

Parkwood UMC Service of Worship
1st Sunday of Lent
March 9, 2025

† Please stand as you are able.

Prelude Ms. Desiree Davis-Omburo

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming the Trinity

Call to Worship—from *Methodist AI Ministry Assistant*

Leader: Come, all who seek God's way!

People: We come, longing for guidance and wisdom.

Leader: Jesus calls us not to power, but to servanthood.

People: We will follow Christ's example of humble love.

Leader: The kingdom of God belongs to those who care for the least among us.

People: Let us worship the One who reigns with justice and mercy!

Opening Prayer—adapted from *Methodist AI Ministry Assistant*

Gracious and Sovereign God, you call us not to seek power, but to serve; not to rule, but to love. As we gather in your presence, open our hearts to your wisdom, our hands to your work, and our lives to your transforming grace. May your Spirit move among us, shaping us into a people who follow Christ and his example. Amen.

† *Opening Hymn* "Come, Thou Almighty King" UMH 61
The children ages 0-5 may proceed to the nursery after this song.

† *Hymn* "Jesus Shall Reign" (v.1,3,4) UMH 157

Offering and Song "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" (v.1,2,4)
UMH 581



PUMC QR Code

Prayer for Illumination

The Doxology (to the tune on UMH 95)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures high and low.
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit One. Amen.

Holy and Living God, Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. As we hear the Scriptures read and proclaimed, open our hearts and minds to your truth. By your Spirit, grant us wisdom to understand, courage to respond, and faith to follow where you lead. Amen.

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 8:1-22 Mrs. Jan Schwarze

Gospel Reading Matthew 20:24-28

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

Prayer of Confession—adapted from *Methodist AI Ministry Assistant*

God of mercy and justice, forgive us when we seek power instead of service, when we ignore the needs of the hungry, the stranger, and the hurting. Turn our hearts toward your kingdom, where the greatest are those who serve, love, and compassion is the measure of true leadership. Forgive us where we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Christ reigns as our king, and the good news is, even when we failed to love one another as he has loved us that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. This proves God's love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People (to leader): In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God! Amen.

Peace of Christ

At this time, you are invited to stand and greet your neighbor offering signs of peace.

Sermon "What Makes a Person or a Nation Great?" Rev. Adam Benson

Prayers of the People

At this time, if you have a prayer request you would like for us to pray for in this service, please raise your prayer card in the air.

† *Closing Song* "The Summons" TFWS 2130

† *Benediction*

† *Chiming the Trinity*

† *Postlude* Ms. Desiree Davis-Omburo