

**ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
“Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People”

February 22, 2026

9:45 a.m.

First Sunday in Lent

**PRELUDE** (*Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*)

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**WELCOME** – *Hearing assistance and large print materials are available. Please see an usher. If you have not yet reviewed the Directory information, please do so as it is passed around today.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*)

**Leader:** After he was baptized by John, Jesus went by himself to the wilderness where he was tempted.

**People:** **Forty days in the desert, Jesus was tempted to become relevant, spectacular, and powerful.**

**Leader:** Today, we begin to journey with Jesus through the season of Lent, which brings us to face some of our own weaknesses and temptations.

**People:** **Let us worship God and walk the journey together, seeking the spirit as our guide and companion along the way.**

**\*HYMN** *Lord, Who Throughout... (vs 1-3)*

UMH 269

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Psalm 32**

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. <sup>2</sup>Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. <sup>3</sup>When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. <sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. <sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin. <sup>6</sup>Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them. <sup>7</sup>You are my hiding place; you will protect me from

trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. <sup>8</sup>I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. <sup>9</sup>Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you. <sup>10</sup>Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him. <sup>11</sup>Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

## MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

### WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### \*BLESSING THE OFFERING

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH UMH 889

\*GLORIA PATRI UMH 71

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.

## SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN *Have Thine Own Way, Lord* UMH 382

SCRIPTURE Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” <sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup>“If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup>“All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

### **MESSAGE “Need For Change”**

**\*HYMN *O Worship the King* (vs 1-4)**

**UMH 73**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION Sent Forth by... (vs 1)**

**UMH 664**

### **EXTINGUISHING OF ALTAR CANDLES**

### **POSTLUDE**

**Music Director: Mike Nelson**

**Videographer: Roger Vandegrift**

**Liturgist: Buddy Pennewell**



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