

**2nd Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2023**

PRELUDE/GATHERING

Let Thy Holy Spirit Guide
By Kevin G. Pace

Marti Lane

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Buddy Butler

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER

Buddy Butler

*HYMN OF PRAISE, 297

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1-4a

Garry Day

PSALTER, 844

Psalms 121

April Butler

SECOND READING

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Linda Day

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3:1-21

*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.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Take My Yoke Upon You
Words by J. Paul Williams; Music by Douglas Nolan

SERMON

“Into the Light”

Buddy Butler

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, 881

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON, 8

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. All pray in silence.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY

I'll Live for Him

By C.R. Dunbar

*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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

(Offerings left on the communion rail will go to the Pastor's Benevolence Fund to help people in our community.)

*HYMN OF INVITATION, 462 *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

*SENDING FORTH

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

*POSTLUDE

Freely, Freely, Freely

Marti Lane

By Chas. Hutchinson Gabriel

*Congregation standing, as able

Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday. Set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday evening.



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

UMCOR Sunday Offering: Sunday, March 19. 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 need. Because you give, the United Methodist Church's compassionate response to human suffering continues today.

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 organize an Easter Egg Hunt after worship on April 9. Please sign up in the Narthex if you are able to help!

The Community Meal is held on Mondays, 4 to 6 p.m. 167 free "to go" meals were served last week. If you would like to help, contact Community Meal volunteers at 423-241-2282.

All news and calendar items for the April issue of *The Copperhill Courier* are due in the church office by **Thursday, March 16.**

**Newsletter
DEADLINE**

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

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



Our Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: *Ed Massengale (heart procedure tomorrow), the family of Emily Yaxley, 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: Kimberly Curcio- in ICU after fall (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

25 Sheppie Dunn 28 Elaine Crowe 29 Ciera Butler 1 Jerrie Sue Massengale (accidentally left out last week)
 7 Grace Walker 8 Jennifer Walker 10 Laura Day, Joy Turner

Anniversaries (accidentally left out last week)

28 Lloyd and Elaine Minor 36th
 29 Leo and Ariana Morris 3rd

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



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

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

Calendar

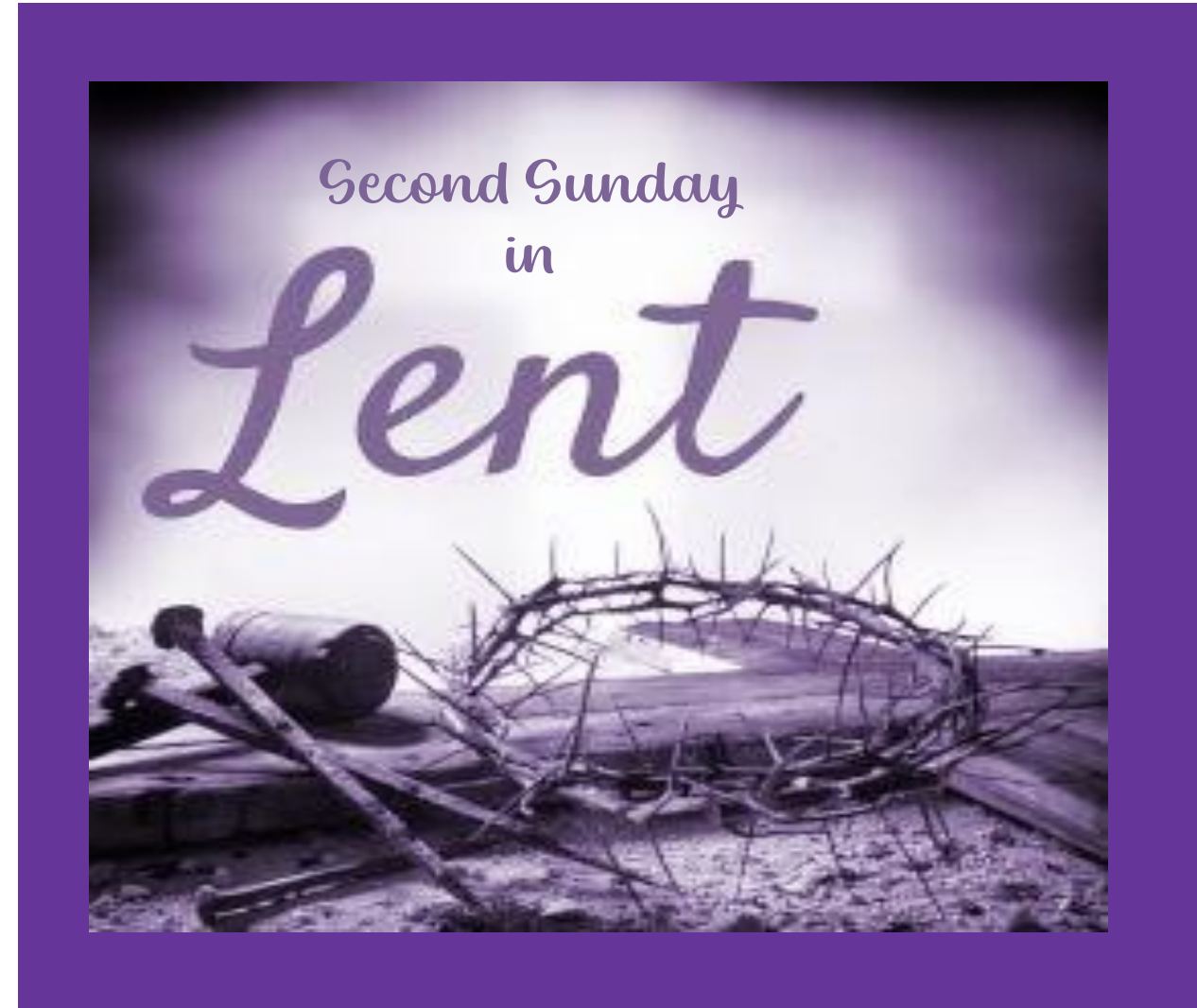
Today
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship
 6:00 pm Life Group Meeting

Monday
 4-6 pm Community Meal "To Go"
Wednesday
 6:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday
 6:00 pm AA Meeting
Saturday

Set clocks ahead one hour tonight for Daylight Savings Time

Church: 423-496-4931 ♦ Parsonage: 423-548-6348 ♦ 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!