

OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT WORSHIP

First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

11:00 A.M.

TIME OF GATHERING: Read through Announcements, Pray over Concerns, Meditate on Celebrations and the wonder and grace of God, and Thanksgiving to God....

Please sign the red pads and pass it onto the next person in your pew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* Karl Osterland

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Ashes have been smeared and sins have been confessed...

People: We follow our faithful Lord.

Liturgist: These times, they are troubling. This journey, it is difficult...

People: We follow our faithful Lord.

Liturgist: It is God who sustains, not the temptations of this world...

People: We follow our faithful Lord.

Liturgist: In the Lord is our trust, our protection from harm...

People: We follow our faithful Lord.

Liturgist: Come, let us worship the One whom we serve...

All: We follow our faithful Lord.

*HYMN *Jesus, Tempted in the Desert* No. 2105

OPENING PRAYER (seated)

Unison: **God of the wilderness, your Spirit leads us to face the truth, unprotected and exposed: in our times of trial help us to resist the worship of empty power, so that we may find our true food in Jesus Christ, the broken bread. Amen.**

RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING Psalm 32 Page 766

*RESPONSE *Father, We Praise Thee!* No. 680 vs. 3

All holy Father, Son and equal Spirit, Trinity blessed, send us thy salvation; thine is the glory, gleaming and resounding through all creation.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Lenten Creed*

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs. We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted. We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child. We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that difficult times and disciplines are also loving gifts. We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine. We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us. This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM *More Precious than Silver* Deshazo/arr. Pethel

GOSPEL READING *Luke 4:1-14*

MESSAGE *"Journey in the Wilderness"* Pastor Janet Sattel

*HYMN *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley* No. 2112

AN INVITATION TO PRAY

+Prayer of Confession (unison)

We are easily distracted in the wilderness of our lives, by every call to go this way or that, to turn stone to bread, to leap from mountains, and do all that would keep us from the truth. We listen to the voices of this world, and ignore the One who endured all this and so much more, and emerged triumphant, that we might not have to suffer so. Forgive us, Father, when we get distracted from our task. Forgive us those times when we try to be all things to all people, and yet fail to be anything to anyone.

+Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

+Sung Response *Open My Eyes, That I May See* No. 454 Response only Vs 3

**Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Savior When in Dust to Thee

Robert Lau

*Congregational Response

Tune: DUKE STREET

*All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all gifts, to offer thee:
And hence with grateful hearts today, Thine own before thy feet we lay.*

*HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

No. 140

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: May your time in this wilderness be shaped by space rather than minutes, so there is room enough for you to hear God's voice. May the stones in this wilderness cry out your name loudly, that your spirit recognizes the Voice that has always been calling out to you. May you know that this wilderness has been expecting you, and may you find between the stones a promise growing, that will bloom in time, yielding great faith, to the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

*ORGAN RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

Aria da Chelsea

Georg Muffat

*All stand if possible +All kneel or sit to pray

*The altar flowers are presented by Norma Patterson
in memory of her husband, Roy E. Patterson.*

We thank all those who helped with the service this morning.

Liturgist: Terry Woodnorth



United Methodist
**Church of the
Good Shepherd**
"connecting to broken and hurting people"

