

4th Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023

PRELUDE/GATHERING

Charles Ferguson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buddy Butler

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES: THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN OUR MIDST

CALL TO WORSHIP

Buddy Butler

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON, 891

Almighty and most merciful God, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful God, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of thy holy name. Amen. *All pray in silence.* If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **Thanks be to God.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE, 292

What Wondrous Love Is This

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, 885

A Modern Affirmation

Pastor: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare. *Pastor and People:* **We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good. We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need. We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE : PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER, 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, for ever. Amen

CHOIR ANTHEM

O Man of Sorrow

Words and Music by Jan Carneghi; Arrangement by Walter Rodby

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY

Charles Ferguson

*DOXOLOGY, 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.**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING
PSALTER, 754
SECOND READING
*GOSPEL READING

I Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9: 1-41

Dura Montgomery
April Butler
Garry Day

*GLORIA PATRI, 70 **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.**

SERMON

"I Can See"

Buddy Butler

*HYMN OF INVITATION, 378

Amazing Grace

*SENDING FORTH

*FOLLOWING CHRIST INTO THE WORLD, TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO OUR COMMUNITY

*POSTLUDE

Charles Ferguson

*Congregation standing, as able



A new 13-week session of GriefShare, a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close, continues on Mondays, 6-8 p.m. through June 5. Call Lonney McDonald at 706-455-8249 for more information.

Today we will receive the UMCOR Sunday Offering. Your gift is what allows UMCOR to act as the arms and feet of Christ's church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days—together we are assisting those impacted by crisis or chronic needs,

An **SPR Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, March 21 at 6 p.m.

The **Mission Work Area** will meet on Thursday, March 23, at 6 p.m. in the Older Elementary Classroom. Anyone interested in Missions is invited to attend.

The **Church Council** will meet on Tuesday, March 28, at 6:30 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to fill and hide eggs for an Easter Egg Hunt after worship on April 9. Please sign up in the Narthex if you are able to help! (Some eggs and candy have already been donated.)

The Community Meal is held on Mondays, 4 to 6 p.m. 191 free "to go" meals were served last week. If you would like to help, contact Community Meal volunteers at 423-241-2282.

The Parsonage has a new phone number: 423-761-6999.

United Women in Faith will meet on Wednesday, April 5, at 10:30 a.m. All ladies of the church are invited!



Church Leadership
Pastor Gilbert "Buddy" Butler
Secretary Heidi Rule
Custodian Christine Dowlin

Sunday Servants
Ushers Bill Simonds, Adam Turner
Sound Techs Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer
Webmaster Marti Lane



Our Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: *John and Mary Mills, Ed Massengale, Cathryn McCarter, Sheppie Dunn, Jeane Kalchik, Hannah Geren, Bill Simonds, Glenda Simonds, Elaine Crowe, Louise Arp, Barb Bender

Homebound/Assisted Living: Warrene Alexander

Others in our prayers: *Marilyn Day and Jim Moyer (Garry Day's mother and her husband), *Earthquake victims in Syria/Turkey, Kimberly Curcio (friend of Neila Pace), Bee Hicks, Junior Gwynn (having rehab on hands), ^Tom Reed, Kerry and Cindy Hicks, first responders, armed forces members, the people of Ukraine

*new to concerns +Hospital or Rehab ^Assisted Living/Nursing Home ~ Hospice

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Concerns, please call the church office.

Birthdays
 18 Barry Abbott 19 Smokey Brooks 21 Perian Michael

If your birthday or anniversary has not appeared in our listings please call the church office.

Upper Rooms for March—April are available in the Narthex today.



Scan here to give: when you scan this image with a smartphone's QR decoder, it will connect you to the mobile version of the FUMCC web page—a quick and easy way to access it. You can also donate securely online at fumc-copperhill.org.

Our Vanco giving page can also be accessed at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YJXP/home>

Calendar	Today		Tuesday		Thursday	
	10:00 am	Sunday School	6:00 pm	SPR Meeting	6:00 pm	AA Meeting
	11:00 am	Worship			6:00 pm	Missions Committee (Older Elementary Classroom)
	6:00 pm	Life Group Meeting	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Choir Practice	
	Monday					
	4-6 pm	Community Meal "To Go"				
	6-8 pm	GriefShare Meeting				

Church: 423-496-4931 ♦ Parsonage: 423-761-6999 ♦ Pastor's Cell: 423-429-3820
 Email: firstumc@etcmail.com ♦ Website: fumc-copperhill.org
 Facebook: First United Methodist Church-Copperhill
 Secretary's Office Hours: Monday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Everyone Welcome!