

## CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Israel came out of the wilderness and into a land flowing with milk and honey. They were finally able to offer to God baskets full, in joyful celebration. We, too, bring the first fruits of all that God has so generously given us, with joy and thanksgiving.

### THE LORD'S OFFERING

### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

### \*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Holy One, our light and our salvation, the stronghold of our lives, accept these gifts as a token of our commitment to walk in your ways. Amen.**

## CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

### \*BENEDICTION

These Lenten days will take us to the cross of Christ. We go forward, knowing that we do not go this way alone.

### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross'

No. 301 (Chorus)

*In the cross, in the cross,  
be my glory ever,  
Till my raptured soul shall find  
Rest beyond the river.*



### \*CLOSING HYMN

'The First Song of Isaiah'

TFWS 2030

### \*POSTLUDE

***WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD***

## Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church



**March 16, 2025**

Pastor Russel contact information:

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Pastor Russel is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

### ORDER OF WORSHIP – 11:15 AM

## CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

### PRELUDE

### GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

### CENTERING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'Glorify Thy Name'

TFWS 2016

## CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: On this second Sunday in Lent we continue our way to the cross.

**People: We remember the steps that led Christ there: betrayal and fear, but also trust in God, and love for humanity.**

Pastor: In this season of Lent, as we make our way to the cross, we strive to follow Christ's example: to admit betrayal and fear that are a part of life,

**People: to embrace trust in God and love for humanity.**

Pastor: So we continue our journey as we worship our Triune God.

### OPENING PRAYER

**Lord, we come to you this morning with so many concerns and issues that demand our attention. Our lives are burdened; our spirits are tired. Guide our lives and our steps as we walk this Lenten journey, inward and outward. Help us to discern what you would have us do, that others may be healed. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN.**

INTROIT 'On Eagles Wings' No. 143

### CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

## CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

### CALL TO CONFESSION

May we prepare our hearts and spirits to receive God's mercy and healing.

HYMN OF CONFESSION Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling' No. 348 V. 4

### GENERAL CONFESSION

**Eternal God, we are quick to join Abram's doubt and impatience, but we find it difficult to copy Abraham's faith and trust. We want to believe your promises, but the here-and-now problems of daily life consume our focus and erode our faith. Open our eyes to your light. Open our hearts to your love. Open our minds to your possibilities. Speak to us today, O God, and strengthen our faith, that we, too, may know the everlasting power of your love. Amen.**

### SILENT CONFESSION

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

When God is with us, whom shall we fear? The God of salvation will never forsake you. God's patience knows no limits. Wait for the Lord. Be strong and take heart.

**Thanks be to God!**

### HYMN OF ASSURANCE

'How Great Thou Art'

No. 77, V. 3

### SHARING THE PEACE

Sisters and brothers, we are light for one another, even as Christ is light for each of us. Let's share signs of Christ's light and love, as we pass the peace with one another.

The Peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears our minds, and our hearts.

**People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.**

### CHORAL RESPONSE

'Thy Word'

No. 601 (Refrain only)

*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."*

### FIRST LESSON

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

'Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus'

No. 349

*"Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace."*

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

**People: and also with you.**

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. Luke.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

### \*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Luke 13:31-35

### \*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the Living Christ.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### \*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

## CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

### SERMON

'Under His Wings'

Rev. Russel Shuluga