



*“A Lighthouse Guiding
People to Christ”*



Chaires Methodist Church

Letting Go: Born Anew

February 25, 2024
Second Sunday of Lent

Pastor Kerry Foote
Cell: (305) 407-7040
pastor.foote@outlook.com
Church address: 9243 Parkhill Road
Tallahassee FL 32317
Church Phone: (850) 219-9361
Web site: chairesumc.com

PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

WELCOMING OF GUESTS

Pastor

PASSING THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

(Inspired by John 3:8)

Liturgist: Holy Spirit of God, invisible like the wind, we do not see you moving among us, but the effect we see—come to our hearts:

Congregation: That we may be renewed and reborn.

Liturgist: *Open our minds:*

Congregation: That we may perceive your kingdom.

Liturgist: *Lift up our eyes to where the cross of Christ stands for our healing:*

Congregation: so may we believe, and in believing not die but have eternal life; through him who in your love for us you sent into the world, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Great is Thy Faithfulness (v. 1-3)

UMH #140

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: 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

**Please stand as you are able*

OLD TESTAMENT READING: (Ezekiel 36:26-27)

Liturgist

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*."

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, we praise you that in Jesus we are a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

SERMON ANTHEM

What A Wondrous Love

Choir

NEW TESTAMENT READING (Colossians 1:21-22 NKJV)

Liturgist

And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight --

MISSION MOMENT

GOSPEL READING (John 3:1-17 NKJV)

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So, is everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus answered and said to Him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? ¹¹ "Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. ¹² "If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ "No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man who is in heaven. ¹⁴ "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ "that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor
Pastor

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *Breathe On Me, Breath of God* (v. 1-4) UMH #420

SERMON

Pastor

Title: Letting Go (Sermon Series)

Theme: Born Anew

Main Idea: Those who are "born anew" lock their focus onto the crucified and resurrected Christ who now dwells in us by the Holy Spirit.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Caring and creating God, continue your work through our gifts. Redeeming and restoring Son, enliven our offering for your gracious love. Empowering and enduring Spirit, let all that we are be made wild and holy through you. Amen.

PASSING THE PLATE

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings* UMH #94

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION *Lift High the Cross* (v. 1-4) UMH #159

*COMMISSION / BENEEDICTION
(Inspired by John 3: 16-17)

Let us rejoice: God so loves the world! May God your Maker send you back into the world with creative energies refreshed. May Christ the Light illuminate your darkest moments. And may the Holy Spirit of steadfast love guide you until we worship together again. This day and forevermore.

Amen!

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Love and Fellowship

See screen

POSTLUDE