Reverend Janet Sadel, Lead Pastor

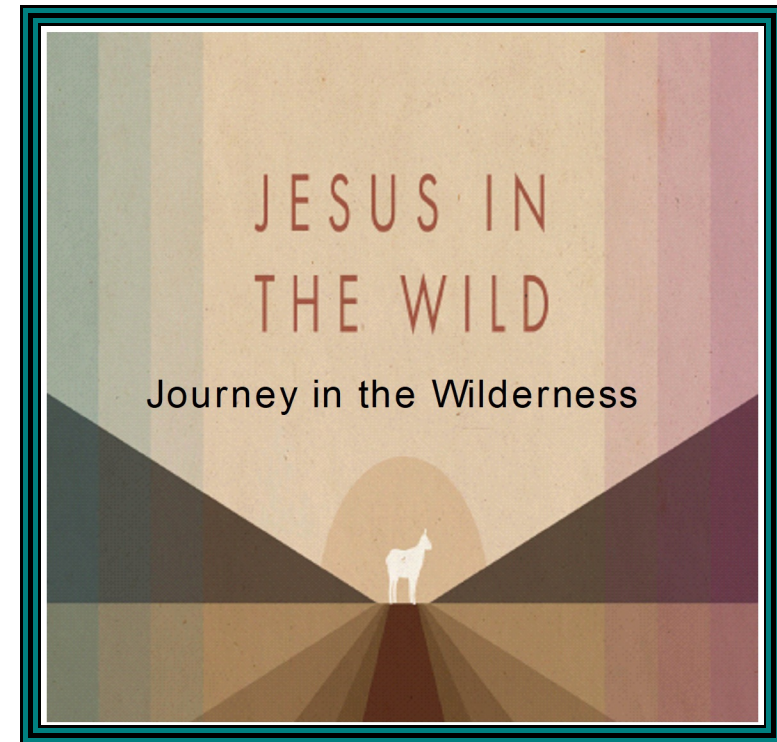
jsadel@umcogs.org

Reverend Lisa Flory, Pastor

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TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Celebration of Faith



February 26, 2023

First Sunday in Lent

11:00 A.M.

1500 Quentin Road / Lebanon, PA 17042

church: 717-272-7741 / www.umcogs.org

Sermon Outline: LENTEN SERMON SERIES: JESUS IN THE WILD

Week 1: Journey in the Wilderness

Luke 4:1-14

Pastor Janet Saddle

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness (in the wild) is a show-down between Jesus and our adversary, the devil who wants nothing else but to draw us away from God, to put us down, to destroy our faith, and destroy us.

We have a purpose in life; our lives have meaning, and there is a reason God has put us on earth. These are the things that can be discovered when we spend time in the wild.

There are three key things that God wants us to know about ourselves: who you are (your identity), whose you are (you belong to God and you are loved!) and what God has created you for (you have a purpose in this world). These three aspects of our lives are the areas that the enemy will challenge.

The Greek word for wilderness means “desert, waste, uninhabited”, but it can also mean “lone” as in a solitary place, a quiet place, and place where you can be alone with God and with yourself.

Testing comes so that our faith will be purified, and we will look like Jesus.

Jesus went through a time of trial, temptation, and affliction, which provided clarity in three key areas: identity, belovedness and purpose. The enemy tested Jesus in every aspect, but Jesus came through this time in the wild stronger and full of the Holy Spirit.

God wants to build us up, he wants us to face ourselves and learn from Jesus who we are, whose we are and why we are here.

When we journey with Jesus through the wild this Lent, we will learn to respond to God and to the devil in the same way that Jesus did. We will learn to distinguish between the testing of God and the temptations of the evil one. Our goal is to leave the wild with faith like that of Jesus, so that “we can leave our wildlands triumphant, faithful, true and strong.”

Scriptures to memorize: 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 1:6-7

Calendar for Week of 2/26/2023

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

11:00 - House Team [Hall]

11:00 - COGS KIDS [Hall]

4:00 - CR Step Study [Lounge/Choir rm]

Youth Grades 6-12 please see Youth Page in the Announcements

MONDAY

10-12 - Staff Meeting

6:00 - CR Praise Team Rehearsal [WC]

6:00 - Private [Sanctuary]

6:00 - Youth Leader Meeting [Forge Room]

6:30 - Social Justice [Lounge]

TUESDAY

6:30 - Book Study [Lounge]

WEDNESDAY

8:30-11:30 - MLLC [rms 200/202]

7:00 - Celebrate Recovery

7:00 - Traditional Choir Rehearsal [Sanctuary]

THURSDAY

5:00 - Contemporary Design Team

5:30 - Traditional Design Team

6:30 - Book Study [Room 21]

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

9:30-3 - Private [Hall]

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

4:00 - CR Step Study [Lounge/Choir rm]

Youth Grades 6-12 please see Youth Page in the Announcements

