

†Hymn UMH 61 ITALIAN HYMN
“Come, Thou Almighty King”

Prayer of Confession

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. You have claimed us in our covenant, yet we forget your steadfast love. You seek us out in the wilderness, yet we continue to wander in our sin. Forgive us, God of grace. Wash us clean once again so that we may return to you and follow your holy way, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assurance of Pardon

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson Mark 1:9-15

“Call to Remembrance, O Lord” R. Farrant
Chancel Choir (11am)

Children’s Time (11am)
Children 3 years through 3rd grade may leave for children’s church AFTER this.

†Hymn UMH 294 MARTYRDOM
“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

New Testament Lesson 1 Peter 3:18-22

Sermon Rev. Keith Ritchie
He Descended to the Dead

†Affirmation of Faith UMH 882
The Apostles’ Creed

†Passing the Peace

Offering

Offertory

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jinky Critz by Danny, Beth, and Blair.

THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER:

SICK or A SPECIAL NEED: Geri Draper, Lorna Adkins, Pam Robertson, Bea Mitchell, Thomas Watkins (Katherine Heldreth’s son-in-law), Jamie Coleman and Melissa Shroeder, Mary Ann Clark, Barbara John, Richard Eggleton (Lynn Shumate’s cousin), Daron Dodson (Sandra Vaughn’s nephew), C. J. Robertson, Bud Prevette (Patsy Wyatt’s brother), Don Crouch, Jr., Debbie Hundley, Tommy Warren, Peggy Hollander, Deborah Hite. *Please call the church office to add or remove names on our prayer list. If we have removed someone you wished to remain on the prayer list, we are sorry. Please notify the church office to have the person added.*

SHUT-IN: Dodie Bach, Meta Roth, Lucie Gravely, Neza Jolly, Barbara Rainey, Nancy Nash, Melanie Soulos

MISSION FIELD: Chase & Audrey Arndt

THOSE WHO LOST LOVED ONES: Nancy Withers (her brother, Robert Hammond)

On Tuesdays at 6:45 pm, a Lenten Bible study will be held in the fellowship hall. This study will be shaped around the scripture passages assigned to each Tuesday for the season of Lent. No videos or books are guiding us through this Lenten study—just biblical scripture appropriate to this holy season.

Scripture for Daily Lenten Readings, Week 2

† **Sunday, February 18:** Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

† **Monday, February 19:** Psalm 77; Job 4:1-21; Ephesians 2:1-10

† **Tuesday, February 20:** Psalm 77; Job 5:8-27; 1 Peter 3:8-18a

† **Wednesday, February 21:** Psalm 77; Proverbs 30:1-9; Matthew 4:1-11

† **Thursday, February 22:** Psalm 22:23-31; Genesis 15:1-6, 12-18; Romans 3:21-31

† **Friday, February 23:** Psalm 22:23-31; Genesis 16:1-6; Romans 4:1-12

† **Saturday, February 24:** Psalm 22:23-31; Genesis 16:7-15; Mark 8:27-30

In preparation for our **Covenant Renewal Service** on March 4, please go to this website:

www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/covenant-renewal-service.

The noon studies at the ministry center will resume on Tuesday, February 20. Bring a lunch and join us as we study **THE WOMEN OF EASTER**. This study will cover encounters with the Savior by Mary of Bethany, Mary of Nazareth, and Mary Magdalene.

The Food Bank is collecting **boxes of cereal** for the month of February.



Senior Pastor, Keith Ritchie
Director of Programs/Children’s Ministries,
Annette Huckfeldt
Director of Youth & Young Adults,
Maegan Mitchell
Interim Director of Music, Byron Corcoran
Guest Organist, Jill Gardner
Accompanist, Beth Chapman

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Doxology OLD 100TH
Praise God through-out these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's love in Christ into our hearts.

Prayers of the People
 Here, in this wilderness,
Prepare your way, O God.

The Lord's Prayer

†Hymn TFWS 2112 LONESOME VALLEY
 "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

†Benediction

†Postlude

†Carrying Christ's Light into the World

†Indicates standing interval if you are able.

A cordial invitation is extended to you to worship with us regularly. If you would like to become a member of First Church, please speak to the pastor.

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF
February 18, 2018

Early Learning Center Monday – Friday 6:30 am – 6:00 pm

The church office hours are
 9 am–5 pm Monday–Thursday, Closed on Friday
 The church office will be closed 12:30–1:30 pm for lunch.

Sun. Feb. 18		
Mon. Feb. 19		No Children's Choir/Puppets
Tues. Feb. 20	10:00 am	Lunch Bunch
	12:00 pm	Community Lent Service (Starling Ave. Baptist)
	12:00 pm	Women of Easter (UMC)
	2:00 pm	Staff Meeting
	5:30 pm	Young Adult Bible Study (Daily Grind)
	6:45 pm	Lenten Study (Fellowship Hall)
Wed. Feb. 21	12:00 pm	Seniors Unlimited (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00 pm	Missions Team
	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir
Thur. Feb. 22	10:00 am	Lunch Bunch
Fri. Feb. 23		Office Closed

USHERS: Danny Critz, Wayne Withers, John Adams, Sharon Clanton, Jeff Corcoran, Kevin Laine, Joe Philpott, Will Vaughn, Winston Whitmore

COUNTERS: Craig Dietrich, Linda Adams, Bob Clark

SOUND TECHNICIAN: Paul Huckfeldt

VIDEO: Craig Dietrich

ACOLYTE: Dylan Spencer

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Margie Eason

NURSERY: Mary Barnes

We have new equipment for the hearing impaired. If you wish to use this equipment, please see an usher.



Welcome to
First United
Methodist Church

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



February 18, 2018 **8:45am & 11:00am**

WELCOME to this celebration of worship where we remember God's saving grace in Jesus Christ!

Fellowship & Ministry Announcements

Please let us know you worshipped with us today by signing the friendship pad and passing it down the pew. We welcome our visitors and are grateful for the active witness of our members.

Prelude

(Bringing in the Light of Christ during Prelude)

Trinity Chimes

†**Call to Worship**

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities.

What shall I render to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.