



Holy Vessels

A Lenten Season of Recovery

Third Sunday in Lent

“Stories”



ST. MARK'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 7, 2021, 9:30 am

In-Person & Live Streamed on YouTube and Facebook
www.facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks

GATHER

People gather around Jesus as his reputation becomes known from town to town. As we gather virtually or physically, we too are yearning for presence, for peace, for help.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Joe Payne

LENTEN WORSHIP THEME

Chris Beiser

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Linda Payne

APPROACH

*People opened their lives to Jesus. We are drawn to the Healer
-opening our hearts with honesty about our lives
and finding assurance that offers peace.*

OPENING PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us acknowledge our need to restore, repair, renew our Holy Vessels, and that the health of our minds deeply affects our physical and spiritual health.

Let us pray: Centering and Calming Divine Breath of God....

....Together we pray,

Help us, Healer.

Show us our capacity for compassion.

Forgive our inattention.

Move us to move

one step at a time toward greater care for one another.

Silence

ASSURANCE

Know this: You are accepted.

No. Matter. What.

Accepting the truth of our difficulties is part of the journey of recovery. Sharing our stories of difficulty can open the way for healing. For you, for me, for all.

Vessels, holy and whole

Broken, needing the One

Open, body and soul

Healer, come.

PEACE

The Peace of Christ is with you. **And also with you.**

BELIEVE

People were fortified by Jesus' words and deeds that revealed care for all—especially those marginalized. We strengthen our belief in the possibility for renewed health and vigor for all.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Peggy Smith

A CONTEMPORARY WORD

Pastor Joe

MUSICAL PROCLAMATION

Chris

"Just As I Am, I Come Broken"

AN ANCIENT WORD - SCRIPTURE Matthew 9:27-33

Linda

SERMON

"Stories"

Pastor Joe

ASK

People who were healed by Jesus were not afraid to ask. And so we come before the Holy One, making our petitions and desires known, trusting the work of the Spirit.

SONG OF PREPARATION

**In your love, make us whole.
 May we rest in your compassion.
 Calm the lost, weary soul
 in the warmth of your love.
 May your peace fill our hearts.
 May we know the love of Jesus.
 By your grace, you console.
 Make us holy, make us whole.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In your love, make us whole....

HOLY COMMUNION

RESPOND

Scriptural accounts of healing often end with responses from the "crowd" of witnesses. How will we proceed into the brokenness of this world and respond as the Body of Christ?

CLOSING HYMN

"Standing on the Promises"

UMH 593

BLESSING

Vessels, holy and whole...

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fill our Easter eggs: The hunt is on and we are asking you for Egg Hunt Donations. Beginning this week you can pick up bags of empty eggs to fill for our Easter Egg Hunt. Bags of eggs will be left by the kitchen door for easy pick up. Please return eggs by Sunday March 27th. The Egg Hunt is set for Saturday April 3.

FAITHFUL and INCLUSIVE:

New Classes begin -

Wednesdays 10:30-Noon, March 10 to April 7

Thursdays 6:30, April 8, 15, 29, May 6, 13, 20

So far, 31 persons have or are taking this class. Great participation! We need at least eight per class, so please sign up. I don't want to cancel.

One aim of this class:

- To consider how United Methodist Christians committed to upholding biblical authority take a non-literal, yet serious, approach to their study of the Bible.

We will meet via Zoom. You will receive a Zoom invite after you sign up and closer to the meeting date. There is no cost. Call 844-1818 to reserve your place, or sign up on St. Mark's Facebook Page Events.

BLOOD DRIVE. Now is the time to sign up!

Wednesday, March 17th from 3:30 to 7:30 pm.

You may now sign up on St. Mark's Facebook page. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Theodor at 748-1085.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14: We will mark this anniversary of the lockdown by looking back at all that has taken place this previous year.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28: Palm/Passion Sunday. Leading up to this day, we hope to deliver a palm branch to every household and every child.

BROKEN BUS MINISTRY: St. Mark's has reserved **April 10th** to serve on the bus. We have our riders secured! Watch our Facebook page for the opportunity to help with the meal. If you have questions, please contact Julie at 505-4061.

UPPER ROOMS: The March/April Upper Rooms are now available. They are in a box by the kitchen door and also on the Narthex Welcome center.

