

## Psalm 32

The one whose wrongdoing is forgiven, whose sin is covered over, is truly happy! The one the LORD doesn't consider guilty—in whose spirit there is no dishonesty—that one is truly happy! When I kept quiet, my bones wore out; I was groaning all day long—every day, every night!—because your hand was heavy upon me. My energy was sapped as if in a summer drought. So I admitted my sin to you; I didn't conceal my guilt. "I'll confess my sins to the LORD," is what I said. Then you removed the guilt of my sin. That's why all the faithful should pray to you during troubled times, so that a great flood of water won't reach them. You are my secret hideout! You protect me from trouble. You surround me with songs of rescue! I will instruct you and teach you about the direction you should go. I'll advise you and keep my eye on you. Don't be like some senseless horse or mule, whose movement must be controlled with a bit and a bridle. Don't be anything like that! The pain of the wicked is severe, but faithful love surrounds the one who trusts the LORD. You who are righteous, rejoice in the LORD and be glad! All you whose hearts are right, sing out in joy!

## Matthew 4:1-11

Then the Spirit led Jesus up into the wilderness so that the devil might tempt him. After Jesus had fasted for forty days and forty nights, he was starving. The tempter came to him and said, "Since you are God's Son, command these stones to become bread." Jesus replied, "It's written, People won't live only by bread, but by every word spoken by God." After that the devil brought him into the holy city and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, "Since you are God's Son, throw yourself down; for it is written, I will command my angels concerning you, and they will take you up in their hands so that you won't hit your foot on a stone." Jesus replied, "Again it's written, Don't test the Lord your God." Then the devil brought him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. He said, "I'll give you all these if you bow down and worship me." Jesus responded, "Go away, Satan, because it's written, you will worship the Lord your God and serve only him." The devil left him, and angels came and took care of him.



**Sunday February 22, 2026 9:00 am – First Sunday of Lent**  
*\*Please stand if it is comfortable for you*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & GREETING

SONG OF BEGINNING

*Worthy is the Lamb*

OPENING PRAYER

God of abundance, we gather in the early days of our Lenten journey to worship, pray and give you thanks. Surround us with your presence so we may breathe deeply of this moment and discover how best to bear witness to your constant presence and your gracious love. Come to us in this time of worship in word and

silence, in song and prayer and in your love proclaimed. We pray to be renewed by your grace in the name and spirit of Jesus the Christ. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 32

\*HYMN      *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley, vs. 1-3*

No. 2112  
Black Hymnal

WITNESSING GOD'S LOVE TO OUR CHILDREN

*Children Pre-K through fifth grade may go to Children's Church. Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade go to the Nursery and 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade go to classroom E-8.*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Through the Night of Dark and Sorrow*

**Lenten Theme**  
**Place for a Purpose: Being the Hands & Feet of Jesus in Your Neighborhood**

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON

*Placed to Choose Faithfulness*

\*HYMN      *It Is Well with My Soul, vs. 1-2 & 4*

No. 377  
Red Hymnal

A TIME FOR PRAYER

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND OUR BLESSINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Special Music During Offering   *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

\*Doxology

No. 95 Red Hymnal

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God of steadfast love, we open ourselves before you with our humble prayer of confession for the wrongs we have done and the acts of love and mercy we have not done. We have bent the truth to serve our own purposes. We have not loved you or shown love to our neighbors as we should. We have withheld forgiveness when a word of grace could have been a step toward reconciliation. We confess that at times we put our trust in other things—in our own strength, in the judgements of others and in the promise the world offers us. Teach us to trust in the ways of Jesus. Now, forgive our sins as we make our silent confessions (silent confession).

SUNG RESPONSE      *Change My Heart, O God*

No. 2152  
Black Hymnal

\*CLOSING BLESSING

\*SUNG RESPONSE      *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

No. 431  
Red Hymnal

*During the Lenten season, we will use the more traditional Doxology in worship that removes the 'Alleluias' as a way of recognizing the more solemn season of Lent. Also, our Prayer of Confession will be later in the service. As we take an inward look at ourselves during Lent, may this order of worship allow us to experience more of worship and open ourselves more fully to God before making our confessions.*

## Participating in Worship:

Rev. Jenny Arneson, Pastor

Laurie Couillard, Reader

Stephanie Bass Faust, Children's Time

Chancel Choir, Music; Stephanie Klein, Director; Marilyn Sylvester, Piano

Harold Sylvester & Michelle Flood, Special Music

Sue Lundein, Organist

## **INVITATIONS TO ACTION**

If you are not already receiving our Monday Devotional Word of the Week or our weekly Thursday email that outlines what is happening in the life of this faith community please reach out to the church office so we can get you on this email list at [office@sunprairieumc.org](mailto:office@sunprairieumc.org) or 837-5554.

### **Dinners with Daniel**

Throughout Lent we will have dinner together in Fellowship Hall at 6pm. This meal time will focus on dialogue and growing in our connection together as a church family and getting to know our Director of Family Ministry Daniel Taylor. Dinners will be provided by the church the cost of dinner is \$5 per person. Dinners will be pay-at-the-door, cash or check. If you have questions or concerns about payment contact Daniel Taylor at [familymin@sunprairieumc.org](mailto:familymin@sunprairieumc.org))

### **Lent Splash**

Children, youth, and their families are invited to join us for intergenerational activities on Sunday mornings during Lent in the Chapel at 10:15am. Daniel will lead these activities. This morning we will be decorating flower pots as we explore what it means to "plant community together". Next Sunday, March 1st we will make a banner to invite our neighbors to our community Easter egg hunt.

### **Lent Collection**

We are collecting New Socks and Gloves to donate to various places, missions and non-profits in our community. All sizes and colors are needed. There will be a display in the Narthex to bring donations through Easter on April 5th! Our church is so generous in our community and this will give us another way to help!

### **Lent Studies**

Our Lent Studies this year will use the book Placed for a Purpose by Chris and Elizabeth McKinney.

Many of us don't know our neighbors.

If we do know them, we aren't sure how to grow the relationship or talk about our faith with them. Placed for a Purpose provides a theologically rich framework for neighboring that helps people live missionally where God has placed them. Authors Chris and Elizabeth McKinney seek to provide a sustainable vision for the "low and slow" lifestyle of neighboring and supply practical tools that help people invest in their communities, value each step in the process, and build meaningful, gospel-motivated relationships with their fellow image-bearers right next door.

Lent Study Options will include:

- Sunday mornings at 10:15 am from February 22- March 29 facilitated by Director of Community Engagement Amanda Hinthon
- Sunday evenings at 7 pm on Zoom from February 22- March 29 facilitated by Director of Community Engagement Amanda Hinthon.
- Wednesdays at Noon February 25- March 25 facilitated by Pastor Jenny.
- Friday Morning Grace Café 9:30 am.
- Saturday Morning Men's Group, 8 am

Books cost \$5 and are available to be purchased in the church office. To sign up please contact the church office 608-837-5554 or [office@sunprairieumc.org](mailto:office@sunprairieumc.org).