

WHO ARE YOU FOLLOWING/ UNFOLLOWING?



**#JESUS
TRENDING**
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 16, 2025

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

Hiding in Thee

Brad Nix

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Call to Worship

One: We gather to worship the One who gathers us like a mother hen protecting her chicks.

All: We come, seeking connection, even when the way is difficult.

One: When others turn away, Christ remains steadfast, longing to gather us in.

All: In a world where followers come and go, Jesus calls us to follow with commitment.

One: Even when we reject him, He holds out hope, waiting for us to return.

All: In Christ, we find a friend who never “unfollows” us, offering patience and grace.

One: Let us worship God together.

All: Let us worship God, who offers strength, hope, and a place to belong, even when we are uncertain.

Introit

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Arr. Donald Moore

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Welcome

† Opening Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

UMH 557

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
2. Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.
3. We share each other's woes, our mutual burdens bear;
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.
4. When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

Blessing for Young Hearts

Prayers of the People *A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying. Online Worshipers may type prayer requests in the Live Chat, taking care for privacy.*

Pastoral 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

May the Words of Our Mouths

Arr. Donald Moore
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WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Scripture

Luke 13:31-35 (CEB)

At that time, some Pharisees approached Jesus and said, "Go! Get away from here, because Herod wants to kill you."

Jesus said to them, "Go, tell that fox, 'Look, I'm throwing out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will complete my work. However, it's necessary for me to travel today, tomorrow, and the next day because it's impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those who were sent to you! How often I have wanted to gather your people just as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. But you didn't want that. Look, your house is abandoned. I tell you, you won't see me until the time comes when you say, *Blessings on the one who comes in the Lord's name.*"

Scriptural Response

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen

Anthem

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Thomas Dorsey/Arr. Schrader
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Message

Who Are You Following/Unfollowing?

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Jesus Paid It All

Nathan Arnold
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† Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Prayer of Confession

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have turned away from your invitation, seeking acceptance and approval in other places. Too often, we have rejected what is true and good because it was difficult or inconvenient. Forgive us for the times we've distanced ourselves from your love and from those you call us to care for. Draw us back into your embrace and help us to walk in your way. Amen.

One: Be strong and take heart. God is with us here and now. Christ's love is saving us, now and always. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† Closing Hymn

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

UMH 133

1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

- Lean - - - ing, lean - - - ing, safe and secure from all alarms;
lean - - - ing, lean - - - ing, leaning on the everlasting arms.
2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

Lean - - - ing, lean - - - ing, safe and secure from all alarms;
lean - - - ing, lean - - - ing, leaning on the everlasting arms.

3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

Lean - - - ing, lean - - - ing, safe and secure from all alarms;
lean - - - ing, lean - - - ing, leaning on the everlasting arms.

† **Benediction**

Postlude

Postlude in F Minor

Leon Boellmann/Edited Hopson
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Liturgical elements from *Discipleship Ministries (UMC)* and *The Abingdon Worship Annual*.

Flowers: Given by Marjorie Slankard in memory of her husband Alan Bergelson,
on his March 14 birthday

Liturgist: Lisa Corpron

Organist: Robert Wuertz

Pianist: Rebecca Cosford

Ushers: Beau Brandon, Davis Dawson, Dave Grundies, Dan Martin, Peter McCreight

Tech Team: A. J. Prat, Cam Rhodes

LJUMC Ministry Team

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director;
Theresa Erb, Office Manager; Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director;
Erin Wyer, NS Executive Director