

Bethel United Methodist Church

Second Sunday of Lent

March 5, 2023

Pastor Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Gen 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Rom 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

Next Week: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "What a Mighty God We Serve" W&S 3016

***Responsive Call to Worship:** *on opposite page*

***Affirmation of Faith** (Apostle's Creed).....UMH 881

***Gloria Patri**.....UMH 71

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

***Doxology**.....UMH 95

OT Scripture Reading: Psalm 121

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Song: "He Touched Me" Judy & Travis

Message: "Born of the Spirit"

Scripture: John 3:1-17

Communion

***Hymn:** "Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus" UMH 462

***Closing Chorus & Benediction** "Bind Us Together"

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Pastor: If faith has been a family tradition, it may be we are thirsty for a more personal encounter with Christ.

People: Many of us have grown up in the church. We feel at home here. Perhaps that familiarity hinders what God would like to do with us.

Pastor: God would like to satisfy our thirst by revealing our sins so he can forgive us. Then we can really worship him!

People: We desire to empty our lives of all distractions, that God may fill us with his presence!

Prayer of Confession: Worship almost becomes a habit, Father; and we do not feel our spiritual thirst is quenched. It is too easy for us to go through our ritual of worship, and continue in a lifestyle of sin. Forgive us for worship which is artificial, preventing us from drinking the life-giving water of salvation. Reveal our sins to us, and then cleanse us; that we may be refreshed with your gift of new life in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Calendar of Events

Today: 2nd Sunday of Lent; Communion

All Week: Keep Safe and Pray

Worship, Educational and Outreach Opportunities

Today: *Interactive Online Service thru link on Bethel Web Site, Service page*

Prayer Concerns

Bethel UMC, The UMC, Our Country, all of those affected by the storms, those in Military Service, Police, Fire, EMS first responders, Healthcare professionals and home caregivers, Teachers, Students; Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone; Kathie & Al Adams; Lexie Allen; Georgia Bubner; Ken Hirsekorn; Nan Lindsey; William McCloud; Travis and Tina Oaks; the Oaks family; Darren Plate & parents; Pat Singletery; Candy Trimble; Lawson Wooley; Lon & Lucy Wright; Howard Zody

Please use a prayer request form, in the narthex, to submit requests for adding to the Prayer Concerns in the worship bulletin

Devotionals: *The Upper Room and Our Daily Bread* are daily devotional booklets that are available in the Narthex. Please take one or both and enjoy!

Bethel Website: <http://www.bethelumctlh.org>

Recordings of recent sermons are available on the web site

Recordings of sermons or services are available on CD by request

Heifer Fund: "Youth Message" offering goes to support Heifer International

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