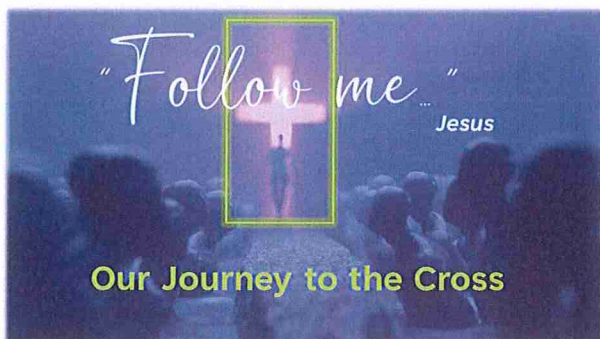




585 Fuller Street | St. Paul, MN 55103
www.camphorconnects.org



March 12 2023
10:00am

Following a Call

"...[We are inclined] to replace Jesus' call to deny ourselves, take up our crosses, and follow him.
We replace his call with a self-serving path in which we deny our neighbors,
take up our comforts and follow our dreams."

Scott Sauls, *Irresistible Faith: Becoming the Kind of Christian the World Can't Resist*

(You are invited to center your heart and mind for worship.
Where indicated, speak or sing the words in bold)

Prelude

The Light Enters

Welcome

Acolytes

Rev. Frenchye Magee
Interim Pastor

On this day we come from many different places– to offer our worship,
to give witness to our faith. To walk in the way of Jesus and join those
who followed him.

Jesus invites us to a brave new journey.
Lord help us follow him as we find new paths.

Jesus lived our life, knew our fears and joys and set us free to admit that we
are not always courageous.

**Jesus remained open to the Spirit all the way to the cross. Lord, give us
ears to hear his story in new ways and courage to follow in our time.**

† If you are able, please stand.

Prayer of New Beginnings

Assurance of Pardon

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Opening Hymn

How Great Thou Art (AAH 148)

Announcements

Installation of the Officers for United Methodist Men

Pastor:

*Hear the words of John Wesley in his Invitation to the Covenant Service:
Commit yourselves to Christ as His servants. Give yourselves to Him, that you
may belong to Him.*

Officers:

*Let me be Your servant, under Your command. I will no longer be my own. I
will give up myself to Your will in all things. Amen*

Pastor:

Receive these lessons from John Wesley as guidance for your leadership.

Congregation:

- **Set time apart to listen to God.**
- **Be serious, seek the Holy Spirit; expect to be in awe.**
- **Rely on God's promise of grace and strength; trust in His strength rather than your own.**
- **Be faithful to your call. With God's power never turn back.**
- **Renew your covenant with the Lord; continue to open your heart to the Spirit.**

*Pastor: Let us remember the men who walked this path before us:
Gracious God, we humbly and joyfully remember those men who have
led us in the journey of faith.*

† *If you are able, please stand.*

Officers:

Lord I am thankful for (the congregation names those who mentored me and helped me to become your disciple.

(Silent remembrance)

Officers:

I thank you this day for these particular men who illustrated faith, love, integrity, and a strength of spirit that reflects their

(Silent remembrance)

Lord make your way plain to us. We thank you for the men who will work with us. We especially thank you for the men you will place in our path who have a hunger for a deeper relationship with you, and for the skills you will lend us to lead those men to you. In all things, direct us and You will have all our praise. In power of your holy name we pray. Amen

Congregation

Lord, thank you for placing godly men in our life, who showed their faith by their life of Christian love and service. We praise you for the faithful men of Camphor Church, past, present, and future. Amen

Pastor:

Will you accept the office of your election with grace and joy?

Officers:

I will.

Pastor:

Will you take time to be Holy, to speak often with the Lord?

Officers:

We will.

Pastor:

Will you work within a team as a servant leader?

Officers:

I will, with God's help.

Pastor:

As leaders within this congregation, this district, and this conference, will you pray for each other, and hold each other accountable for the vital work that needs to be completed?

Officers:

We will, with God's help.

Pastor:

Will you lead by example, doing what you ask others to do?

Officers:

With God's help, we will.

