

UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Second Week of Lent | February 28, 2021 | 10:30 a.m.
Pastor - Reverend Michelle Mejia



Order of Worship – Online Service
WE GATHER FOR PRAYER AND PRAISE

Gathering Music

Deep River

Welcome Message

Pastor Michelle

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

Be Thou My Vision (verses 2 and 3)

UMH #451

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.



The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

**We would make room for you, dear Lord: room in our minds and hearts;
room also in our life together. Let your word be born in us anew
so that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, your splendor shines in us
and through us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Scripture

Mark 8:31- 9:8

NRSV

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

⁹¹And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power." ²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

Sermon

Pastor Michelle

Prayer of Confession

Invitation to Offering

Giving of Our Gifts

**If you haven't already done so, we hope you'll share your gifts.*



Music Ministry

Lift Every Voice and Sing
Aldersgate Choir

Affirmation of Faith

All: We believe.

Sometimes our belief is confident, Like a child on a dance floor— Unashamed and wildly genuine.

Sometimes our belief is distant, Flickering and calling out to us
Like a lighthouse on the sea.

All: We believe.

Sometimes our belief shows up as passion,
Guiding the way we vote, shop, give, live, trust, and hope.

Sometimes our belief is like a shadow—
Faith stitched to our heels, unmoveable, unloseable, A gift for winding journeys.

All: We believe.

Sometimes our belief exists like growing pains. We step forward. We fall back.
But again and again,
Jesus invites us to listen,
To grow, and to take another step.

So again and again,
We speak these truths out loud: We believe.

All: Again and again, we believe. Thanks be to God. Amen.



Hymn of Service

God Is Calling through a Whisper

God is calling, through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
Through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder;
God is calling - can you hear? God is calling - can you hear?

God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
Through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading:
God is calling – can you hear? God is calling – can you hear?

God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
Through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:
God is calling – and we hear! God is calling – and we hear!

Opportunities for Connection and Service

Benediction

Postlude

O Thou in Whose Presence

Lewis

**To share your offering, you may use this link: <https://www.uumcp.org/electronic-giving>*

Another option is to mail your offering to the church office:

3621 Campus Drive | College Park, MD 20740

Liturgy: Adapted from *Liturgy* by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. Flowers provided by David and Frances Notley. Flowers arranged by Marie Venero.

SIGNS OF HOPE



Kim and Carla share pictures of how they have used items from the Lenten Kit.

Church Council News

Serve

Embrace Connect

Provide

Inspire Engage

Acknowledge Invite Grow

Include

Persist Care Support

Build Listen Feed

Become Collaborate Heal

Overcome

Encourage

Welcome

WordItOut

Our Church Council engaged in conversations about your responses to the survey, *UUMC Storytelling: Who We Are and Why It Matters*. Shown above in the word cloud are the verbs used to summarize the main ideas of your stories.

Artist Statement



Transfiguration

by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Mark 8:31-9:8

Hand-carved block printed with oil-based ink on paper

I'm not a good listener. In the midst of our national reckoning around structural racism and white supremacy in the U.S., I've found that I've done a terrible job listening to my Black and Brown siblings. I constantly have to resist the urge to explain myself, to be seen as good and antiracist. I try saying all the right things, I do performative acts of allyship, and quite honestly, I need to be quiet and listen. I need to be ready to accept criticism, and instead of trying to prove anything, I need to gain awareness of my internalized biases and learned racist tendencies and do the difficult work of unlearning them in every moment. "Get behind me, Satan" (Mark 8:33).

Here we find Peter stepping in and saying all the right things, rejecting the notion that Christ must suffer and die; but in the end, he's not listening to Jesus. It seems Peter's rejection of this narrative reflects his fear of the suffering he also might face in following Christ. "Let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Mark 8:34).

Six days later, the disciples are called to listen once again. In this image, I zoomed out to focus on the moment of Transfiguration. Jesus shines like a beacon atop the high mountain while former prophets appear. The disciples are terrified, but also want to live this moment forever, making the glory-filled rock face their home. At once a cloud descends, obscuring things further, and God's voice echoes down, "This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to him!" (Mark 9:7). It's almost as though Jesus had exhausted all efforts to get the disciples to listen, and God had to spectacularly reiterate the importance of listening. I think it's important to note that following God's words, all the disciples could see was Jesus.

—Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman



Announcements for February 28, 2021

EASTER FLOWERS Would you like to help enhance our Easter service? Lilies, hyacinths, mums, and tulips may be purchased through the church office for use in our worship. The orders need to be placed with the office by March 22. You may send a check along with the order form on the next page OR you may sign up and pay by credit card online: <https://uumcp.breezechms.com/form/460a31>

HALLELUJAH CHORUS Each year on Easter Sunday, our Aldersgate Choir ends the service with Handel's Hallelujah Chorus. Several members of the congregation join in singing this wonderful piece. This year, the Hallelujah Chorus will be pre-recorded for our use on Easter. If you would like to be part of this special piece, please email Millicent Scarlett, our music ministry director by the end of the week: divscarlett@hotmail.com

COMMUNION SERVICE Our worship service on Zoom, next Sunday, March 7, will include the celebration of communion. Please arrange to have crackers or bread and juice available so that you are able to participate. The Zoom information for worship will be sent to you in an email on Friday.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL Join our Sunday School class (via Zoom) for a discussion of scriptures and sermon, sharing of insights, and time of fellowship. We meet Sundays at 11:15 after our online pre-recorded worship services.

WEDNESDAY PRAYERS Join Pastor Michelle and members of your church family in a time of sharing prayers on Wednesdays at noon, via a Zoom call. You will receive log in information that morning.

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Twitter: @UUMCCollegePark

Instagram: [uumc_collegeparkUUMC](https://www.instagram.com/uumc_collegeparkUUMC)

Prayer Requests: prayers@uumcp.org

Michelle Mejia, Pastor: revmichelle@uumcp.org



Easter Flower Order Form 2021

Please send this completed form, along with your check, to the church office, to be received by March 22. You may pick up your flowers on Easter Sunday after the service.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

This year we do not have a choice of colors.

Lily – 1 stem with 4-6 blossoms \$12 How many? _____ Total \$ _____

Lily – 2 stems \$20 How many? _____ Total \$ _____

Hyacinth \$11 How many? _____ Total \$ _____

Mum \$11 How many? _____ Total \$ _____

Tulip \$11 How many? _____ Total \$ _____

ORDER TOTAL: \$ _____

