

Good Enough:

Embracing the Imperfections
of Life and Faith

Lent 4

"We often believe we are the problem."



March 27, 2022, 9:30 am

In-Person & Live-Streamed on YouTube and Facebook

www.facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks

PRELUDE

Sue Combs

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Joe Payne

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Penny Dole

Each week of this Lent season, we are focusing on ways that we can practice a counter-cultural theology that emphasizes the beauty and grace of the reality of life-right-now rather than waiting with increasing judgment to reach some vision of a perfected existence. Our ladder-climbing efforts sometimes end up taking us down a rung or two as things don't work out just right. And so let us continue to turn ladders into gardens, nurturing our souls and embracing our holy, "good enough," lives.

*"Good Enough" (sung in unison)

Chris Beiser

What in our lives do we dream about for tomorrow, void of sorrow? Time spent regretting decisions of our yesterdays, mistakes we made? Sometimes we get what we get, life disappoints us and yet, God is still here and somehow, this faith is good enough.

*OPENING PRAYER (based on Psalm 63)

**Holy One, God of Forgiveness,
we call out to you and you surround us with
deliverance.**

**You love us infinitely more than we love ourselves or
others. Open us this day to your counsel,
helping us be more merciful, more grace-filled,
so that we might rejoice in simple and good enough
moments that fill our days.**

Amen.

*HYMN

"We're Part of the Blessing"

Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Tune: ASH GROVE ("Let All Things Now Living") -

HONEST QUESTIONS, COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE

Today we will hear how the Prodigal Son - with his father's inheritance in hand - confidently strikes out on his own. But then famine strikes, and he finds himself broke, and a broken man. And so he heads back home, defeated, expecting that he has lost it all....

....Do you find yourself being unrealistically hard on yourself?
Let us take a moment of silent reflection...

Silent Reflection

....And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps,
in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God! Amen.

PEACE The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Samuel 7:12 Penny

SOLO "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Linda Payne

GOSPEL READING Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

THOUGHTS ABOUT AN IMPERFECT LIFE AND FAITH
"We Often Believe We Are the Problem" Pastor Joe

PRAYER SONG "That's Enough for Me"

JOYS, CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Jesus Christ, our burdens know,
Praise Spirit through whom our hearts grow,
Praise Three-in-One, from here below.**

Prayer

*HYMN "This Is a Day of New Beginnings" UMH 383

*BENEDICTION
Response "Take Jesus With You"

*POSTLUDE

(*Rise in body or spirit)

*Wors1hip Notes: All liturgy and leader parts Marcia McFee ©
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"Good Enough" theme song by Marsha Charles, Marcia McFee, Chuck Bell. Used with
permission of Worship Design Studio. "A Blessing for When You Realize Everyone is
Struggling" from Good Enough: 40'ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection by Kate
Bowler and Jessica Richie. Used with permission. Purchase the book at
www.katebowler.com/goodenough.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys/Concerns

*If updates are unknown, these items are listed for four weeks.
Extended concerns are listed under "Continuing Prayers."*

- 3/20 Mary Kay Bowling passed away on Thursday, March 24. We send our prayers & condolences to the families and friends.
- 3/20 Betty Winkler has a fractured back.
- 3/20 Kristy Theiss friend Summer, has cancer, please pray.
- 3/20 Bud Aydlett shares a JOY! "Thank you for letting me play golf one more time!"
- 3/20 Happy Birthday to Chris Beiser! Thank you for your faithful leadership during all of these years! From Suzan, our Choir.
- 3/20 Dale Shreve has Cellulitis (serious bacterial skin infection) of his lower legs & feet.
- 3/20 Mark Hensler upcoming surgery on March 28.
- 3/20 Greg Pullem, upcoming shoulder replacement surgery: April 5
- 3/20 Pat Sena is having severe back problems.
- 3/20 Jennifer Rinker recovering from sinus infection.
- 3/20 Linda Fenzel's nephew's wife had surgery.
- 3/20 Kathy Bradley's friend, Sandy Cline has Cancer as well as some serious health issues.
- 3/20 Sue McDaniel's neighbor Barb, who lost her mother 3/17/22.
- 3/20 The family and friends of Bob Sudbrink who has passed away on Friday, March 18, 2022. Bob had Myelofibrosis & acute Leukemia. Our prayers and condolences to Val as she navigate life without him. Bob and Val are dear friends of the Marshall's and Tim & Maria Mullen.
- 3/20 The Ukrainian and Russian people as we remember to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us.
- 3/20 Jennifer Hanson had her (2nd) open heart surgery at the Cleveland Clinic.
- 3/17 John Smith, upcoming vascular surgery on March 24.
- 3/13 A friend who is losing his eyesight.
- 3/13 David & Pam Brockfield's friend, Jeff Waite retired UM minister had 4-heart by-pass operation & a pacemaker. He is recovering at home in Columbus, OH.
- 3/06 Betty Stover as she prepares to move to Rochester, NY
- 3/06 Elle Nguyen's friend Kali While, diagnosed with recurrence of breast cancer.
- 3/06 Sue Rumley for cardiac testing she had on Thursday 3/10.
- 3/06 Tim & Julie Mislansky's great-aunt Charlotte passed away on Monday, March 7th. Prayers and condolences for the families.
- 3/06 Julie Mislansky's sister's test results came back negative. Praise the Lord!
- 3/06 Rich Stracke's surgery was successful. Thank you for prayers.
- 3/06 Lauren Leyrer is recovering from a sore throat & congestion.

