



**GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Church and Winter Streets, Hagerstown, Maryland  
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If you are on Facebook, "like" our page at [www.facebook.com/graceuntoyou](http://www.facebook.com/graceuntoyou)

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

Sermon Series: *Renewed in Mercy*

**Greeting**

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: May your Lenten journey into wilderness unfold honestly.

**People: Honesty is God's gift to us.**

Leader: And may you know that in this wilderness God has been expecting us,

**People: To grant us mercy.**

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Siblings in Christ, I welcome you to worship this second Sunday in Lent as we journey into 40 days of wilderness and reflection. May God grant us grace as we journey through Lent with our hearts and minds centered on Jesus.

*Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

**Prelude** 'O God Be Merciful To Me' – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*The Light of Christ Enters the Sanctuary*

**Call to Worship (responsive)**

Leader: Children of God, in Lent we remember that our salvation is an unearned gift, that new life is a matter of faith, not of works.

**People: We gather to lay down the burden of trying to earn our salvation.**

Leader: Like Nicodemus, who met Jesus in the dark of night, we struggle to accept that new life is not just possible but given as a free gift of grace.

**People: We gather to bring our struggles into the light and embrace God's grace with open arms.**

Leader: Like Paul writing to the Romans, we remember God's promise of new life has always rested on grace.

**People: We gather to receive the promise of salvation by grace through faith.**

Leader: Like the many who have followed, questioned, and grown in the faith, we submit ourselves to be formed by grace as we work out our salvation day by day.

**People: We gather as people guided by the promise of new life, a promise fulfilled by Christ, whose path we follow. Amen.**

### Opening Hymn "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

**1. Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain, free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.**

**In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever, till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.**

**2. Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me; there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me.**

**In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever, till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.**

**3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me; help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me.**

**In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever, till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.**

**4. Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever, till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river.**

**In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever, till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.**

### Opening Prayer (in unison)

**Infinite Love, heart of all life, you loved this word into being with such love as to birth yourself among us, Love begotten as the Beloved. Your presence does not separate but unites; love does not push away, but embraces; you do not condemn, but save. Trusting this, we know we are loved, never rejected. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### Children's Message

#### Old Testament Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

*A reading from Genesis*

#### *The blessing of God upon Abram*

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

#### Psalter: Psalm 121

*A reading from the psalms*

#### *The Lord watches over you*

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

**People: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

**People: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

Leader: The LORD is your keeper;

**People: the LORD is your shade at your right hand.**

Leader: The sun shall not strike you by day

**People: nor the moon by night.**

Leader: The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**People: The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

#### Epistle Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

*A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans*

#### *The promise to those of Abraham's faith*

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Here ends the reading of the Word.*

#### **Gospel Hymn "I Will Trust in the Lord"**

**1. I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord, till I die; I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord, till I die.**

**2. Sister, will you trust in the Lord, Sister, will you trust in the Lord, Sister, will you trust in the Lord, till you die; Sister, will you trust in the Lord, Sister, will you trust in the Lord, Sister, will you trust in the Lord, till you die.**

**3. Brother, will you trust in the Lord, Brother, will you trust in the Lord, Brother, will you trust in the Lord, till you die; Brother, will you trust in the Lord, Brother, will you trust in the Lord, Brother, will you trust in the Lord, till you die.**

**4. Preacher, will you trust in the Lord, Preacher, will you trust in the Lord, Preacher, will you trust in the Lord, till you die; Preacher, will you trust in the Lord, Preacher, will you trust in the Lord, Preacher, will you trust in the Lord, till you die.**

#### **Prayer of Illumination (unison)**

**Gracious God, illumine our hearts and minds as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, so that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may see what is good and right and true. And seeing, help us to do what is pleasing to you, so that your glory becomes visible in our words and deeds. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

#### **Gospel Lesson: John 3:1-17**

*A reading of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew*

*The mission of Christ: saving the world*

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.

He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "*Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.*"

Jesus answered him, "***Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.***"

Nicodemus said to him, "*How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?*"

Jesus answered, "***Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.***

***What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.***"

Nicodemus said to him, "*How can these things be?*"

Jesus answered him, "***Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.***

***Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.***

Pastor: "The word of God for the people of God."

