



**Central United Methodist Church
of Colorado Springs**

“A Place to Begin...Belong...Become”

**THE CENTRAL FAMILY OF FAITH
GATHERED IN PRAISE AND CELEBRATION**

Rev. Debra Wacker

Sunday, March 26, 2023, 10:00 am



Who Could Stand

“If you should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?” Psalm 130:3

Prelude “Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” -American Spiritual Jo Jackson

Welcome Rev. Deb Wacker

Church Opportunities Cindy Medina

Choral Opening Chancel Choir

***Call to Worship** Cindy Medina

Leader: Welcome pilgrims on the way to the cross.

People: **We are learning to follow Jesus.**

Leader: The journey is long, and the burden of our sins and struggles feels so heavy.

People: **Yet we will hope in God because with God, there is steadfast love.**

Leader: All around us, we witness neighbors and communities who are lifeless, despairing that they could ever be revived.

People: **Yet God tells us that to come back to life, we must come together.**

Leader: Year after year of change and struggle have taken their toll—how can anyone bring forth life when we feel so parched and tired?

People: **Yet God meets the lifeless with the breath of life, reviving us again to worship and follow God’s way.**

Leader: Pilgrims on the way, come let us worship God!

People: **We come to worship God as we learn to live inside out! Amen.**

***Opening Hymn** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” UMH #384 vs. 1, 3 & 4

Children’s Message Bob Spaete

Prayers of the People Rev. Deb

Leader: People of God, can these dry bones live?

People: **These bones are hungry, thirsty, and tired. Yet only God knows if these bones can live.**

Leader: People of God, can these dry bones live?

People: These bones are suffering and in trouble. Yet only God knows if these bones can live.

Leader: People of God, can these dry bones live?

People: These bones face harmful division in families and communities. Yet only God knows if these bones can live.

Leader: People of God, can these dry bones live?

People: These bones struggle for life in a world threatened by war and rumors of war, by violence of every kind. Yet only God knows if these bones can live.

Leader: People of God, can these dry bones live?

People: These bones inhabit an earth that needs attention, care, and responsible stewardship. Yet only God knows if these bones can live.

Leader: People of God, these bones are all of us. Now hear the good news: God breathes on us that we may live and that we may share this new life with our community through God’s grace and love.

People: Thanks be to God, who gathers and breathes the Breath of Life into our dry bones.

Leader: Join me as we pray with confidence the prayer that he taught us:

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Choral Response Chancel Choir

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” arr. McChesney Heavenly Bells
Directed by Priscilla Tracy

***Doxology** “Alleluia” UMH #186
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

***Prayer of Thanksgiving** Rev. Deb

Hymn Of Preparation “Are Ye Able, Said the Master” UMH #530 vs. 1, 3 & 4

Scripture John 11:1-45 (NRSV) Cindy Medina

Leader: This is a Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon “Who Could Stand” Rev. Deb

***Closing Hymn** “Blessed Assurance” UMH #369

***Benediction** Rev. Deb

Choral Closing Chancel Choir

Postlude “What Wonders Love Is This” Bennett Jo Jackson

(Please remain seated until the music has stopped. The service is still being streamed live on zoom.)

*Standing for those who wish

Lyrics

*Opening Hymn

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

UMH #384 vs. 1, 3 & 4

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.
3. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Hymn Of Preparation

“Are Ye Able, Said the Master”

UMH #530 vs. 1, 3 & 4

1. “Are ye able,” said the Master, “to be crucified with me?”
“Yea,” the sturdy dreamers answered, “to the death we follow thee.”
3. Are ye able when the shadows close around you with the sod,
to believe that spirit triumphs to commend your soul to God?
4. Are ye able? Still the Master whispers down eternity,
and heroic spirits answer, now as then in Galilee.

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.*

*Closing Hymn

“Blessed Assurance”

UMH #369

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

WE ARE LOYAL TO OUR CHURCH BY OUR

PRAYERS: Norm Pechacek; Lillian Bauserman. Henry Robinson, Trae Gilbert-DeGraffe, Mike Wheat, Our "WAVES," our country and its leaders.