Pastor:

Will you prayerfully begin today to mentor someone to take your place?

Officers:

I will.

Pastor:

(to all present) Will you pray for these men, follow their lead, and support them. Will you continue to grow in Christ as you work together to bring men and all people into a dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ through the church?

All:

Today, we surround these men with our love and support. Lord, give them a full measure of your wisdom, extraordinary strength in Your word, nights of rest, days of joyful service. As they work to fulfill their call, fill them with Your joy and grace.

Pastor,

God of the ages, may all in this place serve you all our days with a renewed spirit of your Peace. Let the church say,

AMEN.

Offering Prayer

Offertory Song

"Sign Me Up"

**Sign me up for the Christian jubilee!
Write my name on the roll.
I've been changed, since the Lord has lifted me,
I want to be ready when Jesus comes.**

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Scripture

John 4:43-54 (New International Version)

After the two days he left for Galilee. (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.) When he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, for they also had been there.

Once more he visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay sick at Capernaum. When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death.

"Unless you people see signs and wonders," Jesus told him, "you will never believe."

The royal official said, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

"Go," Jesus replied, "your son will live."

The man took Jesus at his word and departed. While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, "Yesterday, at one in the afternoon, the fever left him."

Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So he and his whole household believed. This was the second sign Jesus performed after coming from Judea to Galilee.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermonic Hymn

Yes, God is Real

**There are some things I may not know,
There are some places I cannot go
But I am sure of this one thing
That God is real, for I can feel Him deep within.**

Refrain

***Yes, God is real (yes, God is real).
He's real in my soul (real in my soul)
Yes God is real, for he has washed and made me whole.
His love for me (his love for me)***

**Some folks may doubt, some folk may scorn,
All can desert and leave me alone.
But as for me, I'll take God's part
For God is real, and I can feel Him in my heart.**

Refrain

**I cannot tell just how you felt, when Jesus took your sins away.
But since that day, yes, since that hour
God has been real, for I can feel His holy pow'r**

Refrain

Sermon

"Following a Call..."

Rev. Magee

Intercessory Prayer

Your Grace and Mercy

**Your grace and mercy brought me through.
I'm living this moment, because of You.
I want to thank You, and praise You too.
Your grace and mercy brought me through.**

Closing Hymn

Yes, God is Real

***Yes, God is real (yes, God is real).
He's real in my soul (real in my soul)
Yes God is real, for he has washed and made me whole.
His love for me (his love for me)***

Lyrics printed with permission CCLI #11491731

Closing Blessing

Postlude

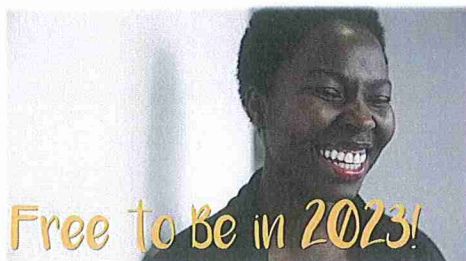


Camphor United Methodist Men Officers

President, Carlton Garner
Vice Presidents, Rod Brown, Lloyd O' Neal
Treasurer, David Webb
Communications, Xavier Golden

Lent @Camphor

<https://camphorconnects.com/lent2023>



Next Week's Worship!
Fourth Sunday of Lent
United Women of Faith
Sunday

Save the *New* Date...

Sunday, **March 26**—Church Conference (Only members may vote at the conference. Update your member profile today!)

John 4

We are praying for...

Sympathy

- Giselle Spears
(death of mother, Retza Gize ("Grammy"))

Illness & Recovery

- Margaret Carter
- Leon Daisy
- Fraun Foster
- Harold Golden and family
- Karen Morgan
- Tony Spears
- Adele Watkins

Seniors and Homebound

- Carrie Lewis
- Ginnie Dennis
- Fannie Mae Coleman
(mother of Saran Cryer)
- Carver Isabell
- Barbara Wulf
- Doris Douglas
- Verlone Booker
- Johnette Houston
- Fern Neal
- Pat Jemie
- Ms. Charlotte Drake
- Shirley Cummings
- Glenice Booker Butler