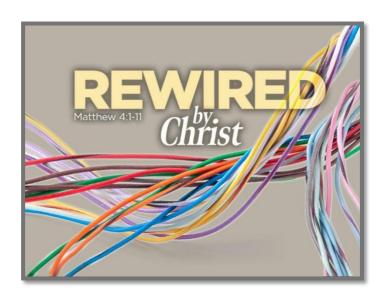


"A Lighthouse Guiding People to Christ"



Chaires Methodist Church

February 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent

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WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

WELCOMING OF GUESTS

Pastor

PASSING THE PEACE

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Liturgist

Lord, thank you for leading us out of temptation and that you deliver us from evil. We need you. We need your strength and your love to overcome the tests, temptations, and challenges that we face today and every day. Thank you that you are freely willing to give. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE UMH#514

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus (v. 1-4)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Lenten Creed

Liturgist

I believe in God the Creator, who made me and all things, who set me on my path in this world.

I believe in God the Savior, who is one with the Creator, who rescued me and all creation from the depredations of our violations against God and creation. This man, Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, walked a path through this world, taking on human form having been born of a woman through the power of the Holy Spirit. He lived and worked in this world among people just like me. He walked God's path to death on a cross and rose from the dead to open our pathway to eternal life.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, my counselor and guide, who is one with the Creator and the Christ, who through the body and blood of Jesus brings me into communion with all people, past, present and future; who calls me to walk a sacred way of life through this world, caring for creation and the people I meet on the way, loving them, helping them, welcoming them without prejudice, being God's hands and feet in the world.

*GLORIA PATRI

See screen

OLD TESTAMENT READING: (Genesis 3:1-7 NKJV) Liturgist

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; ³ "but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' " ⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

*Please stand as you are able

CHILDREN'S SERMON
Pastor
CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, help us do what Jesus did. Help us do what the Bible tells us to do instead of listening to what the devil wants us to do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

SERMON ANTHEM Choir

NEW TESTAMENT READING (Romans 5:12-19 NKJV) Liturgist

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned -- ¹³ (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift *is* not like the

offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. ¹⁶ And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification. ¹⁷ For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) ¹⁸ Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. ¹⁹ For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

MISSION MOMENT

GOSPEL READING (Matthew 4:1-11 NKJV) Liturgist

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. ³ Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." 4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' " 5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' " 7 Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.' " 8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' " 11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE Pastor

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

What a Friend We Have in Jesus (v.

1-4)

UMH #526

SERMON

Pastor

Title: Letting Go (Sermon Series)

Theme: Rewired by Christ

Purpose: Overcoming temptation and hardships is possible in our lives

because Jesus rewires our core and makes us new

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES (Celebrating our Gifts)
OFFERTRORY PRAYER

Holy God, we bring our tithes and offerings to your altar, understanding that on the journey in Lent, we can't avoid or detour around the wilderness. It is essential that we hear Jesus call us to repentance! Bless our gifts for your unfinished kingdom work. Remind us, as we worship here, that this redemption of our lives did not come without a price; without our own repentance, we can miss the enormity of the gift Jesus gave. Knowing we cannot earn this redemption and forgiveness, this wiping clean of our ledger, we can only hope to reflect such grace and compassion in our encounters with others. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

PASSING THE PLATE

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God. From Whom

All See Screen

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed (v. 1-

5) UMH #359

*COMMISION /

BENEDICTION

Pastor

(Based on Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:9-15, Luke 4:1-13)

Go now, and live in the spirit of your baptism, even when you are led into wild and hard places. With repentance and trust, give yourselves to God, and with fasting and prayer, strengthen yourselves against the ways of the tempter. And may God enfold you in tender and lasting love. May Christ be beside you in times of struggle. And may the Spirit guide you back to the path whenever you stray, that you may keep the covenant. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, In the name of Christ. Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Fellowship

Love and See screen

POSTLUDE