



Fourth Sunday of Lent ~ March 19, 2023

UMC Wayne Ministers – All the members of UMC in Wayne

Pastor Ninabeth Metcalf

Email: PastorNinabeth@umcwayne.org Cell: 908-391-2561

Don Matthews – Lay Leader

David Philp – Parish Drive Director

Chanel Maya Lindsey– Admin. Assistant

Email: chanel@umcwayne.org

UMC in Wayne

99 Parish Drive Wayne, New Jersey 07470

E-Mail: Office@umcwayne.org Phone: (973) 694-3260

Website: www.umcwayne.org Join us on Facebook: UMC.Wayne

As you begin your time of worship we invite you to ponder:

Just as a mosaic artist creates beauty from broken glass, the Divine Healer restores our intellect and imagination, empowering us to create different pictures of life renewed.

PRELUDE

GREETINGS AND NEWS

***INVITATION TO WORSHIP** *inspired by Psalm 63: 1-8*

Leader: O God, You are our God, the One in whom we trust.

All: We've gathered together today to worship You—

Leader: to open our hearts and minds to Your presence.

All: We long to meet You here, and to hear Your voice.

Leader: We come with confidence,

All: because we've met You here before;

Leader: we've been awed and inspired by Your glory and Your power.

All: We come with gratitude, because we've known Your steadfast love—

Leader: a love which is better than life itself.

**All: And so we praise You— lifting our voices, lifting our hands
in joy and expectation.**

Leader: Come among us in Your power.

**All: Pour out Your spirit on our thirsty souls, that we may be filled with Your
goodness and love. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN:**

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

UMH #480

1. O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths
its flow may richer, fuller be.

2. O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze
its day may brighter, fairer be.

3. O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow thru the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain,
that morn shall tearless be.

4. O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms
red life that shall endless be.

OPENING PRAYER *adapted from a prayer by Ted Loder*

**O Love that will not let me go, I believe my life is touched by you, that you want
something for me and of me. Give me ears to hear you, eyes to see the tracing of
your finger, a heart quickened by the motions of your Spirit. Amen.**

THE BASKET

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, We place ourselves in your presence. Our minds and our spirits are cluttered. Help us make space for you. Help us to be fully present here, now. We release to you all that we have done today— whether for good or for ill. We release all that we feel like we should have done today, but did not do. We release all of the people who weigh on our hearts and minds this evening. We release our fears. We release our anxiety. We release our impatience. We release our pride. All of the thoughts, all of the feelings that pull us away from you, O God, we release.

[silence]

And now with open hearts we receive what you offer us now:
We receive the gift of this space and this time.
We receive the gift of being with each person here.
We receive the Holy Spirit's presence within us for guidance and healing.
We receive the sacred words that will be spoken and thought.
We receive the holy touch of hand and heart.
We receive the silence.
We receive the music.
Fill us now with the peace of your deep, abiding presence.
We offer all of ourselves to you, our One God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer. Amen

PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you.
And also with you.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 9: 18-26

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

MESSAGE *Creating a Different Picture*

PRAYER OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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.

WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

Offertory

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

Awesome, holy, and loving God, we acknowledge that tears and smiles are both an important part of life. May these gifts be instrumental in wiping away tears and bringing smiles to your beloved children throughout the world. Our prayer is that know one will miss the joy You bring. Make it be so. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Be Thou My Vision

UMH #451

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.
3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;

Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

4. High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION *Dona Nobis Pacem* *Jubilation Ringers*

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS MARCH 19, 2023

Lenten Soup Sale after worship

Each pint of soup is priced at \$5, and the sides are \$1

Please join us after worship for fellowship, coffee/tea, food, and fun!

Book Club Meets today in Fellowship hall (rm.8) "The Authenticity Project"

CALENDAR OF EVENTS March 20th – March 26th

Sunday March 12th

Lenten Soup Sale after worship

Each pint of soup is priced at \$5, and the sides are \$1

Monday March 20th

AA mtg @ 7:30pm in Fellowship Hall room 8

Tuesday March 21st

Karate @ 4pm in the underground

Adult Spiritual Formation @ 7pm "In the Footsteps of the Savior"

Wednesday March 22nd

Karate @ 4pm in the underground

Adult Spiritual Formation @ 12 pm “In the Footsteps of the Savior” – BYO Lunch!

Grace Café @ 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall (Room 8)

Thursday March 23rd

Karate @ 4pm in the underground

Friday March 24th

Prayer & Devotion @ 7am on Facebook with Pastor Ninabeth

Boy Scouts @ 7pm in the Underground

Sunday March 26th

Worship @ 10am – “Restoration – Recovery of Ecological Health”

Children’s *Christian Adventurers* after the Children’s message in Worship

Lenten Soup Sale after worship Each pint of soup is priced at \$5, and the sides are \$1

Fellowship Hour – after Worship

Church Giving Envelopes for 2023 have been delayed in arriving, and we will let you know when they can be picked up.

SOUPS in MARCH

Come to worship to purchase some soup and a side.

You can heat and eat it in fellowship hall and join some friends,

or take it home to enjoy during the week.

Each pint of soup is priced at \$5, and the sides are \$1.

Lenten Prayer and Devotion on Friday Mornings
at 7 AM on Facebook.

Our Facebook page is: UMC.Wayne

Join Pastor Ninabeth for this 30 minute gathering.

You do not have to be a Facebook follower to be a part of this time of prayer and devotion.

Save the Date!

Join us on Palm Sunday as our Christian Adventurers Present

Stone Soup

A classic tale that shows us how it takes many different things to make a unique whole!

Easter is coming!

Help make our sanctuary blossom!

Order flowers in memory of a loved one, to plant in your garden,
and/or in praise of the risen Christ!

Order forms are located in the back of the sanctuary and in the March Messenger.