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Prayer of Preparation:** *We've come this far by faith. Leaning on the Lord. Trusting in his holy word. He's never failed me yet. Oh....can't turn around, we've come this far by faith. God of wilderness journeys, send us a word to light our path and help us be a light to others. Amen.*

**Response to the Word:** *We've come this far by faith. Leaning on the Lord. Trusting in his holy word. He's never failed me yet. Oh....can't turn around, we've come this far by faith.*

**Apostle's Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;**

**The third day he arose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

God of Abram and Nicodemus,  
God of all of us who think we are  
too old or too poor or too small or too weak or too busy,  
God of all of us daunted by the sheer wonder  
of the plan you lay out before us:  
we come to you now, aware of all you have done for us,  
and yet still struggling with our doubts.

Birth us all anew, O God;

**Liturgist: hear us and help us on our journey.**

God of Abram and Nicodemus, we pray for this world  
where so many wander homeless  
not by choice, but out of necessity,  
where so many are looking  
for milk and honey or a great Name to rescue them.  
We pray for all the people in this world, especially . . .  
We pray for the women and men who lay down their lives  
for the safety of brothers and sisters and neighbors . . .  
We pray for those who lead us . . .

Birth us all anew, O God;

**Liturgist: hear us and help us on our journey.**

God of Abram and Nicodemus,  
we pray for all those who long for a new beginning:  
those who are imprisoned,  
those who are estranged,  
those who have left loved ones behind,  
and those who are ill or infirm, especially . . .

Give them all new life by the power of your Spirit.  
Help us to see how we can be present with them  
as your hands and feet.

Birth us all anew, O God;

**Liturgist: hear us and help us on our journey.**

God of Abram and Nicodemus,  
we pray for your holy Church . . .

Give us the courage to leave everything behind and follow you.  
Give us the faith to act on what we do not understand.  
Bless us to be a blessing to everyone in your Name.

Birth us all anew, O God;

**Liturgist: hear us and help us on our journey.**

**Liturgist: Birth us all anew, O God.**

**Hear us and help us on our journey.**

**Help us to grow up again,  
to accept not only earthly things but heavenly things,  
to lift up your Son and be lifted up ourselves,  
to let your Spirit move us beyond our understanding.**

**God of Abram and Nicodemus and all of us,  
hear us and help us  
even as surely as the Spirit blows among us,**

**all for the sake of your dear Son.**

### **Invitation to the Table**

This table belongs to Jesus. It was at table that Jesus met people, heard their stories and shared his. It was at table that Jesus deepened his friendship with poor folk and prostitutes, the business class and puzzled bystanders.

It was at table that Jesus shared profound insights into who God is and what God wants.

And it was at table, with bread and wine, that Jesus initiated the sacrament we now celebrate.

So come to this table. Leave behind any baggage of arrogance or unworthiness. Do not think, 'This is not for me.' Think rather of Jesus saying, 'I am for you,' and accept his invitation to be the friend Jesus cherishes and longs to feed.

*Iona*

### **Call to Confession**

We live fractured lives, and God seeks not to punish us for those faults and fault lines, but to reconcile and restore us. Trusting in God's grace and mercy, let us then make our confession together, first in silent prayer.

### **Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**Loving God, help us.**

**When we have run away, when we have turned our backs on love, when we have sought immediate satisfaction and not long-term healing, *help* us.**

**Merciful God, forgive us.**

**When we have been selfish, when we have been mean, when we have neglected the cries of others, *forgive* us.**

**Powerful God, heal us.**

**When we are so broken we cannot move,  
when we don't know how to stem the bleeding of our wounds,  
when we are too ashamed to seek community, *heal* us.**

**Give us the courage, the strength, and the hope to accept your grace and embrace your call in Christ.  
Amen.**

### **Words of Assurance (responsive)**

Leader: This is the good news of God's mercy: Though we were sinners, Christ died for us. Though we were enemies of God, God loved us. Once we were lost and dead – now Christ has become our life and salvation. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **Passing of the Peace (responsive)**

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

**People: And also with you.**

### **Invitation to the Offering**

Gracious God, you gave us Jesus while we were yet sinners. It is through Jesus' death on the cross we are reconciled to God. Let us give to you as you have so lavishly given to us.

