

Good Morning!

North Bend Church
a Global Methodist Congregation

Sunday, February 25, 2024
Because God is worthy we worship

GATHERING AND WELCOME

Prelude

Announcements

BIBLE STUDY: We will have no Bible Study this week. Beginning next Tuesday, March 5, we will study the book of Jeremiah over the next several weeks. Bible Study starts at 10 a.m. each Tuesday.

EASTER FLOWERS: Inside today's bulletin and on the tables at the entrances, you will find an order form for Easter flowers. Please complete the forms with your dedications and return with payment to the offering plates by next Sunday, March 3.

TRAM: All non-perishable food, personal care and household items are welcome. The location is at the Miami Town Hall,

112 S. Miami Avenue, Cleves. TRAM is always grateful for monetary donations. Mail checks to TRAM Ministry Inc., P.O. Box 389, North Bend, Ohio 45052.

(Are there any other Announcements?)

COME BEFORE THE LORD

***Call to Worship¹**

Leader: Welcome this day to the second step on our Lenten Journey.

People: We come with great hope and expectation as we walk the way of Christ.

Leader: Today's journey will demand much of us.

People: Lord, make us ready to offer ourselves to you.

Leader: Come, let us begin again the wondrous excursion.

People: Let us place our lives in God's abiding love. Amen.

***Singing** *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* UMH #269
(vs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

**1. Lord, who throughout
these forty days
for us didst
fast and pray,
teach us with thee
to mourn our sins
and close by
thee to stay.**

**2. As thou with Satan
didst contend,
and didst
the victory win,
O give us strength
in thee to fight,
in thee to
conquer sin.**

**3. As thou didst
hunger bear, and thirst,
so teach us,
gracious Lord,
to die to self,
and chiefly live
by thy
most holy word.**

**4. And through these days
of penitence,
and through
thy passiontide,
yea, evermore**

**in life and death,
Jesus, with
us abide.**

**5. Abide with us,
that so,
this life of
suffering over past,
an Easter of
unending joy
we may attain
at last.**

PRAY UNTO THE LORD

***Praying Together¹**

Lord of presence and power, be with us on this second step of our Lenten journey to the Cross. Help us to make a commitment of our lives, our spirits, and our hearts to ministry in your name. Amen.

Joys & Concerns

Silent & Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Anthem

Blessing of Offerings

***Singing** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #95

**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.**

Reading the Scripture

Mark 8:31-38 (NIV)

- 8:31 He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again.
- 32 He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.
- 33 But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked

Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

34 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

35 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

36 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?

37 Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

38 If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Proclaiming the Gospel

The Cost of Picking Up Our Cross

RESPOND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD

***Singing**

Take Up Thy Cross

UMH #415

(vs. 1, 2, 3, 4)

**1. "Take up thy cross,"
the Savior said,
"if thou wouldst my
disciple be;
deny thyself,
the world forsake,
and humbly follow
after me."**

**2. Take up thy cross,
let not its weight
fill thy weak
spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear
thy spirit up,
and brace thy heart
and nerve thine arm.**

**3. Take up thy cross,
nor heed the shame,
nor let thy
foolish pride rebel;
thy Lord for thee**

**the cross endured,
to save thy soul
from death and hell.**

**4. Take up thy cross
and follow Christ,
nor think till death
to lay it down;
for only those
who bear the cross
may hope to wear
the glorious crown.**

GO IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD

***Receiving the Blessing**

Postlude

¹From "Worship Connection: February 25, 2024," by Nancy C. Townley, ministrymatters.com