

Depths of Love Series
Second Sunday in the Season of Lent

February 25, 2024



Order of Worship

WE GATHER

Opportunities Diane Black

Prelude Kim Crom
"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. L. Shackley

Welcome Rev. Deb Wacker

Choral Introit Chancel Choir

***Call to Worship** Diane Black

Leader: Lenten travelers, who is this Jesus that we follow?

People: He is the Messiah.

Leader: What kind of Messiah is Jesus?

People: He is the Messiah who teaches that he will lose his life and who calls us to lose our lives in order to save our lives.

Leader: How does it feel to follow a Messiah whose teachings and calls are so hard and uncomfortable?

People: Some feel fear and anger, while others feel uncertain and anxious, and still others feel resolute and ready to follow.

Leader: Lenten travelers, we are not alone in our feelings about following Jesus as our Messiah. It is a hard road. The blessing is that we do not travel it alone.

People: Thanks be to God that we share this journey with Jesus and one another as we lose our lives for the sake of the gospel to save our lives through Jesus, our Messiah. Amen.

***Opening Hymn "Lift High The Cross" UMH #159**
(Children are invited to come to the front during Verse 4.)

Children's Message Sara Simon
(Bible Storytime for Children K-3rd grade. Follow Melissa.)

PREPARATION TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture: Mark 8:31-38 Diane Black

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God
People: Thanks be to God

Sermon "For the Sake of the Gospel" Rev. Deb

WE RESPOND

Prayer Hymn "Be Thou My Vision" UMH #451

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Deb

The 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, and the power, and the glory,
Forever. Amen

Choral Response Chancel Choir

Offering Rev. Deb

Offertory Kim Crom

"Ah, Holy Jesus" arr. M. McDonald

***Doxology** "Sanctuary"

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and
holy, tried and true. With Thanksgiving, I'll be a
living sanctuary for you.

WE GO FORTH

Closing Hymn: UMH #368 vs.1&4

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

***Benediction** Rev. Deb

Choral Closing Chancel Choir

Postlude Kim Crom

"Postlude on Dundee" arr. F. Ritter

Presence

Sanctuary 65, Nursery 3, Fellowship 5,
Online 11, Total: 84

Gifts:

Feb 11 th	Feb 4 th	Jan 28 th	Jan 21 st
\$3027	\$4189	\$3844	\$3543

Prayers

Suk Cha (Cha) Disney passed on Feb. 15th (her birthday). Our prayers are with James Disney and family. Please pray for Traci Boyer and family in the passing of her husband Smokey on February 17th. Plans for a service have not been finalized. Prayers for our Confirmands as they meet with their mentors to explore their faith and prepare to join the multitudes who follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **John Tracy**, Priscilla's son as he recovers from his injuries. Angie McClelland's mom, **Nancy Razey**, is in hospice suffering with Body Inclusion Myositis. Angie Edward's nephew, **Chris Roberts**. **Ken Wacker Sr.** struggling with Prostate Cancer. Our "WAVES", our country and its leaders. Our World: The people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Gaza. Serving in mission: Kutela Katembo, Angola, Africa.

Opportunities

How Many Cans Can a Food Cart Contain If Each Can Can Contain Some Fruit??

A silly tongue twister ... or a serious call for help? The pantry at Mercy's Gate needs **canned fruit and other non-perishable food and hygiene items**. Let's see how many cans a cart can contain!! (We'll publish the count in the Messenger next month.) You may bring donations to the cart in the entry on any Sunday or weekday. Thanks for caring!

"Helping Others X 2!"

FEBRUARY MISSION FOCUS

You have been so generous in the past that there is a fund from previous year's "Bundles of Love" to purchase underwear and socks for Mitchell HS, Swigert MS, and Wilson Elem. **BUT! The Backpack Project needs more money due to the rising cost of food.** The same three schools receive a total of 60 backpacks each month, and there are families who rely on those groceries and hygiene items to make it through the month.

YOU ARE INVITED TO HELP X 2: You may bring "Bundles of Love" (socks and underwear) if you wish. **That certainly will help! Please contribute all cash or checks for the Backpack Project.** Checks may be made to Central UMC, designated Backpack Project.

Events

Lenten Study with Rev. Deb

"He Chose the Nails" by Max Lucado

Class will meet twice each week Feb. 20-Mar. 26
Tuesday mornings at 9:30 -10:30 a.m.,
Thursday evenings at 6:00 -7:00 p.m.
Books (\$14.00) are available in the office.

LENTEN WALK 2024

This week: We are walking from People's UMC on Tamlin Rd. to Sunrise UMC and Pastor Tiffany Keith @2655 Briargate Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80920. It's 9 miles via Marksheffel Rd. then east on Woodmen Rd.

Focus #8: Listening

Bible Verse: James 1:19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.

Words of Wisdom from Mr. Rogers: "I think the most important part about communicating is the listening we do beforehand. When we can truly respect what someone brings to what we're offering, it makes the communication all the more meaningful. Listening is where love begins. Listening to ourselves and then to our neighbors."

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE: This week, call someone who you have not spoken to in a while. Make sure to listen to what they are saying to you.

Confirmation Class of 2024

1. Austin Shannon – High School Junior
2. Jack Schipfer - High School Sophomore
3. Drew Medina - High School Sophomore
4. Cheyenne Shannon – High School Freshman
5. Oscar Agnew – High School Freshman
6. Trevor Spillar – High School Freshman
7. Sam Schipfer – Middle High 8th

Next on their agenda:

Confirmation Take 2 as they gather at Central UMC for time with their mentors!

Sunday, March 10th – 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS: BAPTISMS and
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY: MARCH 31, 2024
EASTER SUNDAY!**