

# Ebenezer United Methodist Church

March 7, 2021



*Ebenezer United Methodist Church is a  
Stephen Ministry Congregation.*



*Flowers today are presented to the Glory of God and*

*In Loving Memory of Janet Reedy*

*Presented by Curtis Reedy, Sr. and Family*

## Participating in Service

Pastor:	Rev. Mary H. Browne
Organist:	Robert Rudolph
Worship Leader:	Don Pruden
Live Stream Team:	Richard Browne, Bill Clark, and Reed Williams
Ushers:	Dorothy Towery and Sherri Hodgson
Song Leader/Soloist:	Ruthie Toole

# THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

*“When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, ‘Do you believe that I am able to do this?’ They said to him, ‘Yes, Lord.’ Then he touched their eyes and said, ‘According to your faith let it be done to you.’ And their eyes were opened...Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.” Matthew 9:*

March 7, 2021

10:00 AM

GATHERING

CENTERING MUSIC

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

Robert Lau

OPENING PRAYER

**God of glory and might, speak to us with your wisdom,  
that we might truly hear you.**

**Display your majesty, that we might truly see you.**

**Transform the chaos of our lives with the clarity of your call,  
that we might worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.**

THRESHOLD

“Holy Vessels”

music: Chuck Bell; words: Marcia McFee  
Tune with words included at end of liturgy

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come.**

*Refrain repeated after reading*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray:

**Centering and Calming Divine Breath of God,  
You gifted us with amazing minds, capable of so many things.**

**You gave us the ability to think and feel, imbuing us with discernment  
of thought and emotion.**

**Like our physical bodies, sometimes this aspect of our selves is beleaguered.**

**We struggle under the strain of disappointment, despair, and delusion.**

**Too often we hide this, afraid of what others might think of our difficulties  
in managing or moving forward, even in the face  
of devastating circumstances.**

**Too often we perpetuate the stigma of a less-than-perfect-state of mind  
by shaming ourselves and others.**

**Millennia of misunderstanding compounds our fear.**

**We label and belittle, all the while turning the hatred upon ourselves,  
for no one is immune from troubles of the mind at some point.**

**So many are suffering now, God, weary and distraught,  
grieving and at the end of their rope.  
We cannot fathom the proportions of loss and so we look away,  
sometimes even from the need in our own community.  
Help us Healer. Show us our capacity for compassion.  
Forgive our inattention. Move us to move one step at a time  
toward greater care for one another.  
In this silence, we sense and acknowledge our yearning for wholeness.**

*Silence*

“Holy Vessels”

music: Chuck Bell; words: Marcia McFee

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come.**

ASSURANCE

Know this: You are accepted.

No. Matter. What.

Accepting the truth of our difficulties is part of the journey of recovery.

Sharing our stories of difficulty can open the way for healing.

For you, for me, for all.

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ is with you.

**And also with you.**

\*PRAISE HYMN (*UMH* 534)

“Be Still My Soul”

FINLANDIA

- 1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side.  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
leave to your God to order and provide;  
in every change God faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend  
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**
- 2. Be still, my soul: your God will undertake  
to guide the future, as in ages past.  
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;  
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know  
the Christ who ruled them while he dwelt below.**
- 3. Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on  
when we shall be forever with the Lord,  
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,  
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,  
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

A CONTEMPORARY WORD

"There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you."  
- Maya Angelou

"Tell the story of the mountain you climbed.  
Your words could become a page in someone else's survival guide."  
- Morgan Harper Nichols

MUSIC MINISTRY

"In Christ Alone"  
Ruthie Toole, vocalist

In Christ alone my hope is found He is my light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied;  
for every sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.  
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand

\*THE ANCIENT WORD OF GOD

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 9:27-33

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL TIME

MESSAGE

"Stories"

Rev. Mary Browne

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

"Make Us Holy, Make Us Whole"

Mark Friedman

Tune with words included at end of liturgy

**In your love, make us whole.  
May we rest in your compassion.  
Calm the lost, weary soul in the warmth of your love.  
May your peace fill our hearts.  
May we know the love of Jesus  
By your grace, you console.  
Make us holy, make us whole.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MISSION MOMENT

Bishop Peter D. Weaver Central Congo Partnership  
Mrs. Doris Obenshain, Committee Member

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"

Tomlin/Giglio

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now I'm found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear; and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace. (*Repeat*)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.  
But God, Who called me here below, will be forever mine, will be forever mine.  
You are forever mine.

\*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS (TFWS 2044) "My Gratitude Now Accept, O God"

OFRENDA

Tune with words included at end of liturgy

- 1. My gratitude now accept, O God, for tender care that you provide;  
for your abundant faithfulness. Endless is your supply.**
- 2. From all your bounty I give to you; for all the blessings you impart.  
Receive this offering I bring. Receive my joyful heart.**

\*OFFERING PRAYER

**May the gifts we bring be gifts of love.**

**May the offerings we share be offerings from our hearts.**

**May each gift be blessed by your grace, that others may know  
the truth of your wisdom and your love. Amen.**

\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Eternal God, 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 give ourselves to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN (UMH 375)

"There is a Balm in Gilead"

BALM IN GILEAD

Refrain:

**There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.**

**1. Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain.  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.**

*(Refrain)*

**2. Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,  
and if you look for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend.**

*(Refrain)*

**3. If you can't preach like Peter, if you can't pray like Paul,  
just tell the love of Jesus, and say he died for all.**

*(Refrain)*

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Now go with confidence that the One Who Is Living Water is already cleansing,  
renewing, and clarifying our lives, recovering our depth of love for all and our joy of  
living in this world.

