# EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4901 Woodbine Road Sykesville, Maryland 21784 Rev. Judith A. Emerson, Pastor

March 5, 2017 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

### The First Sunday in Lent

### **WELCOME**

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. It is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection.

THE PRELUDE
LIGHTING THE CANDLES

"Amazing Grace"

arr. by Hayes

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, to know again who you are, return to the One who gives life.

We come as children of God, longing for a closer walk with our Creator.

Let nothing distract you from that intent.

We have assembled that God may speak to us this morning.

We wait upon God, the Sovereign One, who knows us as we are and loves us.

\*HYMN

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

**UMH No. 269** 

### **OPENING PRAYER**

God, you know our hearts. You have knit our inmost being and you know our deepest desires, fears and worries. Help us to move during this Lenten season into a new awareness of your presence in our lives. Save us from our own temptations, so that we may more freely follow you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God, we confess to you our reluctance to enter the wilderness places where we are confronted with our true selves. The places where we are tempted to put worldly values before our desire for you, and when our hunger for power and wealth is greater than our hunger for seeking and doing your will. Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you.

A time of silence for personal confession

Merciful God, save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. Forgive us our sins and fill us with the joy and peace of your salvation. So strengthen us with your Spirit during this Lenten season that we put our whole trust in you as confidently as Jesus did. This we pray in his name. Amen.

#### ASSURANCE AND PARDON

As the Apostle Paul wrote: "...if you confess with your lips that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9) These words contain the good news that, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE "Jesus, Name Above All Names" TFWS No. 2071

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 OT pg. 2

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 4:1-11 NT pg. 3

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

ANTHEM (11:00 AM) "Lord of Life" Chancel Choir

SERMON "The Wilderness Experience" Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" TFWS No. 2112

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

DUET "Canticle of Hope"

Bill Jones & Sandy Biddinger

Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer

GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

Announcements

Offertory

\*Presentation of Gifts

\*Doxology UMH No. 95

Praise God throughout 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.
Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, accept these gifts, and with them our lives, to be used in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Breaking the Bread Sharing the Cup

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.

Communion Offering for Carroll County Food Sunday

Hymns During Communion: #377, #364, #534

Prayer After Communion

Eternal Father, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

\*HYMN "Lamb of God" TFWS No. 2113

<sup>\*</sup>BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

<sup>\*</sup>POSTLUDE

# **Welcome to Ebenezer United Methodist Church**

Website: ebenezerumchurch.org

Church Office Hours - Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Worship: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Sunday School: All Ages 9:45 AM

<u>Church Office</u>: (410) 795-6136 <u>Church Email</u>: <a href="mailto:eumcwinfield@gmail.com">eumcwinfield@gmail.com</a>

Pastor's Office: (410) 795-1237 Pastor's Email: revjae@aol.com

Pastor: Rev. Judy EmersonSecretary: Cindi ArnoldMusic Director: Linda BangeTreasurer: Sandy Wean

### **Prayer Requests**

**Butch Barnes** 

#### Last Week

Attendance: 125 Offering: \$4,738.00

### **Notes**

<u>Prayer Requests</u> will remain in the bulletin for 3 weeks at a time. <u>Nursery</u> for Infants through Kindergarten is every Sunday at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM. <u>Children's Church</u> for Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> Grades is the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 11:00 AM. <u>The Attendance Roster</u> is at the end of each pew. Please sign in and pass it to others.

# **Worship Today**

Service	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Greeters	Jim Leary	Dave Biddinger
Ushers	Scott & Kim Murchie	Paul Thompson
Liturgists	Carolene Will	Chuck Shacochis

### **SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

Monday, March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Ad Council Meeting	7:30 PM
Wednesday, March 8th	Spring Fling Meeting	6:30 PM
	Children's Choir	6:30 PM
	Chancel Choir	7:30 PM
Saturday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Men's Breakfast	8:30 AM



**THANK YOU**— To all that came out for Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and supported Shaun and his Eagle Project. It was a very successful night thanks to you!

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**EASTER FLOWERS** – If you are interested in ordering spring flowers for Easter Sunday, please turn in orders TODAY. Additional forms are in the narthex.

**SPRING FLING 2017** - will be held on April 29th at EUMC. The next planning meeting is on March 8th, at 6:30 PM at EUMC. The planning meetings are almost as fun as the event itself – everyone is welcome!

**TEE SHIRTS FOR KIDS**: Our Church & Society Easter Project will be \*new\* Tee Shirts for the children at the Board of Child Care. Our goal is 100 new tee shirts for Easter. Look for information soon on our "clothesline" in the narthex where you can select sizes and colors. All tee shirts will need to be turned in by Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. Any questions, ask Janet Davis, 410-259-0039.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE** – A second perc test was completed this past Friday. Our architectural plans are complete. It is our hope and prayer to have completed estimates for the mechanical, electrical and plumbing work. Once this is received, we will schedule a church conference for the congregation. Keep the faith that things continue to move forward. Thank you for your faithfulness and support.

**THE MENS GROUP** - will host breakfast 8:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. This month in lieu of a speaker there will be a 30-minute film short from the Insight TV series, which was produced from the 1960's to 1980's and uncovered God's presence in the contemporary human experience.

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY** – "Give Up Something Bad for Lent!" - The practice of Lent can easily become routine and mechanical. We can go through the motions without letting them touch our hearts or change our lives. This Bible study will help you take time to make sure that as you give up something, you will gain much more. On March 26<sup>th</sup>, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup>, we will gather during the Sunday School hour and explore together what the scriptures have to say to us about Lent and the Good News of Easter.

**SOUP AND SALAD LUNCHEON** – Our Soup & Salad fundraiser for the Women's Retreat will be held on Sunday, March 26th after the 11:00 AM service. Please keep this date open and help support our retreat. Delicious soups, salads, desserts and even hot dogs (for the kids) will be available. Costs will be \$8 for adults, \$4 for 4-12 yrs. & free under three. Donation list is posted on the bulletin board for salads & deserts. We appreciate all your support and hope to see you there.

**VBS: HERO CENTRAL** – Dates for 2017 VBS are July 23<sup>rd</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup>. We will run this year Sunday through Thursday. We will also be offering a middle school class! So put the date on your calendars, and get ready to have some fun. Sign up early and receive a free Hero Central music CD!