



March 26, 2023 – 8:15 & 10:35 – Worship Guide

Co-Pastors: Rev. Ron Harris and Rev. Karla Sheffy

Acolytes: (10:35) Esther Henrikson & Evelyn Henrikson

Worship Accompanist: 8:15 am & 10:35 am - Sue Woods

Ministry of Music: Sanctuary Choir

Sam Barrett, Soloist; Abby Worley, Director



Gathering Video

Welcoming:

Prelude and Lighting the Candles

Threshold Moment--Rev. Ron Harris:

Lent is a coming home,

Home from weary years,

Home to calm our fears,

Home to dry our tears.

Lent is a coming home,

Home to remember our name,

Home to a warm embrace,

Home to a hopeful place,

Home to God's own heart,

Home to a renewal of joy and a song of love.

***Opening Song**

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

UMH 57 vs. 1-3, 5, 7

Children's Moment (10:35 only) – Rev. Ron Harris

Silent Prayers...Pastoral Prayer...Unison Prayer Rev. Ron Harris

Blessed are we, who feel the wound of fresh loss.

Or of a loss... no matter how fresh...

that still makes our voices crack

all these years later.

We who are stuck in the impossibility of it.

Frozen in disbelief.

How can this be? It wasn't supposed to be this way.

Blessed are we, fumbling around

for easy answers or quick truths

to try to make this go down easier.

We who are dissatisfied with the
shallow theology and trite platitudes.
Blessed are we, who, instead,
demand a blessing.
Because we have wrestled with God
and are here.
Wounded. Broken. Changed.

Blessed are we,
who keep our relationships and friendships
and jobs afloat,
and who stock the pantry...

because... what choice do we have
but to move forward with a life we didn't choose
with a loss we thought we couldn't live without?

One small step. One small act of hope at a time.
Amen.

Song "Beautiful Things"

All around,
Hope is springing up from this old ground
Out of chaos life is being found, in you

You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us

Scripture Reading:

John 11:1-45

Lay Readers

Special Music

"Lacrymosa: Do not stand at my grave and weep"

Sanctuary Choir

by Howard Goodall

Sam Barrett, Soloist; Abby Worley, Director

Sermon

"Blessed Are Those Who Mourn"

Rev. Karla Sheffy

Song

"Be Still, My Soul"

UMH 534

Responding in Gratitude for God's Gifts with our Offerings – **Rev. Ron Harris**

Invitation

*** The Doxology - "Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow" #94 UMH**

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Song

"There Is a Redeemer"

by Melody Green

Sharing Opportunities for Ministry

Rev. Ron Harris

*Benediction

Rev. Karla Sheffy

Postlude