- 3/06 Jennifer Rinker thanks everyone for the cards, flowers, kind words, and prayers in the recent passing of her father in law.
- 3/06 Del Burfitt and his wife.
- 3/06 Jane Burnette recovery from knee surgery.
- 3/06 Jon Skirvin's health regarding kidney issues.
- 3/06 Bill Hansbauer parents; one parent has throat cancer and the other has diabetes.
- 2/27 Byron Jones passed away on February 26, 2022. Our deepest condolences and prayers to the family.
- 2/27 Jennifer & Nicole's pet rabbit named Denim, who passed away. He was the fluffiest bunny!
- 2/27 Pablo's cousin, Jasa Hevia and family who is trying to leave Ukraine into Poland and has traveled more than 600 miles. Update: they have made it to Poland. Continued prayers.
- 2/27 Pam Brockfield's friend Lisa Ellsworth & families on the loss of Lisa's sister Fran.
- 2/27 Superfan Jim who passed away, will be dearly missed at all Fairfield Athletics (especially soccer) - Jennifer Specht
- 2/27 Jenni Hensler asks for prayers for her principal who begins bone marrow transplant journey. And prayer for her principal's daughter, Alli who is her donor.

Continuing Prayers

Please help us keep this list current by emailing or calling the church office with updates. Contact Lyn at L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com or call the office (513) 844-1818.

All service Men & Women
 Our Country
 First Responders
 United Methodist Church
 Prayer & Bible Study Groups
 Rick Broshear—lung cancer
 Merianne Cardas
 Gina Hollinger

Sharon Hamp
 Lori Palmieri (P. Coyle's daughter)
 Belinda Peters and family
 Virginia Shaw's son Richard
 Ewald's son-in-law, Jeremiah (279)
 Eugene Campbell—lung cancer (Linda Prohaska's brother)

St. Mark's Homebound:

Gale Logan—Otterbein Community
 Greg Pullem—Parkside
 Dale Shreve—Birchwood, 409

Paul Schutte—Westover
 Phyllis Tunning—Triplecreek
 MaryKay Bowling—Sunrise Living,
 (Hospice in Alpharetta, GA)

St. Mark's Homebound at HOME:

Vivian Brill
 Jim Beckett
 Jean Cottrill
 Dollie Gallihugh
 Freida Hawkins
 Eleanor McCollum

Zediith Pottenger
 Jean Stivers
 Virginia Shaw
 Sue Webster
 Ginny O'Dell
 Carolyn Janosik—StoryPoint

ST. MARK'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

Check out our updated online calendar:

www.fairfieldstmarks.com/calendar

TODAY, 3/27 UMCOR SUNDAY

9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreamed
G.L.O.W. Preschool—5th grade. Nursery open for infants—age 3

MONDAY, 3/28

10:00 am Crafter Group
6:30 pm ZOOM Bible Study

TUESDAY, 3/29

7:00 pm Boy Scouts, Tr. 960

WEDNESDAY, 3/30

7:30 am Men's Prayer Group
12:30 pm Shared Harvest Volunteering
2:00 pm Bible Study
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 3/31

6:00 pm St. Mark's Cares Meeting
7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, 4/01

SATURDAY, 4/02

9:00 pm Spring Spruce Up
2:00 pm Confirmation Class/Youth Group visit Museum of Spiritual Art

SUNDAY, 4/03

9:30 am Holy Communion and Worship in sanctuary and livestreamed
NO G.L.O.W.
3:30 pm Confirmation Class
5:00 pm Dinner for Youth
6:00 pm Youth Group/Serve City Meal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Happy 11th Birthday Kaden Theiss! From Nana

In Memory of David Booker, Father of Dave Booker & Family from Rich & Joyce Zugerter

MARCH 27, UMCOR SUNDAY SPECIAL OFFERING

Through the United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR), we are able to make a difference in the lives of those struggling through storms, wars, fires, etc. This offering underwrites UMCOR's cost of doing business, allowing UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of any gift to a specific project will go to toward that project, and not to the administrative costs.

