



*Third Sunday in Lent*

*March 12, 2023*



**Rev. Lura Kidner-Miesen, Pastor**  
**Eric McKirdy, Organist & Music Director**  
**Jason Caffarella, Choir Director**

# Centering Thoughts

Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned.

—Buddha

I realized that if my thoughts immediately affect my body, I should be careful about what I think. Now if I get angry, I ask myself why I feel that way. If I can find the source of my anger, I can turn that negative energy into something positive.

—Yoko Ono

Angry people want you to see how powerful they are... Loving people want you to see how powerful You are. —Chief Red Eagle

When you hold on to anger and unforgiveness, you can't move forward.

—Mary J. Blige

Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger.

—Ephesians 4:26



**Worship Notes:** Unison responses are in bold type. An asterisk (\*) shows where you may stand if you wish.

# Welcome!

## Prelude

### Invitation to Worship

Gail Case

(based on a prayer by St. Demetrius of Rostov, who was born in Ukraine)

Come, our Light, and illumine our darkness.

**Come, our Life, and revive our dead spirits.**

Come, our Physician, and heal our wounds.

**Come, Flame of Divine Love.**

Burn up the thorns of our sin.

**Light our hearts with the flame of your love. Amen.**

**\*Hymn:** *How Great Thou Art*

UMH #77

**Choir Anthem:** *At the Name of Jesus*

Chancel Choir

**Scripture:**

John 9:1-17, 24-34

**Sermon:** "Ten Easy Steps to an Angry, Miserable Life"

Pastor Lura

**\*Hymn:** *I Surrender All*

UMH #354

## 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.**

**Prayer Response:** *Spirit of God*

Chancel Choir

**\*Hymn:** *Give Thanks*

TFWS #2036

**Closing Blessing** (from a prayer by St. Patrick)

Pastor Lura

May the strength of God pilot us, may the wisdom of God instruct us. May the hand of God protect us, may the word of God direct us. May your salvation, O Lord, be always ours this day and for evermore. Amen.

## Postlude

## **Announcements:**

— Welcome! If you are new to our congregation, please fill out the visitor form in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate as you leave.

— Copies of the sermon are on the entryway table for those who would like one.

— We are in the season of Lent, a time to prepare spiritually for Easter. Free Lenten devotionals are on the table in the Sanctuary entryway.

— Our United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, helps victims of war and disasters in the U.S. and around the world. You may support this vital work by noting on your check that it is for "UMCOR," or by donating through our church website.

— The church Board meets today, March 12, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

— Bookworms meet today at 2:00 p.m. in the chapel and will discuss the book *The Reading List*.

— The free Lenten Organ Recital Series is each Sunday at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary or online. Dr. Brad Bateman plays today.

— Pastor Lura and Neal invite all those who are newer to our church to have refreshments in the Fellowship Hall following the March 19 worship service. This is an opportunity to get to know each other better and is for everyone who started attending our congregation since Pastor Lura came four years ago.

— March is Women's History Month. Next Sunday, March 19, we celebrate the history and current ministries of United Women in Faith, the women's organization that is an important part of our congregation and the United Methodist denomination.

## **Contact Information:**

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~ The church office is open Tue, Wed, Thur: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. ~

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