

Call to Worship

Some of us come to worship today, weary and worn, heavy with all the circumstances that are too much to bear alone.

We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

Some of us come to worship today, dry and thirsty, longing for relief and peace from the troubles that surround us.

We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

Some of us come to worship today with stories to tell of little resurrections, moments of new life that sprang up when we least expected them.

We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

Beloved, whatever we bring with us to worship today, God welcomes us and calls us to work together as we travel God's redemption road together.

We gather to be truth-tellers and life-bringers as we travel God's redemption road together. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.

Hymn: *This Is a Day of New Beginnings* (UMH#383)

All

Opening Prayer:

O Lord, we wait for you,
and in your Word we trust.

By the power of your Spirit,
set our hearts and minds on the source of life and peace: Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Long, Kim. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A - Two-Volume Set: Liturgies for Year A (p. 167).

Sharing the Peace Children's Moment

THE WORD

Scriptures:

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

The Spirit of Life and Peace

Pastor Penny Bonsell

Hymn: *Breathe On Me, Breath of God (UMH #420)*

All

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of the People/Prayer of Confession

Out of the depths of despair, we cry to you, O God.

We are lost in a world of pain and suffering.

When we put our trust in weapons of war, we find no peace.

When we put our faith in our own resources, we feel the ache of our true needs.

When we put our hope in the health of our bodies, we suffer pain and find no healing.

Come to us, O God. Forgive our doubts and fears. Heal our brokenness, that we may rejoice in your steadfast love. Amen.

Words of Assurance

There is forgiveness and healing with God.

God's steadfast love has the power to redeem our brokenness and make us whole.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009, © 2008 Abingdon Press. Posted on the Ministry Matters website, <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>.

Offering *Breathe, O Breathe Thy Loving Spirit (verse 2)*

words-Charles Wesley (1747) music-John Zinder (1870)

Nan

Winsell

Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (UMH # 95)*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Life-Giving Spirit, you breathe hope into our valleys of despair and call forth life where we saw only dry bones.

We come today not out of habit, but out of longing to be part of your work that restores, renews, and redeems.

Take these gifts and use them to roll away the stones that keep your people bound. Let them be signs of trust, symbols of resurrection, and tools of transformation in a weary world.

May our offering, like our living, lean into your Spirit and testify that life—abundant, eternal, and holy—is possible in you. In Christ, who calls us out of the grave and into your grace, we pray. Amen.

(Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45)

And the prayer which unites us...

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.

Hymn *To God Be the Glory (UMH #98)* *All*

SENDING

Beloved, the journey does not end here. As you travel God’s redemption road, go in the blessing of God who persistently breathes new life into dry and weary places, and watch for resurrection to happen when you least expect it. May a stranger see in you a friend and neighbor. God sends you. The Spirit fills you. Christ goes with you and you with Christ, always and everywhere. God Bless!

Go in hope, peace, joy and love. Shalom. Amen.

Postlude *The Great Physician arr. J. Stockton* *Nan Winsell*

INFORMATION

Pastor: Penny Bonsell, Administrator: Sara French, Certified Lay Minister and Youth Director: Theresa Siemers, assistants Maddy Heinz-Kline and Kory Larson, Technology Administrator: Jesse Steed, Admin Council Chair: Kevin Larson, Admin Secretary: Sue Rollins, SPRC Chair: Deb Little, Treasurer: Lori Noreen, Finance Committee Co-Chairs: Kevin Larson and Mel Henrichs, Trustees Chair: Tom Stowe, Missions, Nurture and Outreach: Barb Liebenstein, Lay Servant: Karen Nelson, Soundboard Technician: Tom Hollenhorst



Website



Online Giving

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays, Worship at 9:30 am

Tuesdays, 8:30 am: Breakfast Club, at L&M

Wednesdays, 9-10:30 am: Pastor Penny at James Gang coffee shop

Wednesdays during lent, 5:30pm: Soup Suppers

Saturdays 9-11 am Soul Sisters (see Theresa for details)

Friday, Mar 27, 3-8pm: Fish dinner

Sun. March 29, 9:30am: Palm Sunday

Thurs. April 2, 7:00 pm: Holy, Maundy Service

Fri. April 3, 7:00 pm: Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 5: Easter Sunday

8:00 am Breakfast

9:00 am Easter Egg Hunt

9:30 am Worship