

Columbiana First United Methodist
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(330) 482-2382

March 9th, 2025

First Sunday in Lent

***Enter the Light of Christ**

Pastor's Welcome

Announcements:

- **Sunday School will resume in April 27th.**
- **Bible Study will also resume in April 23rd, @ 10 am.**
- **Soup Sale, pre-orders only. The deadline for orders is Today. Pick-up date is March 13th from 3 – 4:30 pm Soups available to order are: Chicken Noodle, Stuffed Pepper, Potato, Ham & Bean, Vegetable, and Chili. This will be our last Soup Sale for the year. Thank you all for your help and support.**

Opening Prayer:

Lord, the temptations of the world loom large before us. We are enticed, persuaded, and “sweet-talked” into moving from lives of service to lives of self-centeredness. We need Your healing love. As You resisted the temptations in the wilderness, help us to place our trust in You, that we may be strong in our faith and confident in our service to You through serving others. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:**

“Sunday’s Palms Are Wednesday’s Ashes” TFWS #2138

Call to Worship:

L: On this first Sunday in Lent, we join Jesus in the wilderness, a place of wild and dangerous things, of testing and temptation away from the security of home.

P: God, rescue us in the wilderness!

L: Once again, we watch and listen as Satan throws out temptation upon temptation, and we find our security in Jesus, who does not waver from the truth.

P: God, rescue us within the wilderness!

L: Once again, we face our own frailty and realize that the wilderness is not nearly as dangerous as our choices to prioritize selfish gain and hoarding of power.

P: God, rescue us through the wilderness!

L: Once again, we call upon God in the wildernesses of our lives, and we trust God’s faithful reply:

P: Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know My name. When they call to Me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue them and honor them. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Offertory:

*Doxology

#95

*Prayer of Dedication

Faithful God, Who journeys with us through the wilderness of our lives, as we offer these gifts, we remember Your sustaining presence. In this period of spiritual renewal, strengthen us to resist temptation and guide us to live in community with love and grace. May these offerings be signs of hope and acts of compassion that reflect the love You have shown us in Christ. Empower us to rise together, supporting one another on this journey of faith and transformation. In the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn of Preparation: “I Love to Tell the Story” 1, 3, & 4 #156**

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:1-13

Gloria Patri

#70

Message: “Full of the Holy Spirit”

Pastor Cyndi

***Closing Hymn:**

“Since Jesus Came into My Heart” 1,3,4, & 5 TFWS #2140

*Benediction

***Sending: “God Be With You”**

*Postlude

**Indicates for the congregation to stand if you are able*

Dear Heavenly Father,

You are an amazing God! You have shown Yourself over and over again to Your people. You have freed us from oppression, You have protected us from our enemies, You have led us through the wilderness, You have made a way through the waters by parting the seas. You have spoken to us in silence, and You have met us with silence when You wanted us to just be still. You have given us grace and shown us mercy through Your love for us. A love that was shown through the sacrifice of Your Son for our sins.

In this time of Lent, help us to remember that love and the ransom that was paid for our freedom from sin and the opportunity for life eternal with You.

Allow us to pause for a moment so that we may reflect on what You have done for us.

Forgive us when we hunger for the wealth and power the world dangles before us. Move us from greed to gratitude for Your blessings. Heal our wounded spirits and lives, so that we may fully serve You.

We thank You for the healing You have brought to us. We thank You for being with Gaye's son-in-law and allowing him to return home. We thank you for allowing Don and Jackie Leonard to be united once again. We ask that You continue to be with them, allowing them to enjoy life together, and continue to allow Don to serve You in the special way You have allowed him to witness for You. Thank You for being with my brother Bobby, and getting him through all the testing. We ask that You continue to guide the doctors with Your wisdom, allowing them to come up with a plan that is Your plan. Thank You for being with my niece Brooke, allowing the doctors to start their planning for her surgery. Please be with them also allowing them to know what You know, and see what You see, so that they are able to repair her heart, and Your healing take place in her.

We lift Judy Stevens to You, praising Your name that she is where she needs to be, and getting the care that is needed currently. Bring to her medical team Your wisdom, so that they are able to be Your instruments of healing. Be with her son Bruce as he travels home, keep him safe with Your traveling mercies.

Thank You for getting Charles Warren through his surgery, and allowing him to return home. We know that he continues to need medical attention, so we ask that You send the best of the best to be Your instruments of healing. All for Your glory.

We continue to lift the Briggs family, the Winters family, the Van Pelt family, and the Burkey family. We know Lord that grief does not fade away quickly, and sometimes grief lingers continually throughout our lives. We also know that You are the One that soothes our souls with peace beyond understanding, so I ask that You continue to walk with those who have heavy hearts, help them to hold onto You, and help them to allow You to hold onto them.

Thank You Jesus for energizing the young generation of this world in ways that they are coming to know and love You. I ask that You come alongside us here in this church and help us to energize the youth that enter these doors to come to know and love You also. All for Your glory, and the growth of Your Kingdom.

I thank You for the churches here in Columbiana, and the willingness to work together for Your Kingdom. I thank You for what You are doing through the InStep Program. So many schools want to be part of reaching children and Youth for You. So I ask that You continue to bless this program and continue to guide the leaders with Your wisdom so that, You can be seen and glorified in it all.

May we be a part of the revival that is needed in Your Church, and this world for You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.