

OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT WORSHIP

4th Sunday in Lent

March 19, 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 *Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word* Wayne L. Wold

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: After he was baptized by John,
Jesus went by himself to the wilderness where he was tempted.

People: Forty days in the desert, Jesus was tempted to become relevant, spectacular and powerful.

Liturgist: Today, we continue to journey with Jesus through the wilderness, which brings us face to face with our own weaknesses and temptations.

People: Let us worship God and walk the journey together, seeking the spirit as our guide and companion along the way.

*HYMN *O Word of God Incarnate* No. 598

OPENING PRAYER (seated)

Unison: God, you know our hearts. You have knitted our inmost being and you know our deepest desires, fears and worries. Help us to journey during this Lenten season into a new awareness of your presence in our lives. Save us from our own temptations, so that we may more freely follow you. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSON 1John 3:7-11 (NIV)

Liturgist: The Word of God for God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

*RESPONSE *Hallelujah! What a Savior* No.165 vs 2

**Bearing shame and scoffing rude, In my place condemned He stood;
Sealed my pardon with His blood. Hallelujah! What a Savior!**

*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 *Gospel of Grace* Mary McDonald

GOSPEL READING *Luke 4:1-13 (NIV)*
MESSAGE *The Power of "It Is Written"* Pastor Lisa Flory

*HYMN *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee* No. 142

AN INVITATION TO PRAY

+Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Lord, we confess that 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 fail to be anything to anyone. Amen.**

+Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

+Sung Response

Thy Word Is a Lamp

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

No. 601

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Wonderful Words of Life* Robert Powell

*Congregational Response Tune: *Hendon*

**Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

*HYMN *Standing on the Promises* No. 374

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: Commit with your whole being to trust in God's Word, so that you can proclaim with confidence to any and all temptations: "It is written."

People: It IS written... we have the authority of God on our side!

All: Amen.

*ORGAN RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE We Nur Den Lieben Gott Lässt Walten Johann Sebastian Bach
(If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee)

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

*The Altar flowers for today are presented by Joyce Redinger
to the Honor and Glory of God.*

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

Liturgist: Tom McKennett

Mission Statement for the Church of the Good Shepherd

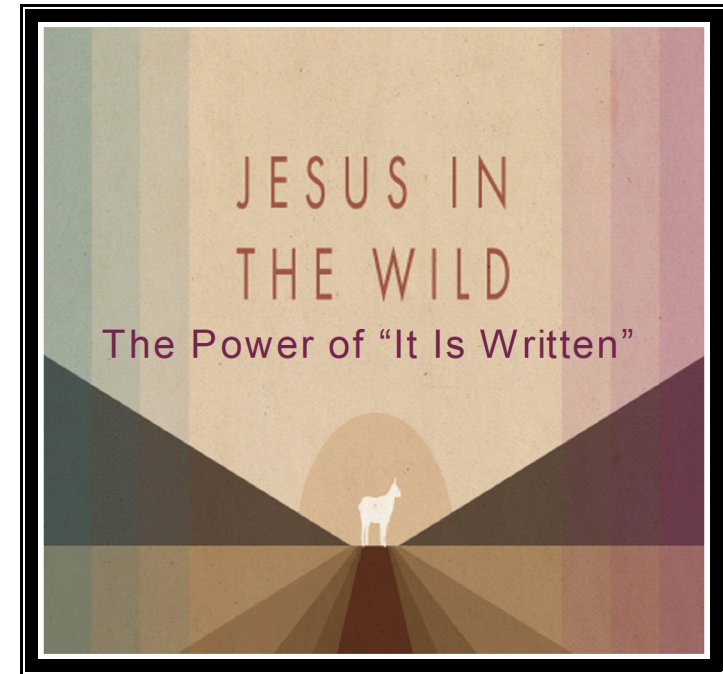
We are committed to:

- ▶ Connecting persons to Jesus Christ
- ▶ Connecting with broken and hurting people
- ▶ Challenging persons to grow and celebrate their relationship with Jesus Christ
- ▶ Equipping persons and partnering with them to serve in God-powered ministry



Reverend Janet Sadel, Lead Pastor
jsadel@umcogs.org
Reverend Lisa Flory, Pastor
lflory@umcogs.org

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 
Celebration of Faith



March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent

11:00 A.M.

1500 Quentin Road / Lebanon, PA 17042
church: 717-272-7741 / www.umcogs.org

Sermon Outline:

The Power of "Is It Written"
Luke 4:4-12
Pastor Lisa Flory

Where do we turn when we find ourselves in the wilderness, faced with temptation and trials? Do we acknowledge God's Word as our higher authority, or do we attempt to handle challenges on our own strength? How did Jesus respond to the temptations of the devil in his wilderness experience?

In the first temptation of the devil, Jesus is tempted to misuse his power to satisfy his physical needs, as opposed to trusting God to meet all his needs. Jesus responds, "*It is written: 'human beings shall not live on bread alone.'*"

In the second temptation, Jesus is tempted to bypass the suffering of the cross and to pursue glory and power for himself. Jesus responds, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

In the third temptation, Jesus is tempted to put God to the test, to see if God really is all powerful and all loving. Jesus responds, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

During this season of Lent, we are reminded to face our trials and temptations with the power of God's Word as our "sword of the Spirit", trusting in our higher authority. *It is written!*

2023 Mission Support

International

Heifer Int., Congo Partners in Mission, Africa University

Lebanon County

COGS in Motion, Gretna Glen Support, Habitat for Humanity, Celebrate Recovery, Iglesia Nuevo Nacimiento, Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM), Jubilee Ministries, Lebanon Rescue Mission, COGS Care and Compassion Fund.

Calendar for Week of 3/19/2023

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

MONDAY

10-12 - Staff Meeting

6:00 CR Praise Team Rehearsal [WC]

6:00 - Private [Sanctuary]

7:00—Mission Team [Rm 21]

TUESDAY

6:30 - Book Study [Lounge]

7:00—Finance Team [Hall]

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 - Life Healing Choices [rm 21]

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

6:00—Open Art Night [Hall]

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 - COGS Kids [Hall]

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

Youth Group -

see Youth Page in the Announcements