

WORSHIP GUIDE March 5, 2023 The Second Sunday in Lent  
LENTEN SERMON SERIES: LEARNING TO LIVE INSIDE OUT  
WE GATHER



**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Welcome pilgrims on the way to the cross.

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

L: When God says, "Go!" without telling us the destination,

P: **Show us, Christ, how to go forward in faith.**

L: When re-birth is the impossible way forward,

P: **Christ, be our midwife as we accept God's call to be reborn.**

L: When we find ourselves in the in-between of where we've been and where we're going,

P: **Christ, meet us on the way and bless us in the going.**

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

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

OPENING HYMN: *UMH #393 Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on Me (3xs)*

**OPENING PRAYER**

**O God, we are often called to go to places that we don't know. We come this morning, in response to a call we have felt in our bones. We may not be sure; we may even be full of doubts and not fully understand how we got here, but we are here. Help us listen with new ears and open hearts. Touch us during this time of worship, that we may know your unconditional love—not just for the world, but for us individually. Help us draw closer to you, as we journey inward seeking a closer relationship with you, so we can live and move in the world as your messengers of love, hope, and peace. Help us learn to live from the inside out. Amen.**

WE HEAR THE WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Old Testament: Genesis 12:1-4a

Epistle Reading: Romans 4:1-5; 13-17

New Testament: John 3:1-17

HYMN OF PREPARATION: *TFWS #2246 Deep in the Shadows of the Past*

MESSAGE: *Learning to Live Inside Out: Go From Your Country*

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *TFWS #2120 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

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.**")

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

CONFESSION AND PARDON

L: Holy God, Creator of all that is, Donor of Grace, and Giver of Life: Hear our prayer. There are chasms in our lives, deep valleys that separate us from one another and from You.

**P: We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow, for fear of admitting our part in the separation, for fear of being rejected when we reach out.**

**You call us to a reconciled life, to healed relationships, to a wholeness with each other and with You. Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations**

**Through the power and love of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: God so loved the world-God so loved us-that God goes with us every step of the way. In this we are blessed. Know that God hears, answers, and loves us-and in this loving, understands and forgives us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**P: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**ALL: Thanks be to God, 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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (turn to page 13 of the UMH)

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.**

CLOSING HYMN: *UMH #451 Be Thou My Vision*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

Go now in the sure knowledge that God goes with you every step of your journey.

Go to be a blessing to everyone you meet.

Go, surrounded by the steadfast and strengthening love of God.

Go in faith, learning to live inside out!

CENTENARY COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST: Lord, our faith community prays for the following people and situations: Wanda Hemond and Shawna Elliot and mother Rosa; Gene and Amy Rouse; 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; 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 14th. -- To reserve your meal, please order by Monday, March 13th.

## 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.

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