MARCH 27—APRIL 3, EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

For Easter celebration we will order from Benken Florist. *Flowers (6" pot w/green cover)* may be purchased. Please see the "ORDER FORM" for more information or contact Lyn at church office. **Orders will be taken**

March 27—April 3. Please put your order forms & payment in an envelope & put in offering box. Note envelope: "Easter Flowers"

MARCH 30, WED., 12:30PM, SHARED HARVEST FOODBANK

We have an opportunity to serve at Shared Harvest Wed., March 30, 12:30-2:30PM.

The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex. Contact Debbie Bryant for info.

APRIL MISSION PROJECT, DEADLINE FOR DONATIONS IS APRIL 24

We will be supporting Serve City this month with our time, talents, and gifts! We are collecting the following items for the residents from their "needs" list. ***Twin sheet sets, ibuprofen, Tylenol, tums, cough drops, plastic forks and spoons, disposable cups, plates, and bowls, laundry detergent, fabric softener/sheets, toilet paper, bar soap, deodorant, razors, shaving cream (for men or women), toothbrushes and paste, shampoo, and individually wrapped snack items.***
Sunday, April 24 is donation deadline

ALSO. We will be supplying the meal on April 6. Please sign up on the narthex bulletin board if you'd like to make a casserole or dessert, Thanks!

APRIL 2, SATURDAY, 9AM, ST. MARK'S "SPRING SPRUCE UP"

Join our St. Mark's Trustees for a "Spring Spruce Up" on Saturday April 2, 2022, beginning at 9am. The more who join, the faster we will get it done. The plans for this day are pulling weeds & fluffing mulch, and sprucing up our church lawn for Easter. All are welcome! Sign up on the back of the Welcome/Attendance sheet. For more information see Jennie Marshall. See you there!

APRIL 3, SUNDAY, 2PM, RETURN FILLED EGGS

Children & Family Ministries needs your help with Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Saturday, April 9 at 2PM. In the Narthex, we have bags with 2 dozen empty eggs in them, please take home & fill with individually wrapped candy and returned by **Sunday April 3, (Wed. April 6, the latest)** Thank you. This event will be open to our extended church family, watch for more details in the April Newsletter!

APRIL 9, SATURDAY, 2PM, ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

We begin with Crafts, Story time and Snacks followed by the Egg Hunt. There might be a "special visitor". This event is open to St. Mark's children/grandchildren and friends. Bring a basket to collect your eggs and looking forward to seeing you there!

APRIL 24, SUNDAY, 5:00PM, GLOW@NIGHT (Children 4 years old—GRADE 5)

Lent is a great time to learn more about your Bible and what it means to explore faith in all the stories. Join us this evening 5:00—7:00 for Glow @ Night, Bible Blast. We will have dinner with the Youth at 5:00 and our program will follow! Save dates: May 1 & May 22.

VOLUNTEER HELP MOVE RICHARD SHAW, DATE END APRIL/EARLY MAY

Virginia Shaw's son Richard needs help moving from 3rd floor to 1st floor of apartment building. He is still recovering & cannot manage the stairs anymore. For more information, please contact Lyn at the church office (513) 844-1818.

'NEW' SPRING CRAFT ITEMS ARE FOR SALE IN THE CHOIR ROOM!

Check out the NEW Easter craft items created by our "craft ladies." Visit the Choir Room to shop for a variety of items & gifts. All of the items are on display today and the 'Monday Crafting Ladies' continue to create beautiful items throughout the seasons.

USED BOOK SALE SPONSORED BY RUTH'S CIRCLE, IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Ruth's Circle is sponsoring a monthly used book sale to help support St. Mark's mission projects. There are NEW books located in Fellowship Hall and the cost is your donation. Questions? Contact Alethea LaMar at (319) 750-1323. Thank you for your help with this important mission.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.

STAFF

Pastor	Joe Payne
Administrative Assistant	Lyn Bucalo
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	Penny Dole
Lay Leader/Camera	Mark Hensler
Sound	Rick Kiefer
Screen	Jennie Marshall

DEADLINE FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Contact Lyn Bucalo at L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com to submit content for monthly newsletters on the 3rd MONDAY each month.

[May Newsletter deadline is Monday, April 18](#)

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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PW: HelloFairfield