

Today's Worship
March 20, 2022
Third Sunday in Lent

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Rob Bruce

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We have come this day to learn about what God expects of us.

P: Sometimes we really don't want to know what God wants. We are afraid to make the commitments God seeks.

L: God is persistent. God will not let us off the hook so easily.

P: But we have failed so many times in the past. How can we possibly serve now?

L: Open your hearts to receive forgiveness and healing. Listen to God. Be ready to work with God for hope, peace, justice and love.

P: Be with us, Lord. Help us to turn around, to see you, to serve you, to witness to your Love. AMEN

MUSIC

God is My Refuge

All

God is my refuge and God is my strength
A very present help in trouble
God is my refuge and God is my strength
A very present help in trouble
Therefore I . . . will not fear. . . though the earth. . . be removed
And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

MUSIC

Come Thou Fount

All

Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love

Hitherto Thy love has blessed me
Thou hast brought me to this place
And I know Thy hand will bring me
Safely home by Thy good grace
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wand'ring from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood

Oh to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee

Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart O take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

OPENING PRAYERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Garry Glenn

The petitions are followed by:

ALL: "Lord in your mercy hear our prayers."

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

All

Our Father, which 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, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever.

MUSIC

Faithful

Janni and Dynelle Martin

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 13:1-9 (NRSV)

Mr. Glenn

13 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2 He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? 3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. 4 Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree

6 Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7 So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' 8 He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. 9 If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.' "

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Dr. Bruce

SERMON

Characters of Lent: Pontius Pilate

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

All

I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you or laid aside for you, exalted for you or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. AMEN

MUSIC

Have Thine Own Way

All

Have Thine own way Lord have Thine own way
Thou art the Potter I am the clay
Mold me and make me after Thy will
While I am waiting yielded and still

Have Thine own way Lord have Thine own way
Search me and try me Master today
Whiter than snow Lord wash me just now
As in Thy presence humbly I bow

Have Thine own way Lord have Thine own way
Hold o'er my being absolute sway
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only always living in me

DEPART TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

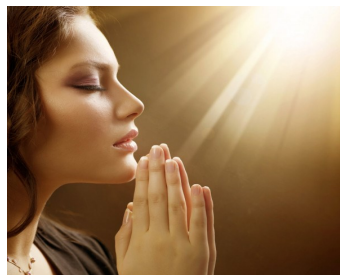
Mr. Glenn

God has called you to bear witness to hope and goodness. Know that you have been healed of all that prevents you from serving God. Go forth with God's love and blessing to bring Good News to this hurting world.

ALL: We go forth to Love Christ, Love People, and Help People Love Christ.

McEver Rd Church is Praying For:

Family of Bill Clements (Ron’s father)
Susan Dover (passing of father)
Vickie Fieser (passing of son)
Family of Tommy Haley (Ed Kern’s friend)
Linda Hollimon (renal failure)
Family of Kerry Kerr (Rev. Tom Kerr’s daughter)
Jerry Thompson (cancer)
Hunter Vickery (Martins’ friend)



Continued Prayers For:

Pat Adams, Margie Barron, Noel and Betsy Bassett, Jim Burton, Brandon Cartledge, Judy and Max Chosewood, Jan Christian, Gary Clark, Terry Dale, Wayne Davidson, Natalie Donatelli, Walter P. Emerson Family, Carolyn and Lloyd Evans, Martha Farr, Dick Fleming, Shari Gwaltney, Jill Johnson, Luci King, Michele Lecorchic, Carolyn Lindsley, Thomas Lindsley, Vivian Mills, Mark Mobarry, Paul Mobarry, Celeste Mullins, Jeff Palulis, Fern Patterson, Jean Pool, Red Bird Mission, Carol and Martha Shay, Lloyd and Florence Smee, Andrea Steptowe, Kya Strickland, Connie Towe, Barbara Vogt, Sharon Walton, Mike Wofford, Linda Yocom, John Young, all those fighting cancer

Our Service Men and Women:

Ryan Cantrell, Breanna Cantrell, Christian Edens, Maribel Edens, Robby Harrison, Travis Hutchinson, Kiernan Kane, Keenen McDaniel, Mason McDaniel, Kendall Payne, Zachary Peterson, Darrell Scales

Missionaries:

Ashley Johnson, Christie and Rick Krueger, Ann Milligan, Zonia Mucun

Please contact the church office (770-532-3160) or the Jordans (770-536-9043, ljordan4751@charter.net) for updates to the prayer list.

Opportunities This Week

Monday, March 21
Music Rehearsal 7PM Bagley Annex
(Janni Martin 770-533-0679, friendofguatemala@gmail.com)

Tuesday, Mar. 22
Cub Scouts 6:30PM Annex Basement and Pavilion
(Church Office 770-532-3160, angelaivey968@gmail.com)

Thursday, Mar. 24
Bible Study 10:30AM Virtual
(Rob Bruce 404-906-8276, rob.bruce@ngumc.net)

Sunday, March 27
Joyful Noise Adult Sunday School 9:30AM Annex Basement and Virtual
(John Wright 404-281-9820, grampajohngrumps@gmail.com)

Current Hearts Adult Sunday School 10AM Virtual
(Rev. Dr. Susan Taylor revdrtaylor@gmail.com)

Journey to Bethlehem Adult Sunday School 9:45AM Annex Garage
(Lamar and Judy Jordan 770-536 -9043, ljordan4751@charter.net)

Pages Adult Sunday School 10AM Bagley Annex
(Garry Glenn 678-617-8073, rglenn@aim.com)

Worship 11AM Pavilion and Streaming Online
(Rob Bruce 404-906-8276, rob.bruce@ngumc.net)

Next Week's Sermon

*Think about it * Pray about it*

The Characters of Lent: Pharisees
Luke 15:1-3 (NRSV)

Church Wi-Fi: MCEVER
Password: 5226McEver

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McEver Rd
— CHURCH —
A United Methodist Community

Loving Christ Loving People Helping People Love Christ

Welcome! We're Glad You're Here!



We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, filthy rich, dirt poor. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds.

We welcome you if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or like our pastor who can't carry a note

in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're "just browsing," just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Methodist than Asbury, or haven't been in church since little Joey's Baptism.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters.

We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion;" we've been there too.

If you blew all your offering money at the dog track, you're welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts and you!

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Youth and Children's Director: Chris Hester chrishester23@gmail.com
Church Office: Angela Ivey angelaivey968@gmail.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Charlotte Breese	3/21	Laurie Souders	3/30
Hector Barrera	3/22	Ed Barnes	3/31
Margaret Chaffin	3/23	Jerry Thompson	3/31
Kim Wetmore	3/23		



John and Denise Burgess 3/23
Daniel and Janna Buchan 4/1