



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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For updates sent via text message: please text @fumctaylor to number 81010

Email: office@fumctaylor.org

WORSHIP SERVICE

10:30 am Traditional

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

www.facebook.com/fumctaylor

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First United Methodist Church

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

March 27, 2022 – 10:30 A.M.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Welcome! Thank you for worshiping with us this morning. Whether you are a first-time visitor or long-time member, we're glad you are here. (** Stand, if able.*)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR UKRAINE AND FOR PEACE

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Respond in Bold)**

Liturgist

L: Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

P: For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found and welcomed home.

L: Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

P: We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

L: Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

P: Amen!

***OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)**

Liturgist

How incredible is your love, O God! We have been made new in your love and reconciled to you and to each other in peace and joy. Be with us this day as we hear your words of comfort and hope. Guide our lives that we may serve you more fully all of our days. Amen.

***HYMN**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

UMH # 384

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Sela Finau

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”

CHILDREN'S TIME

Tiffany Charles

***HYMN**

“Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes”

TFWS # 2138

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Liturgist

Long-suffering God, we hear the words of the familiar parable and, at different times, see ourselves as either son. We have received—or demanded—blessings to which we were not entitled and squandered them in self-indulgent living. We have also looked out from our place of superiority and favor and have been indignant over your lavish dispensing of love and mercy. As we bring our gifts this day, we do so in the humble gratitude and recognition that any and all blessings in our life come as your gift of grace. We pray in the name of your greatest gift, Jesus our redeemer. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

UMH #881

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

***GLORY PATRI**

UMH #70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liturgist

Lord, it is interesting that it is easy for us to identify with today's scripture about the "Prodigal Son". Some of us are easily reminded of our own selfishness and stubbornness when we willfully sought our own way. Others are reminded about how angry we were when others were not held accountable for their actions, when we have been so careful not to displease anyone. Still others can identify with the father who, feeling the loss of his son, welcomes him home again, reminding the brother that he has always been in the love and care of the Father. We hear this story and it's a pleasant memory. But do we really understand what it is about? Do we know that we have also been stubborn and selfish, angry and unforgiving, sorrowful and caught between two conflicting factions? We are no different from these characters, in our own unique way. Yet, in God's infinite love, we also are forgiven and healed. We are called to turn our lives back to God's care, which is always extended to us. Forgive us and heal us, gracious God. Open our hearts and our spirits to truly receive the blessings of your healing love. For it is in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, that we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Liturgist

Once we were “dead” to all the things that God hoped for us; but in God’s love we are again brought to life. Rejoice, dear ones, you are forgiven!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Liturgist

SERMON

“God’s Infinite Love”

Rev. Sela Finau

RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN OF INVITATION**

“Amazing Grace”

UMH # 378

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Sela Finau

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal – red hymnal)

TFWS (The Faith We Sing – black hymnal)

Join us following worship today for lunch and a Lenten discussion.

The Lucky Duck - 220 E. Fourth Street, Taylor, Texas 76574

Ways you can give:

1. Contact your bank to setup autodraft.
2. Mail a check to FUMC, P.O. Box 530, Taylor, Texas 76574.
3. Give online at www.fumctaylor.org/give.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Sela Finau, Pastor

Debby Vester, Organist & Director of Music Ministry

Tiffany Charles, Director of Children’s Ministry & Mother’s Day Out

Brian Gray, Liturgist

HOW TO JOIN FUMC TAYLOR

Are you being led to become a part of this fellowship of believers? Do you desire to grow in the likeness of Jesus Christ? We invite you to join as a full member of the FUMC family! While the closing hymn is sung, you may come forward and make a commitment to follow Jesus through his local body of FUMC Taylor in prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness. Please also send us a message to office@fumctaylor.org.

For Pastoral emergencies, outside of office hours, please contact
Rev. Finau at 817-874-3533.

Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance, Offertory
Prayer credit to Ministry Matters and UMC Discipleship.

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