

**** Offering Prayer (In Unison)**

We have been blessed to be a blessing to the world. May the gifts we dedicate and offer you this day, bless a world in need, not only with our material resources, but with our vewry selves. Amen.

**** UMH No. 369** *"Blessed Assurance"*

**** Announcements**

**** Sending Forth**

The way is sometimes more than you can handle.

We accept God's freedom and power.

There is much work to be done, and many will try to turn you around.

We accept God's freedom and power to resist.

Remember you are not resisting flesh and blood..

With God's freedom and power, we will resist evil, injustice, and oppression In whatever forms they present themselves.

Go then, with the blessing of our Triune God.

We go to live our baptismal calling. Amen.

**** Chiming the Trinity**

**** Postlude**

**** Please stand as you are able.**

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Desiree Davis-Omburo, Director of Music
Betty Romani, Accompanist

A Service of the Word

Sunday, March 12, 2017 – Second Sunday in Lent

Chiming the Trinity

Welcome & Centering Words

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker. The hour is coming and is now here. In spirit and truth, let us worship God.

Prelude

Call to Worship

We are called to go to places that we don't know.

We look to the hills for our strength.

Our strength is in God, who always goes with us.

We walk in faith.

Come, let us worship the God who calls us and who walks beside us throughout the journey.

Glory Sightings

Opening Prayer (In Unison)

Lord God, Great I AM, you are living water. As we worship you this day show us who we are: channels of your love and vessels of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**** UMH No. 98** *"To God Be the Glory"*

**** Call to Confession** [Water is poured into the baptismal font.]

In spite of our quarrels and distrust, God provides grace to sustain us. Trusting God's abundant mercy, let us confess our sin.

**** Prayer of Confession (In Unison)**

Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life.

Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again. Amen.

**** Words of Assurance**

Christ the Lord speaks to us words of grace. Your sins are forgiven, washed away and forgotten. **Amen.**

**** Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Children's Time

Prayer of Illumination (In Unison)

Living God, through the reading of the Scriptures and by the power of your Spirit, may we hear for ourselves the good news, accept, and believe, because of your Word, that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. Amen.

First Reading Genesis 12:1-4a p. 9 (OT)

**** Gospel Reading** John 3:1-17 p. 88 (NT)

Sermon "ACCEPT" Linnie Skidmore

Words of Response

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

We do with the help of God, by doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all people, by giving, visiting, instructing, reproving, and exhorting.

Wade in the water, wade in the water, children.

Wade in the water, God's gonna trouble the water.

**** UMH No. 422** *"Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love"*

**** UMH No. 882** *The Apostle's Creed, Ecumenical Version*

**** UMH No. 71** *"Glory Be to the Father"*

Prayers of Intercession (Please see bulletin insert.)

The Lord's Prayer (Words found at UMH No. 270)

Offering *"Wade in the Water/Wayfaring Stranger"*
arr. John Purifoy

**** UMH No. 95** *"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*