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**UNION UNIVERSITY CHURCH  
FEBRUARY 28, 2021  
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT  
ORDER OF WORSHIP  
Fusion Church**

*“People usually consider walking on water or in thin air a miracle. But I think the real miracle is not to walk either on water or in thin air, but to walk on earth. Every day we are engaged in a miracle which we don't even recognize: a blue sky, white clouds, green leaves, the black, curious eyes of a child—our own two eyes. All is a miracle.” Thich Nhat Hanh*

**PRELUDE**

**RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

*from William Barclay*

Leader: God of strength and hope, help us to put away all those things that cause division between ourselves and others. Silence the cruel word,

**People: Forbid the unkind deed,**

Leader: Break the evil habit,

**People: Banish the bitter thought,**

Leader: Take away the selfish desire,

**People: Make our lives shine like lights in this dark world.**

Leader: Help us to live in right ways with you and others. Shape our words that they may be full of beauty,

**People: Shape our deeds that they may be full of kindness,**

Leader: Shape our thoughts and desires into such purity that they may bear your scrutiny,

**People: And grant that we being pure in heart may see you.**

**HYMN #402**

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

1. Lord, I want to be a Christian

In my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart

Lord I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2. Lord, I want to be more loving

In my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more loving

In my heart,

In my heart, in my heart

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

**TIME FOR THE CHILDREN**

**Opening Scripture** Psalm 23:4  
**Dexter Time** *(Rev. DeMott and her dog, Dexter discuss the opening scripture)*  
**Children's Prayer**  
**Lord's Prayer** *(using debts-debtors)*

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Blessed Assurance" Peter O'Connor

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**TIME OF OFFERING OURSELVES IN COMMITMENT**

**Musical Offertory**  
**Blessing and Amen**

**RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm 139:1-12

Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up;

**People: you discern my thoughts from far away.**

Leader: You search out my path and my lying down,

**People: and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Leader: Even before a word is on my tongue,

**People: O Lord, you know it completely.**

Leader: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;

**People: it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

Leader: Where can I go from your spirit?

**People: Or where can I flee from your presence?**

Leader: If I ascend to heaven,

**People: you are there;**

Leader: if I make my bed in Sheol,

**People: you are there.**

Leader: If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me,

**People: and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

Leader: If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"

**People: even the darkness is not dark to you;**

Leader: the night is as bright as the day,

**People: for darkness is as light to you.**

**SCRIPTURE READING** John 2:1-11

**SERMON**

**HYMN #508** "Faith, While Trees are Still in Blossom"

1. Faith, while trees are still in blossom,  
plans the picking of the fruit;  
faith can feel the thrill of harvest  
when the buds begin to sprout.

2 Long before the dawn is breaking,  
faith anticipates the sun.  
Faith is eager for the daylight,  
for the work that must be done.

5 Faith believes that God is faithful:  
God will be what God will be!  
Faith accepts the call, responding,  
"I am willing, Lord, send me."

**\* BENEDICTION**

**\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE #898**

Danish Three-fold Amen

**POSTLUDE**

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**Serving Today**

Lay Leader.....Jen Smith  
Organ & Piano..... Laurel Buckwalter & Peter O'Connor  
Special Music.....Peter O'Connor  
Zoom Co-host..... Lyle Slack

*Following worship, you are invited to stay on Zoom for a Virtual Coffee Hour.*

**Sunday, March 7, 2021**

**Third Sunday in Lent Communion Sunday**

**Scheduled to Serve**

Lay Leader.....Larry Casey  
Flowers..... Lent

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Mindy Smith, Catherine Chambers, Ding Jiayi & family, Michelle Garcia Escobar, Clayton Stutzman, Hugh Langelier, Lois Stiles, Sharon & Roger Smith, Wes Bentz, Beverly Snyder's sister (Barbara), 3 yr. old Lowin, Jim Rausch in hospice care, Marnie Johnson (Joan Schulze's niece), Sharon Burdick, all those whose families are suffering from Covid-19, Michele Hluchy's father (Rev. Stephen Hluchy), Mary Lou Cartledge's brother Walter Straight (heart surgery), Beth Slack's brother Will Jacox (Covid)



**“Rise up, walk through the length and the breadth of the land!” Genesis 13:17**

**MISSION OF THE MONTH: Equal Justice Initiative**

*The Equal Justice Initiative is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, to challenging racial and economic injustice, and to protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society.*

From the EJI website:

“Founded in 1989 by [Bryan Stevenson](#), a widely acclaimed public interest lawyer and bestselling author of *Just Mercy*, EJI is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides legal representation to people who have been illegally convicted, unfairly sentenced, or abused in state jails and prisons. We challenge the death penalty and excessive punishment and we provide re-entry assistance to formerly incarcerated people. The following is a link to a TED Talk Bryan Stevenson gave on “the need to talk about an injustice.”

[https://www.ted.com/speakers/bryan\\_stevenson](https://www.ted.com/speakers/bryan_stevenson)

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Office and Ministry Study Union University Church Center

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