**Offertory Anthem 'Jesus, So Lowly' – Harold Friedell (1905-1958)**

### **Doxology**

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

### **Offertory Prayer (unison)**

**Faithful God of New Beginnings, you call us—as you called Abraham—to trust in what we cannot yet see, to follow where you lead, even when the road is unclear. In the shadows of our questions and the uncertainty of our understanding, you meet us with grace, not condemnation. As Nicodemus discovered, your love is not earned but freely given. Receive now these gifts we offer—not as payment or proof, but as signs of our belief, our hope, and our gratitude. Use them to share your transforming love with a world still searching in the dark. In the name of your Son, given in love, we pray. *Amen.***

### ***The Great Thanksgiving Lent***

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We are yours, O God.**

Bless the Lord!

**God's holy name be praised!**

Leader: Praised in heaven, praised in earth, praised throughout your creation is your name, Holy Triune God. From generation to generation,

**People: you have been true to your promises.**

Leader: You transform us from the inside out,

**People: and claim us as your people.**

Leader: So with prophets, leaders, and faithful people,

**People: we, with all creation, cry "Holy!"**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Blessed are you, Jesus Christ, Word made flesh. You are the new covenant, God with us, and within us you are making all things new.

**People: Blessed are you, Jesus Christ.**

Leader: Merciful are you for coming among us and for offering yourself to us in this holy meal to fill our hungry and erring souls, and to empower us to break free from Satan's lies and follow where you lead, loving God and neighbor fully as ourselves.

Pastor: With your first disciples, on the night of your betrayal into death, you took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it, saying:

**People: Take and eat this, my body given for you.**

Pastor: Then you took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it, saying:

**People: Drink this, my blood of the new covenant for you.**

Pastor: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Even so, here and now, come, Holy Spirit.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: Come upon these gifts and upon us. Make them be for us Christ's body and blood, that we who receive them may be for all the body of Christ enlivened by his blood. Come, Holy Spirit.

**People: Make us one.**

Pastor: Come, Holy Spirit.

**People: Unite us with you.**

Pastor: Come, Holy Spirit.

**People: Revive us!**

Pastor: Dwell in our hearts, O Christ, and make us fully your people, this day and every day until that day when we shall feast with you in new creation.

To you, All-Merciful Creator, through Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit we raise our cry of thanks:

**People: All praise, and honor, and glory are yours, blessed Triune God, now and forever.**

*Amen. Amen. Amen.*

**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.**

**Breaking the Bread**

**Giving the Bread and Cup**

**Communion Anthem 'Lord For Thy Tender Mercies Sake' – Richard Farrant (1525-1580)**

**Communion Hymn "What Wondrous Love Is This"**

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

2. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of life to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, to lay aside his crown for my soul.

3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme I will sing, I will sing; while millions join the theme I will sing.

4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and through eternity I'll sing on.

**Prayer after Communion (in unison)**

Jesus, thank you! You have offered us yourself in these gifts of bread and fruit of the vine. By the power of the Holy Spirit, continue to write your ways into our hearts, that we may know you as you are. *Amen.*

**Closing Hymn UMH "To God Be the Glory" (v 1)**

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

**Postlude** 'Christ, Who Sanctifies Us All' – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*The Light of Christ goes into the world.*

**Charge**

Go out in faith, trusting in God's sense of direction. Remember how much God loves this world and so love the world in the name of Christ, that your testimony becomes the good news someone else has been waiting to receive.

**Benediction**

Go now in the mercy of God, whose promises never fail, to live as people who have generously received and thus generously share God's gracious gift of new life with all we encounter.

**Grace Notes**  
**March 1, 2026**

**Mission Statement: *Glorify God ~ Draw All to Christ ~ Edify & Equip***

**From the Pastor:** This Sunday, our reading from Paul's letter to the Romans has us asking questions...lots of questions. What are the places we, as individuals and as a church, need to reorient to salvation as a gift of grace instead of a work? How might we sit with the blessedness of God's gift and recognize the work we do as the church

as a response to the gift? How are we using the gifts of God all around us? How are we seeking the Spirit's guidance in how to share the gift of grace in our neighborhood? We answer these questions in Jesus' name. Amen.

Pastor Dionne

**Membership Reports:** As faithful members of Grace UMC, we faithfully strive to remember our membership vows to support the church by upholding the church with our **prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.**

**Prayers** - Persons listed on Joys & Concerns will appear for two weeks. Please fill out a request card if you would like your request shared on Sunday morning and listed in Grace Notes. You may call or email the church office Monday thru Wednesday (**by 10am**) with those you would like to include or remove. If a person requires additional time, or has a long-term illness, request they be added to the "Long-term" list. The joys and concerns will list first name and last initial; no details will appear.