Serving in mission: Kutela Katembo, Missionary in Angola, Africa
Turkey, Syria, Russia

PRESENCE: Sanctuary 61, Fellowship Hall 3, Online 10, Nursery 4 **Total: 79**

GIFTS:	March 19	March 12	March 5	Feb 26	Feb 19
	\$2,371.75	\$4,009.75	\$5,666.25	\$4,883.00	\$7,438.00

SERVICE: I'm thinking a "shout-out" to Barb McCraw for ALL her work, creativity and time invested. Prayers for the remainder of you to continue your enthusiasm and involvement in our WAVES support. I also realize it's a young people saying, but certainly appropriate in this case that "teamwork makes the dream work."..... so, Maxine and I are proud and thankful to be part of this team.
Bob Rummel

CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES

MARCH MISSION FOCUS: “MONUMENTAL FAITH” We can help it to grow. In Espanola, NM, this summer some children will be enriched by 6 weeks of “Camp Stars,” a program of McCurdy Ministries which is our March Mission Focus. Each week, 50 children (K thru 6th) will learn about God’s awesome creations that surround the area, along with Bible School lessons and STEM education. Field trips are scheduled to nearby Ghost Ranch, Rio Grande Gorge, Los Luceros Historic Ranch, and several Pueblo archaeological ruins.

Most of the students are from low-income families and will only be able to participate if they receive scholarships. WE CAN HELP! At a cost of \$200 per child [for camp supplies, 2 meals per day and transportation], how many children can we sponsor? You may contribute with a check to Central UMC, designated “McCurdy” or with coins or cash on Sundays.

FOOD GIFTS Oodles of Noodles!! This month, the pantry at Mercy’s Gate has asked for Ramen noodles and pasta and chicken noodle soup. Let’s help by bringing oodles of noodles!! You may bring noodles, pasta, soup or any non-perishable food items to the grocery cart in the church entry on any Sunday morning or weekday. Thanks for sharing.

CALLING ALL CHILDREN! Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, and the children will parade into the sanctuary waving palms during the opening hymn. Please come to the library by 9:55.

SPECIAL CHOIR REHEARSAL on Saturday April 1st, the Choir will have Cantata rehearsal at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary.

PALM SUNDAY EASTER FUN FOR EVERYONE!! The youth are planning an Easter Egg hunt for all ages after church on **Palm Sunday, April 2nd**. Come join the fun and be a kid again!! There will be a children's area and another location for youth and adults. **ASAP**, please bring individually wrapped candies and small toys to the plastic bin in Fellowship Hall by **Sunday the 26th**.

PALM SUNDAY – Worship: Choir Cantata and celebration of the Palms
After Worship: Easter Egg Hunt for everyone and a bit more fun after that!
All led by our Youth! Stay and join the fun.

WALKING TO JERUSALEM: From: Smoky Hill UMC
This week we arrived in Valencia, Spain, a port city on the Mediterranean Sea. Our first stop was to the Llotja de la Seda (Silk Exchange) which is a beautiful, historic market of former silk traders. Our tour of Old Town included Spanish wine, tapas, and paella, a saffron flavored rice dish of chicken and seafood. We enjoyed our visit to the futuristic and stunning City of Arts and Sciences. One evening we went to the Café del Duende where we were enchanted by a passionate flamenco show. The highlight of our stay in Valencia was the yearly UNESCO pyrotechnic festival where massive wooden monuments and cardboard sculptures are set ablaze to welcome the beginning of spring.

Miles walked this week: 1,024
Total walked on journey: 7,068

If you missed putting your miles, or steps in the boot,
do so at any time.

KEEP UP THE WALKING!

KINDNESS CHALLENGES THIS WEEK

Week 5: March 26th-April 1st Focus: MAKE A DIFFERENCE Kindness Challenges:

- 1. If you eat out this week, leave an extra-large tip for your server and a compliment on the receipt.**
- 2. Encourage someone you see struggling.**
- 3. Put together a self-care basket for someone who really needs it.**
- 4. Give someone you rarely talk to a compliment.**
- 5. Unplug from technology today!!!!**
- 6. Be kind to our planet: do full loads of laundry and dishes.**
- 7. Be kind to yourself: stop what you are doing, close your eyes, and take a deep breath. Repeat 3-5 times.**

LILIES FOR EASTER

This Easter you will be able to order 6-inch Easter Lilies to be used to adorn the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 9th. If you would like to contribute to the beauty of the sanctuary, please fill out the order form below and put it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. You will be able to take the plants you order with you on Easter Sunday.

Your order form, along with your check or cash for \$17.50 per plant, should be received at the church by Sunday, **Today**. Checks should be made payable to Central UMC and have the words "Easter Flowers" on the memo line. The church office will still be open between 9-2 pm Mon - Fri. or checks mailed at CUMC 4373 Galley Rd. C/S 80915.
Please call Judy Day for any questions at 231-4380.



Number of Plants:


Easter Lily _____

Total number of plants _____ x \$17.50 = _____ amount attached.

_____ would like to order a plant...

Your Name

In Honor of _____



WELCOME TO
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH – A warm greeting is extended to all who are visiting with us today. We are delighted that you chose to worship with us this morning. It is our prayer that this service will be a source of comfort and inspiration to you. If we can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to let us know.