



CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

301 ROWE BOULEVARD – ANNAPOLIS, MD – WWW.CALUMC.ORG

FEBRUARY 18, 2024 – 10:00 A.M.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision

Calvary Ringers
arr. by Hal Hopson

THE GREETING & INVOCATION

Pastor: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within me. (Psalm 51:10)

INTROIT

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

Calvary Ringers
arr. by Anne Hartley

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Karen Jones, *liturgist*

Liturgist: Come together as God's community to hear the story told.

**People: Abraham trusted God, and his faith was counted
to him as righteousness.**

God promised Abraham land and more offspring than grains of sand.

And Abraham and his descendants were to bless the nations.

Come join the story. Sing the song.

Abraham believed in the promises of God.

Come together as community, and trust God's promises,

as we retell the stories of God's faithfulness.

Come together as God's community and celebrate what God has done!

All: For all the nations shall come and worship before God!

Let us worship God!

**Indicates please stand as able in body or spirit.*

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

*OPENING HYMN

UMH116

The God of Abraham Praise

*LENTEN PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the nations, we confess that we often dream small dreams and think too narrowly. Too often, we are only concerned about our own little world. We forget we are to bless the nations, even as you have so richly blessed us. We pray for courage and opportunity. We pray for your Holy Spirit to give us words and ability to share our blessings. Empower us to be your Easter people by embracing your story that intertwines with our story. Help us to be building blocks in your kingdom. Thy kingdom come, Lord, as it is in heaven. *(all confess sins in the silence...)*

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PEACE

Pastor: Hear the Good News: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

† *All may be seated.*

THE NEWS TO KNOW

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Nancy Mills, *Dir. of Discipleship*

Children are invited to come forward for a special message. Afterwards, all children are dismissed to Sunday School in Room 214/216 with Ms. Kathryn where parents may pick them up after worship. Middle and High school youth are invited to join Ms. Nancy for a small group gathering in Room 114.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

ANTHEM

My Tribute

Betsy Lord, *pianist*

by A. Crouch

Steve Ward, *tenor*

OLD TESTAMENT READING - GENESIS 12:1-5A (NRSV)

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. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan.

NEW TESTAMENT READING - GALATIANS 3:7-9 (NRSV)

So, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would reckon as righteous the gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “All the gentiles shall be blessed in you.” For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed.

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Linda W. Motter

Sharing Our God Stories: Blessed to Be a Blessing

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*HYMN OF REFLECTION

UMH 572

Pass It On

PASTORAL PRAYER *with* 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.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

All are invited to give of their morning offerings online at CALUMC.org, in the collection black box in the Narthex, Venmo (@calvaryumcannapolis) or US Postal Service to support the work of Calvary United Methodist Church sharing God's love with the world.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of steadfast love and faithfulness, you say yes to each one of us, affirming your promises to us. And so, we say yes to you by dedicating these tithes, gifts and offerings to the expansion of your kingdom on earth, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

SENDING FORTH

*CLOSING HYMN

UMH 568

Christ for the World We Sing

*THE BLESSING & BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26)

POSTLUDE

Prelude in C

J.S. Bach

The altar flowers are lovingly donated by Peggy Gessner in honor of her daughter Kat's birthday!