

LENT 5
March 17, 2024 – 10 a.m.

INTROIT Alpha Brass
"Londonderry Aire" arr. Peter Graham

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
We fulfill our Mission to "make disciples for Jesus Christ"
by following our Pathway:
**Living our faith. Nurturing families.
Serving our communities.**

*GREETING

MUSIC FOR GATHERING Alpha Brass
"All To Jesus" Roger Trigg

CANDLES OF LENT Candy Short
Having been on the cross for hours, Jesus knew that everything was now finished, and to fulfill the Scriptures he said, 'I am thirsty.' (John 19:28).
Silence
As we extinguish this light, we pray for those in our world who thirst for their basic human rights, freedom, equality, inclusion, education, employment and acceptable living standards.
Candle is extinguished
God of Grace, we ask for the courage to play our part in standing with our brothers and sisters in need so that people's basic needs are met and their dignity restored. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP
ONE: Lift up your voice and call out to God.
ALL: **We cry out, believing that God hears us.**
ONE: Come together and wait for God.
ALL: **We come together, trusting that God is still speaking.**
ONE: Surely God's presence is here with us now.
ALL: **We wait in hope, for God's steadfast love lifts our hearts.**
ONE: Come, worship the Lord.
ALL: **We celebrate the power of God that restores us.**

*HYMN "Near to the Heart of God" #472
1. There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God;
a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.
Refrain:
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us who wait before thee near to the heart of God.

2. There is a place of comfort sweet,
near to the heart of God;
a place where we our Savior meet,
near to the heart of God. (Refrain)

3. There is a place of full release,
near to the heart of God;
a place where all is joy and peace,
near to the heart of God. (Refrain)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Ally Hall

INVITATION TO KIDS WORSHIP
Children ages 3 yrs. old through 5th grade are invited to First Kids.

OFFERING TO GOD
EASTER OUTREACH OFFERING Susan Selby
OFFERTORY Alpha Brass
"Earth's Confusion" Trevor Davis

*DOXOLOGY
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 DEDICATION Susan Selby

ANTHEM Alpha Brass
"There Is A Redeemer" Ralph Pearce

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Leisa Jones
LORD'S PRAYER (unison)
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.

*GOSPEL John 12:20-33 (MSG) Leisa Jones
20-21 There were some Greeks in town who had come up to worship at the Feast. They approached Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee: "Sir, we want to see Jesus. Can you help us?" 22-23 Philip went and told Andrew. Andrew and Philip together told Jesus. Jesus answered, "Time's up. The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24-25 "Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal. 26 "If any of you wants to serve me, then follow me. Then you'll be where I am, ready to serve at a moment's notice. The Father will honor and reward anyone who serves me. 27-28 "Right now I am shaken. And what am I going to say? 'Father, get me out of this'? No, this is why I came in the

first place. I'll say, 'Father, put your glory on display.'" A voice came out of the sky: "I have glorified it, and I'll glorify it again." 29 The listening crowd said, "Thunder!" Others said, "An angel spoke to him!" 30-33 Jesus said, "The voice didn't come for me but for you. At this moment the world is in crisis. Now Satan, the ruler of this world, will be thrown out. And I, as I am lifted up from the earth, will attract everyone to me and gather them around me." He put it this way to show how he was going to be put to death.
This is God's Word for God's people today.
Thanks be to God!

*HYMN "Are Ye Able" #530
1. "Are ye able," said the Master,
"to be crucified with me?"
"Yea," the sturdy dreamers answered,
"to the death we follow thee."
Refrain:
Lord, we are able. Our spirits are thine.
Remold them, make us, like thee, divine.
Thy guiding radiance above us shall be
a beacon to God, to love, and loyalty.

4. Are ye able? Still the Master whispers down eternity,
and heroic spirits answer, now as then in Galilee.
(Refrain)

SERMON Seeing What We Don't Want to See
Rev. Boruff

HYMN "O Jesus, I Have Promised" #196
1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

2. O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

4. O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

RESPONSE
We are invited to be like the grain of wheat, part of something bigger, part of a life we can only glimpse on our own, until Jesus shows it to us.
We are ready to follow Jesus toward the cross, and toward Easter so we have life and have it abundantly!