### **Joys & Concerns**

**Feb. 22:** Mike P., Rosalie R.

**Feb. 15:** Dean S. and Amy S.

**Prayers (Long-term):** John S., Paul H., Ron S., Robin G., Lucy K.; Bill S., Erin B., Doris K.; Bill H., Wendi C., Margie C., Bev. B., Connie M.; Vickie S., Rhonda and Tony W., Harriett H., Frannie J.

### **The Daily Scripture Lessons**

**Sunday, March 01, 2026:** Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

**Monday, March 02, 2026:** Psalm 128; Numbers 21:4-9; Hebrews 3:1-6;

**Tuesday, March 03, 2026:** Psalm 128; Isaiah 65:17-25; Romans 4:6-13;

**Wednesday, March 04, 2026:** Psalm 128; Ezekiel 36:22-32; John 7:53-8:11;

**Thursday, March 05, 2026:** Psalm 95; Exodus 16:1-8; Colossians 1:15-23;

**Friday, March 06, 2026:** Psalm 95; Exodus 16:9-21; Ephesians 2:11-22;

**Saturday, March 07, 2026:** Psalm 95; Exodus 16:27-35; John 4:1-6;

**Presence** – Join us for worship in person or via Facebook Live.

Worship: 47, Ash Wednesday attendance 29 Sunday School: 0 Facebook Live: 248 Ladies T4U:

**GIFTS** – Your gifts offer HOPE to Grace Church and the community. When we tithe, we follow the example given to us in Genesis 28:10-22 by giving at least 10% to the **General Fund**. United Methodists value the tithe as a benchmark for giving, one we encourage our members to move toward and, once achieved, move beyond. We believe that there is joy in giving, and the greater the generosity the deeper the joy. The **General Fund** is responsible for ensuring all the needs of the church are met; this includes all of the ministries, missions, and operational costs of Grace Church. The One Board (as of May 14, 2023) asks that all tithes and offerings be placed in the General Fund except those for T.H.R.I.V.E., Micah's Backpack & Building for the Future. Separate envelopes are provided for these ministries and located by the lectern. This is the only way to donate to these ministries. This will allow Grace Church to move towards fully funding all ministries and missions of the church. This will bring us up to date with current UMC budget practices.

**General Fund: \$1,538.01**

**Endowment Withdrawal: \$**

**Estate Gift:**

**Music Fund: \$300.00**

**Needed for Weekly Budget: \$4,500**

**Building for the Future: \$114.00**

**T.H.R.I.V.E. & Micah's Backpack: \$190.00**

### **Service and Witness:**

**Ushers:** J.C. Martin, Bill Thompson, Donna and Roy Shoop, Madison Shoop, Lucas Shoop, Ella Sholty, Justus Osuji

**Greeter:** Daisy Wolfensberger

**Lay Readers:** John Hess, Earlene Johnson, Sandy Kendall, Kurt Zimmerman

**Media Managers:** Donnie Bryan, Roy Shoop

**Choir:** Becca Bryan, Donnie Bryan, Patti Hull, Hannah Kamseuh, Polly Martin, Peace Osuji, Ryan Wetzel

**Congregational Care Committee/Communion Stewards:** Chris Jeter, Krista Zimmerman, Cindy Tedrick, Ruth Smith, Patti Hull, Helen Gilliam, Daisy Wolfensberger, Polly Martin, Rose Shank, Earlene Johnson, Sandy Kendall, Donna Bolinger, Amy Bryan, Becca Bryan, Jane Staley, Rhonda Weaver, Wanda Stouffer, Ruth Thompson, Pastor Dionne, Sonja Shearer, Cindy Swales, Patty Frazier, Caroline Jenkins and Vivienne, Margaret Hess

**T.H.R.I.V.E.** (Thankful, Hopeful, Revitalized, Intentional, Victorious, Educated). Continued needs are non-perishables, dry goods, feminine care products, hand soap, shower gel, razors, shave cream, individually wrapped paper towels and toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste/toothbrushes, laundry detergent, etc. Monetary donations are gratefully accepted, and please use the indicated envelopes located by the lectern. **Closet 712** Volunteers are always appreciated. Donations drop off is Monday -Thursday 10am-12pm., **fall and winter clothing ONLY.** Both T.H.R.I.V.E and the clothes closet are open on Saturday, **March 14, 2026, 9:00 am – 11:00 am.**

