

Union United Methodist Church

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Rev. Randy Perdue

Norma Jean Harbin, Organist

Bulletin – March 23, 2025

My Soul Clings

Third Sunday of Lent

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship



**** P – Pastor **Bold – C: Congregation responds** ****

P: Children of God, what has God done for you?

C: God saves, provides, and holds us in God’s steadfast love.

P: Consider and remember: in the joyful times and in the sorrowful times, what has God done for you?

C: God covers us and lifts us up, protecting and empowering us with steadfast love.

P: When you have been like the fig tree in Jesus’ story that seems unable to produce and that everyone has given up on, what has God done for you?

C: God tends the soil and waters the ground, nurturing us into life with steadfast love.

P: Children of God, come, let us worship God who never gives up on us!

C: We come to worship and cling to God, for God’s steadfast love never fails!

Our Statement of Faith – The Apostles Creed p. 881 UMH

**** All to recite in unison ****

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!

The Gloria Patri p. 70 UMH

*Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.*

Opening Hymn – Be Thou My Vision p. 451 UMH

Sharing Our Praises & Prayers

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Offering – Ushers come forward

Doxology p. 95 UMH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Old Testament Lesson – Psalm 63:1-8 (NRSVue)

**** P – Pastor Bold – C: Congregation responds ****

P: O God, you are my God; I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as I in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

C: ² So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

P: ³ Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

C: ⁴ So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

P: ⁵ My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

C: ⁶ when I think of you on my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the night,

P: ⁷ for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

C: ⁸ My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

Hymn – Guide Me, O thou Great Jehovah p. 127 UMH

New Testament Reading – Luke 3:1-19 (NRSVue)

¹ At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³ No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did.” ⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and

found none. ⁷ So he said to the man working the vineyard, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

Sermon – My Soul Clings

Closing Hymn – Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

p. 381 UMH vv. 1, 3, & 4

Benediction & Commission

May God bless you with the hope to cling to God, knowing that in the highs and lows, the joys and the sorrows, the known and unknown of this life, God’s love never fails. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Lectionary Readings for the week beginning March 24, 2025

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Announcements

- Today is the last day to purchase lilies for placement in the church until Easter Sunday. The price is \$13.50 per lily. Please let Faye Seats know today if you wish to make a purchase. Also, let Faye know if you are purchasing a lily as a memorial or honorarium.

Prayer List

Steve and Lena Gough

All who are serving our country at home and abroad

Church Family

Wayne Bumgardner

Frank Dalton

Sherry Doub

Frances V. Gough

Wanda Needham

Barbara Perryman

Frances Sisk

Church Friend / Extended Family

Tommy Bost

Tammy Seats Boyd

Jimmy & Deborah Branch

Jane Bullin

Leisha Carpenter

Joe Dean

Ruby Driver

Mack Edwards

Joanne Everhart

Mary File

Garry Harbin

Kathy Harbin

Lynda Harper

Ronald Howell

Amber Lambert

Jeannette Lanier

Kevin McBride

Kevin McDaniel

Mark Megela

Dawn Proctor

Jay D. Prevette

Vivian Royal

Mary Ellen Smith

Kim Triplette

Mark Wall

Ann Wallace

Robert and Susan Warren

Savannah Wooten

March Birthdays

Mary Jane Disher	2	Savannah Owen	10
Nyk Travis	7	Elizabeth Mark	11
Leroy Burton	8	Niki Pardue	11
David Luck	9	Joshua Doub	23
Peter Hogg	10	Hank Disher	23
Silas Hogg	10	Jimmy McBride	30

Wesley Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee, or brought low for thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen!