

**ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

February 28, 2021

10:00 AM

WELCOME

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

In trust and confidence, we call on Your name, Almighty God, eager to know You more fully and serve You more faithfully. We have heard Your amazing promises given to our ancestors in the faith. We see Your word for us in our day, for we want to grow strong in our faith as our ancestors did in theirs. As they gave You glory and praise, we gather to do the same. As they passed on their faith to new generations, we seek to teach and live in such a way that our children and their children will be drawn to minister in Your name. AMEN

OPENING HYMN: "Be Thou My Vision"

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Miss Dee

CALL TO CONFESSION

In this season, when we reexamine our lives and find our faith tested, we often discover a barrenness within. Our relationship with God is weak, not because God has turned away, but because we have failed to trust the Almighty or spend time in prayer. We have not sought God's answers to our daily problems. Let us be honest with our Creator in this time of prayer.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our ancestors, we come to You, confessing that we have set our minds on human things. We have sought to gain the world; so many things to buy, so many things to do. Yet we are not satisfied. Life's meaning eludes us. Your ways seem out of date; Your promises appear as the hopes and dreams of a past generation, a way of life more satisfying than we have allowed ourselves to explore. O God we confess our need for You. Hear our personal confession. ...

A TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus Christ, the source of our salvation, died for our sins, once for all, to put to death the trespasses in which we have been living and destroy the domination of evil among us. We have been reconciled to God, through Christ, and made partners in a new covenant. God is compassionate and merciful, granting us clean hearts and new life in Christ. Rejoice, open your lips, and let your mouths show forth the Creator's praise.

HOLY SCRIPTURES: Psalm 22:23–31, Mark 8:31–38

PSALM 22:23–31

²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴ For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

²⁶ The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD!
May your hearts live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

²⁸ For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

³⁰ Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

³¹ they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

MARK 8:31–38

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

³¹ And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

³⁴ And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶ For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? ³⁷ For what can a man give in return for his soul? ³⁸ For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

SERMON: “Serious Devotion”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN

BENEDICTION

Dare this week to follow where Jesus leads. The cross of Christ goes before us into the world, reminding us of the cost of discipleship.

CLOSING HYMN: “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

1) Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty Rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat
And the burden of the day.

2) Oh, safe and happy shelter!
Oh, refuge tried and sweet!
Oh, trysting place where heaven’s love
And heaven’s justice meet.
As to the holy patriarch
That wondrous dream was given,
So seems my Savior’s cross to me,
A ladder up to heaven.

3) There lies beneath its shadow,
But on the farther side,
The darkness of an awful grave
That gapes both deep and wide;
And there between us stands the cross,
Two arms outstretched to save,
Like a watchman set to guard the way
From that eternal grave.

4) Upon the cross of Jesus
Mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One,
Who suffered there for me;
And from my smitten heart, with tears,
Two wonders I confess,
The wonders of His glorious love,
And my own worthlessness.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS, February 28, 2021

ATTENTION CHILDREN: A big Thank You! to all the boys and girls who made birthday cards for Miss Wanda! Miss Wanda has enough cards to last for awhile and so very much appreciates the beautiful cards you created. Our shut-ins are gonna love 'em! Thank you from Miss Wanda and all your church family. We love you!

BELL PRACTICE: Mondays, 7:00 PM in the Sunday School wing.

MEN's GROUP: Monday, March 29 at 7:00 PM at the church with masks and social distancing. The 9-week curriculum is entitled "The Discipleship Playbook." Meetings can also be accessed via Uber Conference (717-388-0676). You will need a computer or another device with video technology to view the video.

BIBLE STUDY: Bible Study, Tuesdays (Mornings, 9:30 AM; Evenings, 7:30 PM). We are studying the Minor Prophets. All sessions will be in-person in the church Sanctuary with masks and social distancing being practiced. Bible Study will also be available via Uber Conference (717-388-0676) for anyone who does not feel comfortable meeting in person. We look forward to having you join us.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES: There is a link on the church's FB page for ordering girl scout cookies from Kendall Bostian. Other girl scouts are welcome to add their ordering link.

CHOIR REHEARSAL: Thursday, March 4 at 7:00 PM. We will not be rehearsing any anthems at this time, but instead will be singing and recording the hymn selections for upcoming worship services. Anyone who would like to help record the hymns is welcome at these rehearsals. Masks and social distancing will be mandatory at these rehearsals.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (UCC Offering): March 14. “More than We Can Imagine!” Our imagination can be grounded in what God envisions for us all. Think on these possibilities: No one is left to face natural disaster alone. Neighbor helps neighbor, stranger helps stranger, for we are the church together. God can work through all events to bring new life, hope and resilience following disaster. Clean, abundant water and sanitary facilities available to every person. Jobs to bring security from hunger. Families no longer displaced and able to build new lives. Women no longer subject to discrimination. Imagine—that we can help make this world the way God imagined it should be! To participate you may donate cash or write a check to St. David’s UCC with “One Great Hour of Sharing” on the memo line. Thank you!

COMBINED LENTEN SERVICES: We will be joining with Bethel UCC, Stone Church and St. Bartholomews for Lenten worship services. All services will be held on Sunday evenings at 7:00 PM. You can join in on the services at Bethel, Stone Church and St. Bartholomew’s through *Uber Conference* or via *Zoom Conference*. The service here at St. David’s will be held in the parking lot and available from home through Uber Conference. The theme for these services is “In This Together” (How congregations are dealing with the Covid pandemic). We encourage you to join in on all of the Lenten services.

7:00 PM, Sunday, February 28: Pastor Bruce Bouchard (Stone Church), “Reaching Out as a Spiritual Practice that Connects Us.”

7:00 PM, Sunday, March 7: Pastor Zoë D’heedene (Bethel UCC), TBD

7:00 PM, Sunday, March 14: Pastor Scott Sager (St. David’s), “Hospitality.”

7:00 PM, Sunday, March 21: Pastor Steven Thomas (St. Bartholomews), “Meditation that Connects us with God.”

CONNECTING TO UBER or ZOOM FOR THE WEEKLY LENTEN SERVICES:

1. Telephone into a Zoom Event: If you have unlimited long distance, you might have a better experience if you telephoned Zoom. In order to do that, call the following number: 1-646-558-8656. You will be prompted for the Meeting ID Number. Type in: 717 212 9122, then press the “#” key. If you are asked for the participant ID, just press the “#” key. When you are asked for the password, dial 547270, and then press the “#” key.

2. Connecting to the Zoom Worship Service via the Internet: Join the Zoom Meeting by clicking the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7172129122?pwd=dGVaV1RZeU9FSmdtWWhVRFBUY052QT09>

Meeting ID: 717 212 9122; Password: 547270

(Rather than use the link above you can also just go on the Zoom website (Zoom.com). Click on “Join a Meeting” and enter the Meeting ID number (717 212 9122) and the Password (547270).)

3. Uberconference Call for People Without Internet Access: The phone number to listen to the Lenten services on your phone is: 717-297-0608. You do not need to enter any other numbers. (If you do not have unlimited long distance, we can enter your phone number into the system and the system will call you without charge. Please contact Pastor Scott (717-880-6082) if you would like the system to call you.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: Parking Lot Worship Service, 7:00 PM, Thursday, April 1 followed by Drive-thru Communion.

GOOD FRIDAY: Parking Lot Worship Service, 7:00 PM, Friday, April 2.

EASTER DAWN: Sunday, April 4. Bring your breakfast of choice with you and worship as the sun comes up on a glorious Easter dawn. Worship service, 7:00 AM in the parking lot.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please send your prayer requests directly to Pastor Scott either by text (717-880-6082) or e-mail (pastor@stdavidsucc.com or pscott8283@comcast.net) prior to Sunday, so that he can lift them up during worship.

HANOVER AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (HACC)

PAL DATE: March 27

CLOTHING BANK DATE: No March Date

HACC ITEMS NEEDED:

PAL

Single-serve Fruits
Individual Size Chips,
Pretzels, etc.
Laundry Detergent
Instant White Rice
Scallop Potatoes

Changing Lives Shelter

Deodorant (Men &
Women)
Exam Gloves (Med & Lg)
Hand Sanitizer
Bottled Water
Shampoo/Conditioner

Clothing Bank

Family-Size Toiletries
Sheet Sets (All Sizes)
Bath Towels
Men’s (L & XL) White T-shirts
Baby Diapers (Sizes 4 & 5)

Ruth’s Harvest

Single-serve Entrees (Cereal, Juice Boxes, Snacks or Veggies)

HANOVER NEW HOPE NEEDS: Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Canned Soups, Shampoo, Bars of Soap and Toilet Paper.

COMMUNITY AID UPDATE: Community Aid is currently accepting donations of *clothing, shoes, toys, books* and *jewelry* at the store on Baltimore St. Just mention St. David's United Church of Christ and our **Code number, #20003** and we will receive \$.06 per pound for clothing donations. Drive-up hours are Monday–Saturday, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM.

STOLTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND: The Stolte Scholarship Fund provides a grant for \$1000 to an individual pursuing a career in the field of ministry, missions or humanitarian service. Interested applicants must be residents of the greater Hanover area and should be a high school senior, college student or a seminary student. He or she may complete an application and submit a brief summary of their call into the field of service and list their future vocational goals. They should be an active member of a church, display good moral character and exhibit high scholastic ability. Applications forms are available from our church office or from the Hanover Area Council of Churches. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2021. For additional information please call the Council office at 717-633-6353.

CHURCH REOPENING: Indoor Worship services will resume on Palm Sunday, March 28 at 8:30 AM with masks and social distancing. If you are not comfortable in larger gatherings, you may still attend the 8:30 AM Worship service and remain in your car and listen to the service on FM 95.9 on your car radio. There will also be a parking lot Worship service each Sunday at 10:30 AM. Uber Conference calls will continue for each service, as well. Updated guidelines for returning to worship are in your March Newsletter. They are also available on the Home page of the Church website: www.stdavidsucc.com