

WORSHIP HANDOUT  
February 28, 2021



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReGathering  
Love Fund

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

**Pilgrims, we are invited to journey through this season of Lent towards the One who calls us each by a new name.**

**Disciples, we walk with Jesus wherever he leads us, putting our fears, our doubts, our longings behind us.**

**Believers, we seek to trust the God who always surprises us, whose promises take on flesh and blood in the good news called Jesus.**

HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise

UMH #116

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

**Though people may turn  
their backs on us,  
you do not hide  
your face from us.**

**Though others may try  
to take away our hope,  
you assure us of  
that future waiting for us.**

**You speak your name,  
Inscrutable Creator,  
and it is enough.**

**When we try to dictate  
our fears to you,  
you invite us to follow you  
into self-denial and service.  
As we struggle to shape  
our lifestyle to yours,  
you carry us with you  
wherever we go.  
You speak your good news,  
Teacher of open hearts,  
and it is enough.**

**Though we have done  
nothing to earn them,  
you pour out the gifts  
of grace and mercy upon us.  
When we stumble  
over our lack of trust,  
you set us back on our feet,  
to follow you into the kingdom.  
You speak your peace,  
Breath of Holiness,  
and it is enough.**

**SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER (MUSIC)**

**God in Community, Holy in One,  
it is enough that you hear us  
even as we pray as we are taught,  
Our Father . . .**

## 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 now and  
forever. Amen.

## HYMN

Standing on the Promises

UMH #374

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LESSON 1

CEB

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

**When Abram was 99 years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am El Shaddai. Walk with me and be trustworthy. 2 I will make a covenant between us and I will give you many, many descendants.” 3 Abram fell on his face, and God said to him, 4 “But me, my covenant is with you; you will be the ancestor of many nations. 5 And because I have made you the ancestor of many nations, your name will no longer be Abram but Abraham. 6 I will make you very fertile. I will produce nations from you, and kings will come from you. 7 I will set up my covenant with you and your descendants after you in every generation as an enduring covenant. I will be your God and your descendants’ God after you. 15 God said to Abraham, “As for your wife Sarai, you will no longer call her Sarai. Her name will now be Sarah. 16 I will bless her and even give you a son from her. I will bless her so that she will become nations, and kings of peoples will come from her.”**

**May God add a blessing to this reading.**

LESSON 2

CEB

Mark 8:31-38

**31 Then Jesus began to teach his disciples: “The Human One must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and the legal experts, and be killed, and then, after three days, rise from the dead.” 32 He said this plainly. But Peter took hold of Jesus and, scolding him, began to correct him. 33 Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, then sternly corrected Peter: “Get behind me, Satan. You are not thinking God’s thoughts but human thoughts.” 34 After calling the crowd together with his disciples, Jesus said to them, “All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. 35 All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me and because of the good news will save them. 36 Why would people gain the whole world but lose their lives? 37 What will people give in exchange for their lives? 38 Whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this unfaithful and sinful generation, the Human One will be ashamed of that person when he comes in the Father’s glory with the holy angels.”**

**L:** This is the Word of God for all people.

**P:** Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“Promises of the what CAN be.”

HYMN

Where He Leads Me

UMH #338

## OFFERTORY

### \*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

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.

## UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God,  
giver of every good and perfect gift,  
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,  
that we may praise you not with our words only,  
but with our whole lives.

## BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Lenten Benediction Response

Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes (adapted below) TFWWS #2138

**"We are hasty to judge others, blind to proof of human need;  
and our lack of understanding demonstrates our inner greed;  
we are jealous, proud, impatient, loving overmuch our things;  
may the yielding of our failings be our Lenten offerings."**

## POSTLUDE