

WORSHIP GUIDE

March 19, 2023 4th Sunday in Lent

LEARNING TO LIVE FROM THE INSIDE OUT



WE GATHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome pilgrims on the way to the cross.

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

L: On this Lenten journey, where do we find God's presence among us?

P: **One thing we know: God calls us to witness extraordinary love in ordinary moments.**

L: On this Lenten journey, how does God's presence work among us?

P: **One thing we know: God uses the messy and mundane to heal and restore us to one another.**

L: On this Lenten journey, what does God's presence do in our midst?

P: **One thing we know: God opens us to recognize presence, sustenance, and abundance where the world perceives isolation and lack.**

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

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

OPENING HYMN: *Be Thou My Vision*

UMH pg. 451

OPENING PRAYER:

O God of miracles and mighty deeds, we acknowledge your healing and comforting presence in our lives. We confess that we have been [drawn in] by materialism and driven by consumerism. Open our [hearts] to a new way of being. Send your anointing and grant us fresh insight for spiritual breakthroughs. Shine the light of your truth into our relationships and grant us victory over every secret and shame. We thank you in advance for healings and renewals in our lives. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

WE HEAR THE WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

First Old Testament: I Samuel 16:1-13

Second Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 23

Gospel: John 9:1-14

L: The word of God, for the people of God.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF PREPARATION: *Open Our Eyes*

TFWS pg. 2086

MESSAGE: *Laetare (Rejoice) You Have Been Chosen*

Gene Rouse

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *Shine Jesus Shine*

TFWS pg. 2173

WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND WITH THANKSGIVING

SONG BEFORE AND AFTER PRAYER *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying #2193 TFWS*

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (after each time of silence, we'll finish with the words "Lord in your mercy" and you are invited to respond, "**Hear our prayer.**")

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.

OFFERING

This is an opportunity to share the goodness that has been given to you. Consider sending an offering to PO Box 630, Skowhegan, ME 04976. You are also invited to support an organization or church in our local community that is making a positive difference in people's lives.

**Song of Thanksgiving:

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow # 95 UMH

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

CLOSING HYMN: *Because He Lives*

UMH pg. 364

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

As you leave this time of worship,

may God's presence follow you, heal you,

and empower you to witness

and *to witness to* the goodness and love of God everywhere you go. Amen.

CENTENARY COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST: Lord, our faith community prays for the following people and situations: Wanda Hemond and Shawna Elliot at the loss of their mother Rosa; Gene and Amy Rouse, Tracey and Mason Woods; Jane Fields; Kevin Tansey's sister, Trisha; Betty Frederic and mother, Pearl; Larry James; Toni Jo and John Blaisdell; Linda and Wendy Eaton; Marj Coburn Black; Wanda Quimby and Al Quimby; Darcy Lyons; Bonnie Young's brother; Skip Young's brothers; Diane and Jim Arsenault at the loss of Jim's sister, Donna; Diane Arsenault's brother, Dick Doucette; Jim Arsenault's Brother, Paul; Ila, David, and Bryce Libby; Janice and John Malek –for John's rehab. from surgery, for the healing of their daughter, Rebecca; Ken Fitzherbert; Babbett; Josh Breton; Rodney Brown and his mother, Clarissa; Cindy Travers; Kim Violette's sister Jody and her niece, Taylor; Kim Violette's father and her mother, Carol; the Chase family; Foster children everywhere; victims and survivors of domestic violence; people struggling with housing and food insecurity; the Skowhegan Police Dept. Fire Dept. E.M. T.s; Health Care Workers; Teachers and educators everywhere and their support staff. The people of Ukraine; We pray for peace. Our Bishop, the Rev. Peggy Johnson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The HEARTS AND HANDS THRIFT SHOP

Co-Managers: James Barto and Ila Libby

Hours of Operation: Wednesdays 9 AM to 12 PM

***Call James @ 207-858-0257 to arrange drop off donations or for more information.

CLOTHING CLOSET

The Clothing Closet is open on Wednesdays 9 AM to NOON and 5 PM to 7 PM

THE CUP CAFÉ

Our CUP Café is open on Wednesdays 9AM—12 NOON.

Each week we offer a light lunch, hot chocolate, coffee and snacks. We also have FREE Wi-fi.

FREE DRIVE THRU COMMUNITY MEALS UPDATE

The Tuesday Evening Meals offers a free meal on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

Call the church @ 207-474-3915

Leave your name and # of meals.

Pick up time is between 5-6 PM that evening.

Our next meal is on March 28.

Please call by Monday, March 27th to reserve your meal.

SKOWHEGAN AREA YOUTH GROUP

Thursdays from 3:30-7:30 pm at Centenary UMC on the Dr. Mann Rd. Tutoring, dinner, and activities provided. For more information, please call Sharon Newell or Kevin Tansey at 207-708-0767 or 207-877-5987.

FELLOWSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

- Men's Fellowship: Mondays @ 8:00 am (See Gene Rouse or Skip Young)
- Small Group Ministry: Wednesdays @ 1:00PM -2:30PM (see Pastor Jen)
- ♦ Giving Angels Women's Fellowship: 1st Tuesday of each month. 10 AM –12:00 PM

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LENDING PROGRAM

Do you or someone you know have need for a wheelchair, walker, crutches, canes, etc.? If so, we have many of these items available through our medical lending program. This is offered by ap-appointment. Call 207-474-3915 and leave your name, phone number, and the item that you need. Someone will contact you. This is an outreach through the partnership of Common Unity Place and Centenary United Methodist Church.