

FUMC First United Methodist Church

224 Broad Street PO Box 178
Mason, Texas 76856
(325) 347-5105 www.fumcmason.org

February 22, 2026
1ST Sunday of Lent



GATHERING/WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

DJ Ory

People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?

Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

We worship the Lord our God alone.

***SONG OF PRAISE**

UMH#150

“God, Who Stretched the Spangle Heavens” v.1,2,4

1. God, who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place, flung the suns in burning radiance, through the silent fields of space, we your children, in your likeness, share inventive powers with you. Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.	2. Proudly rise our modern cities, stately buildings, row on row; yet their windows, blank, unfeeling, stare on canyoned streets below, where the lonely drift unnoticed in the city’s ebb and flow, lost to purpose and to meaning, scarcely caring where they go.
4. As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew, children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you. May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun. Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.	

Acolytes bring in the light of Christ acknowledging the Presence of God.

A YEAR WITH GOD: *We color Lent purple because it is the time we get ready to celebrate the great mystery of Easter.*

CENTERING PRAYER SONG: “Goodness is Stronger Than Evil”

FWS #2219

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.	(Oh,) Victory is ours, (victory is ours,) victory is ours (victory is ours) through him who loved us. (through him who loved us.) (x2)
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CONFESSION: Lord God, you know the ways of good and evil. You know the things that tempt us and the things that give us life. You know our nakedness, and you know our sin. We confess that we have disobeyed your word, denying your providence and care and relying on our own cleverness. Have mercy on us, we pray, cover us with your grace, feed us with the bread of life, and re-create us in your image, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

All pray in silence.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENES

As the apostle Paul wrote:

“...if you confess with your lips that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9) These words contain the good news that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

YOUNG DISCIPLES TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

DJ Ory

O Lord may the words of your mouth be our daily bread, and may the leading of your Spirit become our way; in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 32

DJ Ory

1 Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. 2 Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit. 3 While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. 4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah 6 Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. 7 You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Selah 8 I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. 9 Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. 10 Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. 11 Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

SONG OF PREPARATION:

FWS #2112

“Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley”

<p>1. Jesus walked this lonesome valley; he had to walk it by himself. Oh, nobody else could walk it for him; he had to walk it by himself.</p>	<p>2. We must walk this lonesome valley; we have to walk it by ourselves. Oh, nobody else can walk it for us; we have to walk it by ourselves.</p>
<p>3. You must go and stand your trial; you have to stand it by yourself. Oh, nobody else can stand it for you; you have to stand it by yourself.</p>	

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 4: 1-11

Pastor Laura

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. 2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. 3 The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” 4 But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” 7 Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, 9 and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10 Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” 11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

SERMON: Not Today, Satan!

Pastor Laura

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: “Sunday’s Palms are Wednesday’s Ashes”

FWS: 2138

***SONG OF THANKS:** Doxology

UMH #95

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW AND SERVE

***SONG OF COMMITMENT:** “Grace Greater than Our Sin” v.1,3,4

UMH #365

1. Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt! Yonder on Calvary’s mount outpoured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.	Refrain: Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within; grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!
3. Dark is the stain that we cannot hide. What can avail to wash it away? Look! There is flowing a crimson tide, brighter than snow you may be today. Refrain: Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within; grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!	4. Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe! You that are longing to see his face, will you this moment his grace receive? Refrain: Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within; grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!

SENDING FORTH – BLESSING

**This service is live-streamed on
[Youtube.com/@fumcmason](https://www.youtube.com/@fumcmason)**

UMH=United Methodist Hymnal; FWS=The Faith We Sing; W&S=Worship and Song

Assisting in Worship

Lay Reader: DJ Ory

Ushers: Winfred Bauer

Organist/Pianist: Chris Farmer Music Leader: Leslie Whitworth

Acolytes: James Pierce; Marin Whitworth.

Questions for Reflection

How might you grow in faith and draw near to Jesus through the forty days of Lent? Let Jesus’ three responses to the devil be your guide: (1) study Scripture (live by the Word of God; Matt. 4:4); (2) seek reconciliation with God and others (do not put God to the test; Matt. 4:7); and (3) be active and intentional about participating in the worship of your congregation (worship the Lord your God; Matt. 4:10).

Household Prayer: Morning

Holy God, as this day surrounds me like a garden with a thousand trees, give me enough knowledge to obey your commandments, and to choose the fruit that gives life: the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Where can I hide from you, O God? You have found me here, stained with the fruit of desire, shivering in the evening breeze. This is all I ask: wrap me in your mercy and let me rest in your presence. for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Lord. Amen.



Please pray for our members and loved ones who are homebound or residing in nursing homes.

Also, let's pray for: the family of: Kerry Graham Rustin, Gary Zesch.

The following individuals: Barbara Young, Judy Cordes, Frank Brown, George Eastes, Micah Grimshaw (newborn

grandson of Beverly & Randall Grimshaw, renal/kidney issues), Anne Chappell, Shirley Beth Lyles, Marty Evans (son of Dennis & Kay Evans) Rick & Bonnie Woerner(Father & Stepmother of Tiffany K.), Dan Feather, Katherine Graham (friend of Nikki Watson diagnosed w/ cancer), LeiLei Vermulen (chemo treatments), Aubrey Burrow, Kash (Rodney Fleming's grandson), Connor Reardon, Doris Grote, Lorine Metz, the church, the homeless, and all those affected by war and natural disasters.

Please pray for our members and loved ones who are in the military.

U.S. Army: Joseph Alba, T.J. Schovajsa, Britney Schovajsa and Kalyn Bauer. US Marine Corp: Hunter Goodwin USAF: Matt Adam US Navy: Ferd T. Slocum III & Truman Coe

MINISTERS—ALL MEMBERS OF FUMC

STAFF—LISTED BELOW

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|--|---|
| Rev. Laura Hewett Becker | pastorlaura@fumcmason.org |
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| Freddy Sapien Steady Steps Dir. | steadysteps@fumcmason.org |
| Leslie Whitworth Music Dir. | |

Giving and Attendance	
LAST WEEK'S GIVING (FEB 15, 2026)	\$ 3,599.00
FEB. MTD GIVING.....	\$18,336.85
FEB. MTD EXPENSE.....	\$10,649.28
LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE (FEB 15, 2026)	48

This week's Calendar

Sunday, February 22

9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages
11:00 AM Worship Service
4:00 – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts

Monday, February 23

Clergy Convocation

9:30 AM Prayer Shawl
10:00 AM Chair Yoga

Tuesday, February 24

07:30 AM. High School breakfast in social hall

If you would like to help,
please see Deandra Palacio.

9:45 AM Steady Steps Chapel



Wednesday, February 25

10:00 am Chair Yoga
12 n Lenten Luncheon – Mason Global & Art Methodist
Church @ Spring Street
06:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, February 26

Friday, February 27

10:00 AM Chair Yoga

Saturday, February 28

Birthday: Barbara Young

Sunday, March 01

Prayer Shawl

Birthday: Maellee Underwood

9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages
11:00 AM Worship Service
4:00 – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts