

† Please stand as you are able. People are invited to say **the words in bold aloud.**
You are invited to fill out the prayer and attendance cards in the buckets and hold onto them until Prayers of the People, if you have a prayer, or to place them in the offering plates.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming the Trinity

Centering Words

“Be still and know that I am God” —Psalm 46:10a

Call to Worship—Psalm 46 (NRSV)

One: God is our refuge and strength,

Many: a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

³though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice; the earth melts.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, and know that I am God!**
I am exalted among the nations;
I am exalted in the earth.”

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

†**Opening Hymn**

“Here I am to Worship”

W&S 3177

Young Disciples Time

After young disciples time, children ages 0-4 may go with volunteers to the nursery or return to their seats

Prayer for Illumination—Sanctified Art

Holy Lord, Word made flesh, for generations people have bowed their heads, have prayed the Psalms, have asked for your presence in their lives. For generations we have gathered here, we have quieted our minds, we have prayed to feel your presence in our midst. So once again, just as the generations before, we turn our hearts to your Word. Still our busy minds so that we might truly comprehend what you have to say to us today. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Autumn Boyer

Epistle Reading

Romans 4:13-25

Gospel Reading

Mark 8:31-38

Reader: this is the word of God for us the people of God, **thanks be to God!**

Prayer Litany of Confession—Sanctified Art

Holy God, some days, we are quick to declare your goodness.

Like Peter, sometimes we are confident in our faith. Other days, we are distracted, uncertain, frightened, and resistant.

Forgive us for turning away.

Some days we are quick to trust your blessings.

Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.

Forgive us for losing sight of you and your way for us.

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith.

But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves, we ask for your tender grace.

Pull us closer toward you. Give us courage to take up our cross and follow you, counting the cost and being open to the abundant life waiting for us. Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Friends, whether you speak to God in a whisper or with clear conviction, with questions or with answers, with hope in your heart or with doubt in your throat—God will *always* listen with love and mercy. So rest in this good news: regardless of how loudly you live your faith—you belong to God. You are loved. You are claimed. You are forgiven. Speak *that* good news with confidence. Amen.

†**Passing of the Peace**

Choir Anthem

Sermon “Trust and Taking the Next Step” Pastor Adam

†**Hymn** “Trust and Obey” **UMH 467**

Prayers of the People

At this time, if you have a prayer request, you may hold your prayer card up in the air and one of the ushers will collect it.

Tithes and Offerings

The Doxology (UMH 94) Desiree Davis-Omburo

Dedicating our gifts to God

†**Closing Song** “Step by Step”x2 **W&S 3004**

†**Benediction**

†**Chiming the Trinity**

†**Postlude**

Pastor Adam’s contact: adam.benson@nccumc.org

Parkwood United Methodist Church



“God’s Promise to Abraham” by James Tissot, 1836-1902

Foundational Trust

Sunday, February 25, 2024 • 2nd Sunday in Lent