May the words of Jesus ring in your ears: "Do you believe it is possible?"  
And may the Spirit hover, move, and deliver salve to your soul  
and a spring in your step. **Amen.**

"Holy Vessels"

music: Chuck Bell; words: Marcia McFee

**Vessels, holy and whole  
Broken, needing the One  
Open, body and soul  
Healer, come.**

*Please be seated*

SENDING FORTH

"St. Christopher"

arr. Samuel Metzger

Please remain seated until the *SENDING FORTH* is concluded  
and you are dismissed by an usher.  
You will be dismissed by rows, starting at the back of the sanctuary.

*\*please stand, in body or spirit*  
**bold text indicates congregation response**

††This Order of Worship is subject to the direction of the Holy Spirit.††

Worship series design and original music ©Worship Design Studio, used with  
permission. [www.worshipdesignstudio.com/vessels](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com/vessels)

UMH: *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
TFWS: *The Faith We Sing* hymnal supplement

Lectionary Scriptures for the **Fourth Sunday in Lent**, March 14, 2021  
Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

"Holy Vessels" Worship Series Scripture: Matthew 9:18-26

CONGREGATION

ver 3

## Holy Vessels

### Threshold Song - WDS Lenten Series

MUSIC: Chuck Bell  
WORDS: Marcia McFee

5

Repeat As Needed

O - pen, bod - y and soul Heal - er, come.

Ves - sels, hol-y and whole. Bro - ken, need-ing the One

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff begins with a double bar line and repeat sign. The lyrics are: 'Ves - sels, hol-y and whole. Bro - ken, need-ing the One'. The second staff begins with a measure rest marked '5'. The lyrics are: 'O - pen, bod - y and soul Heal - er, come.'. The second staff ends with a double bar line and repeat sign, with the instruction 'Repeat As Needed' above it.

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# Make Us Holy, Make Us Whole

M.F.

Mark Friedman

In your love, make-us whole, may we rest in your com-  
 pas-sion. Calm the lost wear-y soul in the warmth of your  
 love. May your peace fill our hearts. May we know the love of  
 Je - sus. By your grace, you con - sole. Make us  
 ho - ly, make us whole.

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# My Gratitude Now Accept, O God 2044 (Gracias, Señor)

1. My grat - i - tude now ac - cept, O God, for ten - der  
 2. From all your boun - ty I give to you; for all the  
 1. *Gra - cias, Se - ñor, por lo que me das, gra - cias por*  
 2. *Te doy de lo que tú me das, con go - zo*

care that you pro - vide; for your a - bun - dant  
 bless - ings you im - part. Re - ceive this of - fer -  
*ben - de - cir - me. Gra - cias por tu fi -*  
*en mi co - ra - zón. Re - ci - be hoy mi o -*

1-3  
 faith - ful - ness. End - less is your sup - ply. \_\_\_\_\_  
 ing I bring. Re - ceive my joy - ful heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
*de - li - dad y por tu pro - vi - sión. \_\_\_\_\_*  
*fren - da, te la en - tre - go a ti. \_\_\_\_\_*

4  
 gifts from the heart ac - cept. \_\_\_\_\_  
*de lo que tú nos das. \_\_\_\_\_*



## Our Prayers

Michele Berk + Sharon Bey + Elaine Bruce +++ Michael Bruce +++ Nancy Connell + Becky Devestine + Bob Devestine + <b>Erma Harris</b>	Sara Leah +++ <b>Barbara Reed</b> <b>Stephanie Simmons</b> <b>Linda Tressler</b> Bob Vible + Becky Wolfe + <b>Tim Wolfe</b>	<b><u>Ongoing Concerns</u></b> Jade August Barbara Anna Marie Beasom Donald Bogert Clara Breslford Roy Brown Judy Crescenzo Frieda Crossan Ruth Dore <b>Victoria “Bo” Fulton</b> Ken Johnson	Kristin Howard & Louise Pierce Curtis Reedy Denise Reedy Jeannette Richart Zach Trexler Josh Vible Alex Wiant
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In an effort to list all prayer requests each will appear for 4 weeks as indicated by the number of + after the name

**Please pray for all Law Enforcement Officers.**

**Please continue to remember all who serve our country in the military,  
especially pray for those represented from our congregation.**

**Your giving envelopes for 2021 are available for pick  
up in Room 211.**



**Daylight savings  
begins March 14**

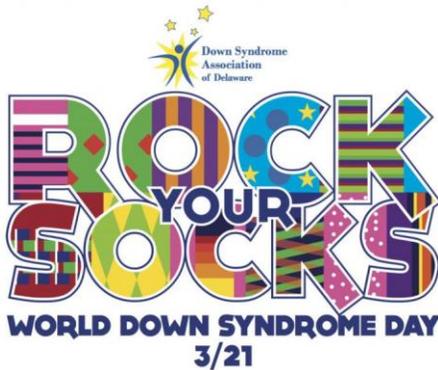
## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Meets every Tuesday at 9:30am in the CLC.

