

Little Believers Activity Bags

We are offering activity bags for children. Just drive up to our box in front of the church, pick one up and have fun doing the activities!



Prayer List

Lifting Our Hearts In...

Praise

- Spring is on the way, warmer weather
- Family and friends
- People getting the vaccine

Prayer

- Steve & Sharon Iden - health issues
- Rev. Dennis Yocum—starting cancer treatments
- Karen - battling cancer
- Madison & Kylie
- Eloise, Debra Taylor’s mom-COVID symptoms
- Sharon’s friend, Claudette Brown, home healing
- June Maring-shingles
- Glenda Beard-healing from knee replacement
- DJ Hudson-speech therapy from stroke
- Trent-Holstein’s friend-rehab from accident
- Cindy’s friend, Sherry Fisher-lung cancer
- Lynda Arnold has health issues
- Bob Wilson, prayers for Sharon & family
- Sandi Mennerick’s friend, Michelle C-cancer
- The leadership of this country
- Loved ones who are sick, having surgery, or about to give birth. Family members not allowed in the hospitals now, which adds to anxiety & a sense of loss to all these situations.
- For those with small businesses and others who are financially at risk during this pandemic
- All those with COVID-19, cases going down
- The United Methodist Church
- Pray for our church
- Amy, friend of Kathy Cinnamond
- Healing: Cindy Watts, Rhonda Berg, Bob & Phyllis Herbig, John Hortie
- The Landerholm Family (missionaries in Unalaska)
- For those in assisted living facilities, those with loved ones in assisted living who are unable to visit to love and care for these folks during this time. Employees who have extra responsibilities when they are extra vulnerable. Our members in assisted living are Bud Kibbe and Brenda Eaton.



Prayers for Service Persons

Sean Grimes (U S Navy-Bahrain)
Thank you for your service Sean!!

March & April Upper Rooms are in the back of the church and on the bench in front of the Education Building.

For March we are collecting: Rice, Instant mashed potatoes
You can drop off items to the church office Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM.
(The Net will take any items you are willing to donate.)



Please remove all decorations that you wish to keep by **March 13th**. We will be removing all Christmas and Fall decorations after that time.

We want to keep our prayer list as up to date as possible. Please let the office know if there is a prayer request that we have missed or one we need to take off the list. Thank you for your help with this.



Sermon Series for March- Lent and Palm Sunday

The Lenten series continues - “Rend Your Heart: Claim the Promise” and we are staying with the book of Psalms.



March 7th – 3rd Sunday in Lent – All These Words – Rend Your Heart: Claim the Promise – Psalm 19

March 14th – 4th Sunday in Lent – Look Up and Live – Rend Your Heart: Claim the Promise – Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22

March 21st – 5th Sunday in Lent – Written on the Heart - Rend Your Heart: Claim the Promise - Psalm 51:1-12

March 28th – Palm/Passion Sunday – The One Who Comes - Rend Your Heart: Claim the Promise - Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

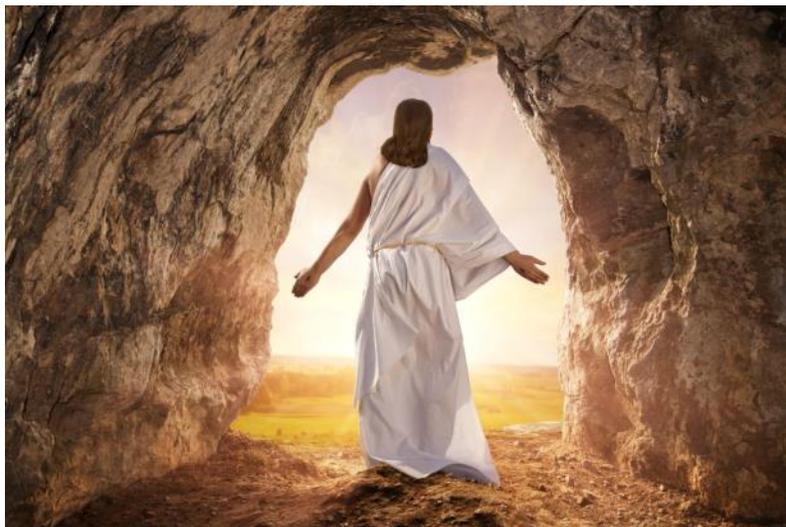
PALM SUNDAY – MARCH 28TH - A special celebration waving our palms to welcome Jesus – 10:00 a.m. service. After the service if COVID-19 permits there will be an Easter Egg Hunt.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – APRIL 1ST – On this special Thursday the sanctuary will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for a self-guided tour of the Stations of the Cross.

GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 2ND – The worship service will start at 7:00 p.m., as we relive the “Passion” of Christ in scripture.

SUNRISE SERVICE – APRIL 4TH – The service will begin at 6:15 a.m. as we welcome the dawn of the resurrection.

EASTER - APRIL 4TH – The worship service will start at 10:00 a.m. – Christ has RISEN.