PASTOR JOE'S UPWORDS: Pastor Joe is now doing his words of inspiration and just being in touch with everyone on a weekly basis, **every Wednesday around 1:30 to 2 pm on Facebook.** If you can't watch at that time, you can always watch any other time afterwards on St. Mark's Facebook page.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Flowers may be in memory, honor of someone or just because. Price is \$14.50 for each bouquet. **Please call the church office for your request by Wednesday.** You may take your flowers home after the service, or let the office know if you need to come another time.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES - Available in Fellowship Hall. You may get them on Sunday morning or any morning Monday—Thursday from 9 to Noon. If these times do not work out for you, please call the church office to arrange a time for you to get your envelopes.

*Holy Vessels Worship series design and original music
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adapted by the worship team of St. Mark's UMC and used with
permission. www.worshipdesignstudio.com/vessels*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

New Requests and Updates

Prayers for the mother of a young friend, Mike, who is undergoing surgery this week. (Lois Hill)

Tari Randall thanks everyone for coming to celebrate the life of her dad, Bob. The family is very grateful for the support.

-Gary, a friend of Virginia Shaw's daughter: thyroid cancer has returned and metastasized to other parts of the body.

-Pam Hard had breast cancer surgery recently. The surgeons are confident that all cancer was removed. Continued prayers requested.

Thank you -

Dear friends at St. Mark's,

Thank you very much for the beautiful floral arrangement at the time of Marilyn's passing. We appreciate your thoughts and prayers. Marilyn loved you and thoroughly enjoyed being with you.

Sincerely,

Jim, Jeff, and Aric Cattran

Continuing Prayers

*(Help us keep this list current. Email or call the church office .)
(b.smoot@fairfieldstmarks.com / 844-1818) with any updates.)*

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| All service Men & Women | Prayer & Bible Study Groups | Byron Jones Merianne Cardas |
| Our Country | Jean Stivers | Dick Brewer |
| First Responders | Mitch Thomas | All shut-ins and |
| United Methodist Church | Lori Palmieri (Pat Coyle's daughter) | Homebound Diana Griffith |

St. Mark's Homebound / Shut-ins

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Phyllis Tunning - Triplecreek | Sandy Ronningen -Chesterwood |
| Virginia Shaw | Eleanor McCollum |
| Bob Miracle | Paul Schutte —Jamestown |
| Dale Shreve - Birchwood, 201 | Greg Pullem |
| Bob Netherland in Hospice Care | Sue Webster |

Joys / Concerns *(listed in the order received, and kept for four weeks unless requested to remain on our "Continuing Prayers" list.)*

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Family of Paul Stanberry 2/7 | Grammel Family 2/14 |
| Miracle Family 2/7 | Taylor Bradley, friend of |
| Friend's nephew 2/7 | Kym Nguyen, cardiac arrest |
| Sister-in-law, Kelly 2/7 | 2/28 |
| Family of Bev Chaffin 2/7 | Sharon Hamp, heart tests |
| Mary Ann Dove's family 2/7 | 2/28 |
| Sister-in-law, Karen 2/14 | Layne Nelson, 2/28 |
| Friend with Lymphoma 2/14 | |
| Kristy 2/14 | |
| Diane Noonan 2/14 | |
| Diana Griffith 2/14 | |
| Donor, Jill 2/14 | |
| Family of Don Jackson 2/14 | |
| Family of Danielle, Marty's sister | |
| 2/14 | |

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Our Mission is to make Disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.

STAFF

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Pastor | Joe Payne |
| Administrative Assistant | Brenda Smoot |
| Director of Music | Chris Beiser |
| Organist | Sue Combs |
| Director of Children & Family Ministries | Peggy Smith |
| Director of Youth Ministries | Julie Mislansky |
| Pastor Emeritus | Bob Klingel |

OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

| | |
|-----------|-----------------|
| Liturgist | Linda Payne |
| Sound | Rick Kiefer |
| Camera | Mark Hensler |
| Screen | Jennie Marshall |

Altar Flowers ...

... are given in celebration of the 34th Wedding
anniversary of Carol & Jeff Gering.
Happy Anniversary!

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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Fairfield, OH 45014
513.844.1818
Fairfieldstmarks.com