

The people of
Hinton Avenue
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Seek Christ, Serve Christ, Share Christ
in Belmont and Beyond**

750 Hinton Avenue at Church Street
434-293-7049
church@hintonavenueumc.org
www.hintonavenueumc.org
www.facebook.com/HintonAveUMC

March 22, 2020 - 11:00 am

Fourth Sunday in Lent

*Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. Because Sundays are always little Easters, the penitential spirit of Lent should be tempered with joyful expectation of the Resurrection.*

Prelude (2013)

Bless the Lord, My Soul

Jacques Berthier (Ps. 103:1)

© 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (France), admin. by GIA Publications, Inc., CCLI License # 11159075

**Bless the Lord my soul
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord my soul
who leads me into life.**

*Call to Worship

Shepherd us, O God.
Open our ears to hear your calling.
Shepherd us, O God.
Open our eyes to see your care.

Shepherd us, O God.
**Shear our fascination
with the ways of the world.**
Shepherd us, O God.
Prepare us to follow you.

*Hymn (349)

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

© 1922, renewed 1950 Singspiration Music, CCLI License # 11159075

**Turn your eyes
upon Jesus,
look full in his
wonderful face, (wonderful face,)**

**and the things of earth
will grow strangely dim
in the light of his
glory and grace.**

Opening Prayer

**Visionary creator, give us your vision.
Show us our hearts, our homes,
our communities,
and our world through your eyes.
Wash away our blind spots,
and help us to see where we do not see.**

**Allow us to see creation as you see it now,
and as you envision it to become.
Help us realize your vision,
and walk the road of life—
the way and path of Jesus. Amen**

Ps 23 (754)

¹ The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
² **The Lord makes me
lie down in green pastures,**
leads me beside still waters,
³ restores my life,

**leads me in right paths
for the sake of
the Lord's name.**
⁴ Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;

**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of
my enemies;

**you anoint my head with oil,
my cup overflows.**

Confession & Pardon

**Divine God, our Guide, give us the clarity
to wake to our short-sightedness
and stay awake.**

**Give us the courage
to wake to our shortcomings
and stay awake.**

Give us the compassion to wake

(Pause in silent prayer)

Help us wake to this awareness and stay awake.

**As we receive your grace,
we wake to your whispers and direction,
yearning to stay awake. Amen.**

Anthem

He Healed the Darkness
Elizabeth Scribner, Minister of Music

Dan Schutte

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

**Gracious God,
illumine our hearts and minds
as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed,
so that by the power of your Holy Spirit
we may see what is good and right and true.**

**And seeing, help us to do
what is pleasing to you,
so that your glory becomes visible
in our words and deeds.
In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

First Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

*Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

Sermon

*Hymn (474)

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

© 1938 Hill & Range Songs, Inc., renewed Unichappell Music, Inc. CCLI License # 11159075

**1. Precious Lord, take my hand,
lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak,
I am worn;
through the storm,
through the night,
lead me on to the light:
*Take my hand,
precious Lord,
lead me home.***

**2. When my way grows drear,
precious Lord, linger near,
when my life**

**is almost gone,
hear my cry,
hear my call,
hold my hand lest I fall:
*Refrain***

**3. When the darkness appears
and the night draws near,
and the day is
past and gone,
at the river I stand,
guide my feet,
hold my hand:
*Refrain***

Prayers of the People

Our Lord's Prayer (895)

**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,
the power and the glory, for ever. Amen**

THANKSGIVING

Giving Back to God

*Hymn Response (95)

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

SENDING FORTH

*Hymn (57)

O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing
Public Domain

Charles Wesley, 1739

**1. O for a thousand
tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!**

**2. My gracious Master
and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.**

**3. Jesus! the name
that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.**

**4. He breaks the power
of canceled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;**

**his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.**

**5. He speaks,
and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.**

**6. Hear him, ye deaf;
his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Savior come,
and leap, ye lame, for joy.**

**7. In Christ, your head,
you then shall know,
shall feel your sins forgiven;
anticipate your heaven below,
and own that love is heaven.**

*Dismissal with Blessing

Portions of this service from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020 Edition*. Copyright © 2020 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.
Portions of this service from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright ©2015 by Westminster John Knox Press.
Songs used by permission. CCLI License # 11159075

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We prayerfully ask that you sustain your generosity so that Hinton Avenue can continue to be a blessing to others. In fact, you may want to consider making your offerings to the church through a periodic automatic draft from your bank account, as many members have already done. This relieves you of writing and mailing a check (banks will mail it free of charge to you) and assures the church of your ongoing support, even on those times when you cannot be with us in Sunday worship. You may also give via PayPal by using the "donate" buttons on our website or FaceBook pages.