The Sanctuary Door is OPEN “Hours of Peace”



During Lent the sanctuary will be open every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All are welcome to come and just sit in the serenity of our beautiful historic sanctuary and read the Bible in peace, pray or just sit and meditate. If any of you wish, you will be welcome to come into Pastor Patty’s office and have a chat or get caught up with her about whatever is on your mind. Please take advantage of this opportunity to refresh your soul in a warm and welcoming place where you will feel the Lord surrounding you. If this becomes a popular experience for us, we will plan on continuing the “Hours of Peace” in the sanctuary beyond the Lenten season.

Adult Sunday School Class Two in Basement - Fellowship Hall ~ 9:00 a.m. will be starting back March 14th

Our spring quarter lessons are about Old Testament prophets who were faithful to God’s covenant. They were a combination of preacher, whistleblower, and counselor. They warned people who had turned away from the Lord; and they encouraged the faithful to remain faithful. From time to time they fortified their calls by foretelling the future intent and plans of the sovereign God. Even as God is faithful to his people, his people are reminded of their need to be faithful to Him.

I am excited to be back to in-person study and worship and hope that you are too. Please join us beginning March 14 as we look at some of the faithful responses to a faithful God.

Contact Dee if you have questions.

Adult Sunday School Class ~ 9:00 a.m. on Zoom

We are continuing our study of the Book of Revelation through Zoom. March 14th we will be back in the Education Building. All are welcome to join us. Contact Jeff Taylor with questions.

**READING
REVELATION
IN CONTEXT**

JOHN’S APOCALYPSE AND SECOND TEMPLE JUDAISM



Workstation



Have you ever been in need of a computer for just a few hours to print something, order a product online or register for your COVID-19 vaccination? Well, we have some good news for you. The church now has a work station located in the church office with a laptop. The laptop has all the Microsoft applications loaded, access to the internet and printing capabilities. Please feel free to come into the church office Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to use the laptop. If you need assistance with how to use the laptop, we will be glad to help.

Please contact the office if you have any other questions or need clarification about using the new workstation's laptop and we will assist.

Our next fellowship chats are scheduled for **Wednesday, March 10th and Wednesday, March 24th at 7:00 PM.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3364052293?pwd=c0h0d0h0TTBzMVh4VFUyYmQ3cGI0dz09>

Meeting ID: 336 405 2293

Passcode: 123456

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,3364052293#,,,,,0#,,123456# US (Washington D.C)

+19294362866,,3364052293#,,,,,0#,,123456# US (New York)



Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 336 405 2293

Passcode: 123456

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kppnngx11>



Easter Flowers

Look for information coming soon in Tidbits to order tulips or daffodils for Easter to help decorate our sanctuary.



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Hearing God's Voice – You can enter a state of being still and knowing! You can hear God's voice! You can become open to seeing in the Spirit!

Four-week Zoom Class - 7 – 8:30pm, Thursdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25

\$25 donation - Workbook, teaching, practical application

Information to register is below or contact Kathy at cinnamonspice@gmail.com.

ListenLovePray Foundation

8555 Dollyhyde Rd
Union Bridge, MD 21791
Tel: 240-285-7406
E-mail: Lucinda@listenlovepray.org
Website: www.listenlovepray.org

LLP Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity.
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Lord, continue to bless the spirits, minds and hands of our loving donors. Keep LLP ever faithful to your call and your word. May each soul touched by LLP feel the healing love of Jesus. Amen.



LLP works in recovery centers, churches, and the community. Jesus still heals and delivers people today!

Jesus enters Jerusalem



“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” Mark 11:9

March

2021

TAYLORSVILLE UMC

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|-----------|---|--|
| Office Hours M, W, TH 9:00 AM-2:30 PM | 1 | 2 | 3 10:00AM-2:00PM Sanctuary Open | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 COMMUNION 9:00AM Sunday School- Zoom 10:00 AM Worship Facebook live/website 7:00PM Lenten Study | 8 7:00PM Worship Meeting | 9 | 10 10:00AM- 2:00PM - Sanctuary Open | 11 | 12 | 13 Mission Team – Lunch Westminster Res- cue Mission |
| 14 *Back in building* 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 7:00PM Lenten Study | 15 | 16 | 17 10:00AM- 2:00PM - Sanctuary Open | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 7:00PM Lenten Study | 22 7:00PM Council Meeting | 23 Newsletter Deadline | 24 10:00AM- 2:00PM - Sanctuary Open | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 Palm Sunday 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship  | 29 | 30 | 31 10:00AM- 2:00PM - Sanctuary Open | |  | *March 14th Sunday School and Worship back in building |



**Taylorsville
United Methodist Church**

Church Phone: 410-875-4101

Email: taylorsvilleumc@comcast.net

Our Mission of Purpose

We of Taylorsville UMC are a community of faith who believe in Jesus Christ and who value Bible study, prayer, mission and growing in discipleship. We will connect with our unchurched neighbors through small groups that present opportunities to share our faith and worship God together.

We're on the Web!
www.taylorsvilleumc.org



To unsubscribe or to receive this through e-mail please call the church office at 410-875-4101 or e-mail taylorsvilleumc@comcast.net

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