

Welcome to the Rectortown United Methodist Church

*No matter where you have been or where you have failed to be –
what you have said or what you have failed to say - what you have
done or what you have failed to do - whom you have loved or
whom you have failed to love - you are welcome here.*

ENTRANCE

PRELUDE - let us quiet our minds, hearts, and spirits as we begin to focus on the presence of God as we become aware of the *Light of Christ* in our midst.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS and CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO WORSHIP *(adapted the Abingdon Worship Annual, 2021, p. 65)*

We are changing. You are changing. God is already at work in you, renewing your spirit. Anticipate the new thing that God is doing. Can you feel it?

Have mercy on your people, O God.

Wash us. Cleanse us. Make us more perfect in your love.

Open the skies and pour down your grace upon your people.

Open our hearts to hear your voice. Let the thunder of your presence awaken us!

Have mercy on your people, O God.

Restore within us the joy of your salvation. Draw us nearer to Jesus, our Christ!

HYMN Near to the Heart of God

UMH 472

OPENING PRAYER *(adapted the Abingdon Worship Annual, 2021, pp. 65-66)*

God of mercy and love – open our hearts to your presence as we worship you this day. Whether our prayers are filled with celebration or with loud cries and tears, remind us that you are the source of our eternal salvation. Give us the strength to respond faithfully to your transforming love, so that the joy of your salvation might shine in and

through us all. Wipe away our wrongdoing, clean our hearts, and make us more perfect. For it is in your perfect love that we are drawn more fully into your image. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

YOUNG DISCIPLE'S MESSAGE

The power of God's love...

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(adapted from FOTW Worship Companion, Yr. B, Vol 1, p. 123)

Your Word, O God, has the power to change our lives and to create a whole new world. As we meditate on your word this day, fill us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may treasure your word with our whole hearts and fix our eyes on you. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 12:20-33

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM READING

51:1-12

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

* Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

TODAY'S MESSAGE *Written on our hearts...*

HYMN The Servant Song

TFWS 2222

AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

UMH 882

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GIVING OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

Offertory Prayer

THANKSGIVING

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

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.

HYMN Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593

SENDING FORTH

Take Up Thy Cross

UMH 415

*This worship service has ended, and now your service begins.
As you leave church today, you are entering the mission field.*

Questions for Reflection

(adapted from FOTW Worship Companion, Year B, Volume 1, p. 125)

God is at work offering forgiveness, showing mercy, and giving knowledge of life, death, and salvation. Where is God enacting that new life within or around you? What in your life must die so that you may flourish? What must fall away so that you can rise again in Christ?

Rectortown United Methodist Church

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Rectortown United Methodist Church

March 21st, 2021, 10:00 a.m.



Bishop: Sharma D. Lewis
District Superintendent: Rev. Charles F. Ledlum-Bates
Pastor: Rev. Steven W. Weedling
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Pastor's Home Phone: (540) 364-2166
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Pastor's E-mail: steveweedling@vaumc.org
Music Director: Karen Chase
Ministers: every member of the congregation