**Bible Study for Today:** Meets every Thursday at 9:15am in GHH. If you would like to attend, you need to please contact Nancy Williams at [mtnanax3@yahoo.com](mailto:mtnanax3@yahoo.com) or (406) 381-8304.

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## ROCK YOUR SOCKS DAY



**Wednesday, March 21**

Supports Down Syndrome Association of DE

For a \$2.00 donation, you can purchase a pair of pre-mismatched socks to wear in support of World Down Syndrome Day, ([www.dsadelaware.org](http://www.dsadelaware.org)). Choose a pair of socks from the basket on the box in the narthex and leave your \$2.00 donation in the basket. On March 21 wear your socks to show your awareness and support of

the rights, inclusion, and well-being of people with Down Syndrome. Snap a picture of your feet in your RYS socks and post it our Ebenezer Facebook page (Ebenezer UMC Newark) or send picture to Pastor Mary ([eumc\\_pastor@verizon.net](mailto:eumc_pastor@verizon.net)) to post to our FB page.

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## BOY SCOUT TROOP 50 YARD SALE & CAR WASH



On **Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**, Troop 50 will be having a **car wash and yard sale** at Ebenezer to benefit the church and troop. The Boy Scouts will be collecting donated items and setting up a sale in the field behind the church. If you wish to donate any items for the sale (e.g., toys, electronics, games, sports equipment, instruments, tools, etc.), please bring them to the sheds on Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> or make alternate arrangements with **Mr. Smith**.

**Any items that don't sell will be donated to charity following the sale.** Questions may be directed to

Jim Smith, Scoutmaster, at [jimsmithbsa50@gmail.com](mailto:jimsmithbsa50@gmail.com).



Since we could not attend the Youth Rally this year, the Youth at Ebenezer wanted to do a service project. We would like to gather and assemble hygiene kit items that will be donated to UMCOR. Once we receive items, the youth will meet to assemble them to be sent off to the HUB or Mission Central.

We need the congregation's help in gathering these items. Here are the things we need down to the exact specifications. Linens must be new and not washed:

**Hand towels, Washcloths, Combs, Toenail or fingernail clippers, Bath-size soaps, Adult toothbrushes, Adhesive bandages and One-gallon size re-sealable bags.**

**Detailed lists are available in Narthex near the drop off bin.**

**Extended through Easter Sunday.**

Thank you!

Here is a link to [UMCOR's](http://www.UMCOR.org) website if you need to pull pictures or logos.

Mike and Meg

**STAY CONNECTED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA!**



**Website:** [www.EbenezerUMCNewark.org](http://www.EbenezerUMCNewark.org) and **Facebook:** [Ebenezer UMC Newark](https://www.facebook.com/EbenezerUMCNewark).

If you have information about an event which you would like featured on the website, please contact Lori Brown [loribrown927@msn.com](mailto:loribrown927@msn.com), or Rick Browne at [rbrowne646@gmail.com](mailto:rbrowne646@gmail.com).

All our members, ministers  
Rev. Mary H. Browne, Senior Pastor, contact @ [eumc\\_pastor@verizon.net](mailto:eumc_pastor@verizon.net)  
Robert Rudolph, Music Director, contact @ [eumc\\_music@aol.com](mailto:eumc_music@aol.com)  
Calvin Keeler, Sr., Minister of Visitation  
Megan & Mike Jones, Youth Ministry  
Carol Coney, Administrative Assistant  
Jackie Scott, Facilities Manager  
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Ebenezer United Methodist Church  
525 Polly Drummond Hill Road  
Newark, DE 19711



# Easter Flowers Order Form

On Easter Sunday, an array of Easter flowers will adorn the chancel area, proclaiming through their beauty the glorious news that Christ is risen indeed! If you would like to purchase one or more flowers to be part of the display, please complete the order form below. In lieu of flowers, you may remember or honor your loved ones through a gift of equal amount to Family Promise to support their work with homeless and at-risk persons and families.

**The absolute deadline to order is Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> (no late orders can be accepted).** The cost of each plant is \$10.00. Please prepay your order by making checks to Ebenezer UMC, indicating in the memo line either Flowers and/or the Family Promise.

I want to order # \_\_\_\_\_ Lilies (white).

I want to order # \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinths (assorted colors).

I want to order # \_\_\_\_\_ Tulips (assorted colors).

I want to order # \_\_\_\_\_ Daffodils (yellow).

I want to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Family Promise.

Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Cash enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope Number \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT DEDICATION(S) FOR THIS YEAR.**

**IN MEMORY OF:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**IN HONOR OF:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**GIVEN BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_

