

**Third Sunday In Lent
March 7, 2010 10:00 a.m.**

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*Our mission is to change people's lives
through a relationship with Jesus Christ.*

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~WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE~

Greeting of Peace

Prelude

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call To Worship

L: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters. You who have no money, come, and eat!

P: *Our souls thirst for God in a dry and weary land. We seek God's power and glory in the sanctuary.*

L: Listen carefully to God and eat what is good; delight yourselves in the rich food God provides.

P: *Here our souls are satisfied as with a rich feast. Together our mouths praise God with joyful lips.*

L: God offers us steadfast love and a covenant relationship. We are called to be faithful witnesses and leaders.

All: *We have come to meditate on the living God. We seek inspiration and empowerment to do what God asks.*

Hymn "He Touched Me" #367

Opening Prayer

Invite us to the banquet of new life flowing from your generous heart, O God. Help us to receive the love which is spread across the table of life and into which we are gathered this day. Call to our hearts in invitation. Take our hands now, we pray, and lead us toward your gifts. Amen.

This Week at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church

Offertory "As The Deer" #2025

Doxology #95

Offertory Prayer

Add to your table of generosity all that we bring you today, O God. Place our gifts among those whose lives are failing to grow because they wait for justice. Then lead us on toward ever-expanding horizons for growing in the life of Christ. Amen.

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~WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD~

Reading of the Word

Hebrew Scripture *Isaiah 55: 1-9*

Gospel *Luke 13: 1-9*

Anthem "Be Unto Your Name" Lynn Deshazo & Gary Sadler

Message *Rev. Michele Ewers*

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~WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE~

Celebration of the Sacrament

Invitation

Pg 12

Prayer of Confession

Hospitable God, you invite us again and again to the table of abundant feasting in your love, but we seem immune to the aromas of your lovingly prepared bounty. We choose instead to be satiated for the moment – but never satisfied for long – by empty, easy offerings around us. We so often settle into the comfort of convenience, failing to notice that our lives have run dry. Sometimes we deprive our lives with guilt, reducing the dimensions of your mercy to our own. As we pause to know who we are, O God, bring to us the echoes of your gentle words down the ages, we pray.

(Pause for Silent Reflection)

Words of assurance

God has set a glorious table laden with abundant pardon and forgiveness calling us to receive it and live once again. Taste now the peace that lies within grace. Drink to the full all that God offers to us. Let us lift up our hearts in thankfulness. Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Sending Forth the Home Communion Bearers

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~WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD~

Hymn *"Glory To God"* **#2033**

Sending Forth

L: God sends us out as witnesses to the good news. May our lips praise God as long as we live.

P: *God's steadfast love is better than life; God's mercy and pardon break through life's clouds.*

L: Call on God in the midst of each day's tasks; meditate on God's presence through the night.

P: *God is our help in all times and places; we will call on God's name wherever we are.*

L: God will grant us strength to resist temptation and vision to labor for what truly satisfies.

All: *Praise God, whose waters quench our thirst. Thank God for the bread of life that feeds our souls. Amen.*

Closing Song *"I'll Fly Away"* **#2282**

~Bringing The Light Into the World~

*Call To Worship, Offertory Prayer Opening Prayer, and Sending Forth, are taken from Led by Love by Lavon Bayler
Prayer of Confession and Assurance is from Seasons of the Spirit.*

Other Lectionary readings for March 7th are:

Psalm 63: 1-8

1 Corinthians 10: 1-13