MUSIC OF SENDING
"Gospel Train" Barrie Gott

*BENEDICTION

*Please stand as you are able

WELCOME

Weekly Prayer Requests

- Pray for the children & staff at Gateway Childcare

Announcements

- **EGG HUNT:** Volunteer your time on March 23 or donate non-chocolate candy at the Welcome Center.
- **GUESTS:** All guests have a gift waiting for you at the Welcome Center. We are glad you are here today. Let us know how we can help you.
- **FOOD@FIRST:** 63 guests were served at Food@First last Sunday. It was a blessing to serve the community.
- **LENTEN BREAKFAST SERIES** continues Saturday, March 23. This Saturday's meeting will begin at 8:00 am at Anderson First UMC, 1215 Jackson, Anderson. Men, women & families are welcome!
- **"MEETING JESUS AT THE TABLE":** Join Pastor Corinne for this unique Lenten Study Weds. at 6 p.m. in NS Parlor.
- **CONNECT@FIRST:** All persons (new to the church or long-time attenders) are welcome to join Pastor Corinne **TODAY** for lunch and conversation about AFUMC and the UMC denomination. Opportunity will be available to sign up to become a member.

We give thanks for today's:

Ushers: Dick Falkenberry, Ryan Falkenberry, Bonnie Belangee, Jeff Dyer

Greeters: Pat Walker, Kathy Kean

Fellowship Time: Mary Falkenberry

First United Methodist Staff:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Corinne Boruff
Director of Family Ministry: Ally Hall
Director of Music and Organist: Susan Finger
Pianist: Michele Murray
Finance: Gene Brueggen
Program Support Coordinator: Kathy Kean
Communications Coordinator: Peg Peter

Production Director: Matt Stout
Outreach Coordinators: Dave and Susan Selby
Digital Communications: Matt and Erin Stout
Security: Richard Falkenberry
Sound Technicians: Jim Hudson, Richard Cassiday and Mark Murray
Custodians: Eddie Stephens, Ann Bull

Alpha Brass

Weekly Schedule

Sun 3/17

9:00 am	Trustees Meeting	Conference Room	Downtown
10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	Downtown
11:30 am	Connect @ First	North/South Parlor	Downtown
2:00 pm	Worship		Primrose
4:30 pm	Community Cafe		Downtown

Mon 3/18

5:00 pm	Exercise Class		Davis Park
6:00 pm	Big Book Study	East/West Parlor	Downtown

Tues 3/19

9:00 am	Sew Day	Fellowship Hall	Downtown
10:00 am	Staff Meeting	North/South	Downtown
4:30 pm	AACC rehearsal	Sanct, Choir Rm	Downtown
5:15 pm	AACC small choir	Room 220	Downtown
6:00 pm	Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall	Downtown
6:00 pm	Finance Meeting	North/South Parlor	Downtown

Wed 3/20

8:00 am	Rotary	North/South	Downtown
3:00 pm	Coffee with Corinne		Facebook
5:00 pm	Exercise Class		Davis Park
6:00 pm	Wesley Bells		Downtown
6:00 pm	Lenten Study	North/South	Downtown
6:30 pm	Children's Choir		Downtown
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir		Downtown

Thurs 3/21

Fri 3/22 Church Office Closes at Noon

9:00 am	Bible Study	North/South Parlor	Downtown
12:00 pm	Downtown Devotion		Facebook

Sat 3/23

8:00 am	Lenten Breakfast	Anderson First UMC	Downtown
10:30 am	Easter Egg Hunt	Davis Park	
10:00 am	AA meeting	North/South	Downtown

Sun 3/24

Palm Sunday

10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	Downtown
2:00 pm	Worship		Primrose
4:30 pm	Food @ First		Downtown



First United Methodist

FAITH FIRST. FAMILIES FIRST. ANDERSON FIRST.



LENT 5
MARCH 17, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Corinne Boruff
Director of Family Ministry: Ally Hall
Ministers: Congregation