**Pastoral Care and Emergency Contact Information:** In case of an emergency, please contact Pastor Dionne at (240) 347-2345 (cell), Facebook Messenger, or [pastordionne.hall@gmail.com](mailto:pastordionne.hall@gmail.com). The church office number is (240) 850-2934. Please inform the hospital and/or funeral home that Pastor Dionne is the Pastor at Grace. **The Pastor and church should be notified of any illness or death of a member or family member first.** The Pastor will confirm availability dates for Services of Death and Resurrection with the funeral home director.

**CALENDAR**

<b>Sun., Mar. 1</b>	8:30 & 10:00 am 9:00 am 10:15 am	Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship is provided in Rider Hall Worship, <i>Second Sunday in Lent, Communion</i> Sunday school for all ages
<b>Mon., Mar. 2</b>	12:00 pm	T4U Luncheon and meeting
<b>Tues., Mar. 3</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Second Tuesday in Lent Bible Study in Rider Hall</b>
<b>Wed., Mar. 4</b>	1:30 – 3:00 pm <b>7:00 pm</b>	Pop Up Pantry <b>Second Wednesday in Lent Service – John Wesley UMC with Rev. Randy Reid (meal begins at 6:00 pm)</b>
<b>Sat., Mar. 7</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>American Guild of Organists Celebration of American Composers Concert USA 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>
<b>Sun., Mar. 8</b>	8:30 & 10:00 am 9:00 am 10:15 am	Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship is provided in Rider Hall Worship, <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> Sunday school for all ages
<b>Tues., Mar. 10</b>	<b>11:00 am</b> 6:30 pm	<b>Third Tuesday in Lent Bible Study in Rider Hall</b> Choir Rehearsal
<b>Wed., Mar. 11</b>	1:30 – 3:00 pm <b>7:00 pm</b>	Pop Up Pantry <b>Third Wednesday in Lent Service – Grace UMC with Rev. Steve Humphrey (meal begins at 6:00 pm)</b>
<b>Thurs., Mar. 12</b>	10:30 am	Senior Citizens featuring Ron Twenty speaking on the Fort Ritchie Museum (Ritchie Boys), and the Korean War
<b>Fri., Mar. 20</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Maryland State Boychoir performance</b>

**Easter Egg Hunt** (*date to be announced*) - Donations of individually wrapped candy that fit in the plastic eggs would be greatly appreciated. Please bring your donations to Chris Jeter’s Primary Sunday school room. Blank envelopes are available in the narthex for your monetary donation and placed in the offering plate. NO plastic eggs are needed. Any questions, please see Charissa Hose. Thank You!

**"Souper" Bowl Results**

The Grace Winner for the Football Teams is the **Seattle Seahawks** with 37 cans of soup and \$20.00. The New England Patriots had 10 cans of soup and \$7.00.  
*Thank You everyone for your participation in this contest. -- Wanda Stouffer*

**30 Pieces of Silver** – for your convenience, extra labeled bags are available in the Narthex, Rider Hall or can be picked up at the church office. Your *“Thirty Pieces of Silver”* will be used towards our Missions & Ministries for the community. The offering can be placed in the offering plate on Palm Sunday.

**The Chosen** – Join us on Saturdays, March 21 (Episodes 5 & 6) and April 18 (Episodes 7 & 8) from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm for Chicken, Waffles, and The Chosen.

**Easter Sunday Flowers** –If you purchase your own flower/lily, please contact the church office **NO LATER than Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>** calling 240-850-2934 or email [graceumchagerstown@gmail.com](mailto:graceumchagerstown@gmail.com) for the information to be included in the bulletin insert. As in years past, a volunteer has been here at the church on Saturday (the day before Easter and usually in the morning) to receive and place the flowers around the cross or in the windows. No flowers can be placed in the sanctuary until Saturday. If you're able to volunteer, please contact the church office with a time of availability so the information can be listed in the Grace Notes. **If you drop off your flowers earlier than Saturday, please do not place them in the sanctuary.**