

# Second Sunday of Lent

March 1, 2026 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

\*Congregation is invited to rise if able and comfortable.

Readings in **BOLD** are to be read in unison.

**Hymnals: UMH is Red or Purple-TFWS is Black-W&S is Green**

Please note that this service is being recorded and viewed on social media.

## WE GATHER

PRELUDE (9:30 a.m.) *Oh My Father* arr. Clark  
*As you settle into the sanctuary, please open your phone and share the live service from your Facebook page as a way of inviting the larger community to worship.*

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (9:30 a.m.)

*A Wilderness Wandering People* W&S 3113, v.1

**We are a wilderness wandering people on a journey of the soul.**

**May we find our destination in our longing to be whole.**

**Our Holy God is calling to us.**

**With Jesus by our side may compassion be our compass;**

**may the Spirit be our guide.**

\*INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Come, let us worship Jesus, the Bread of Life!

**Christ has come from heaven to feed us with divine vitality.**

We worship the One who offers the world everlasting life.

**Bread of Heaven, feed us till we want no more.**

\*SHARING THE LOVE OF THE CHRIST

We invite you to turn to the person next to you and greet them saying,

**“May the great I AM be with you”**

You are invited to respond by saying,

**“And also, with you”**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*I Come with Joy*

UMH 617

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, you are the true Bread of Life, you give us daily bread and continually offer the Bread of Life to us, but we nibble on all sorts of unsatisfying tidbits that leave us soon hungry again. Teach us what it means to depend on you daily. Help us in this time together to open our ears to your invitation and our hearts to respond to your call to be filled with you. In the name of Jesus, the true bread that came down from heaven for the life of the world. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ANTHEM (9:30 a.m.)

*Feed My Lambs*

Hatton

## WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY *“I Am the Bread of Life”* Mount of Beatitudes  
Capernaum, Sea of Galilee

GOSPEL LESSON *John 6:22-35* Pew Bible, NT 98

*May God Bless Our Reading, Hearing and Understanding.*

**Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

HYMN OF RESPONSE *Fill My Cup, Lord* UMH 641

COMMUNITY RESPONSE

When we feel hungry for more of something—  
even when we’re not sure what that something is,  
we can remember that Jesus said,

**“I am the Bread of Life. Come to me and never be hungry.”**

When we feel distracted by other means of fulfillment in the  
world, help us to remember that Jesus said,

**“I am the Bread of Life. Come to me and never be hungry.”**

When we find ourselves feeling inadequate or incomplete in our  
daily lives, remind us that we fill ourselves up on Jesus’ sustaining  
words,

**“I am the Bread of Life. Come to me and never be hungry.”**

When we look around at friends and strangers, assessing how we  
measure up to others, help us to remember that we are enough  
and are satisfied by God’s grace when we hear Jesus say,

**“I am the Bread of Life. Come to me and never be hungry.”**

When we worry that the satisfaction we have now may one day  
run out, let us rest in the truth and fullness of Jesus’ promise,

**“I am the Bread of Life. Come to me and never be hungry.”**

**Amen.**

CHORAL PRAYER

Music In Pews, v. 2

*Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud*

**Word and Wisdom, Root and Vine, Shepherd, Savior,**

**Servant, Lamb, Well and Water, Bread and Wine,**

**Way who leads us to I AM:**

**May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name  
but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.**

GOSPEL LESSON CONTINUES *John 6:36-59* Pew Bible, NT 98

SERMON

*Chasing Fullness:* Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith

*Knowing God’s Satisfaction*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

SHARING OUR PRAYERS

At the 9:30 service, you are invited to name your prayers for the congregation.

After each prayer request, the congregation will respond...

*Lord, Hear Our Prayer*

PRAYERS FOR ALL GOD’S BELOVED PEOPLE

TFWS 2257- a

GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Sanctus*

TFWS 2257- b

CONSECRATION

*Memorial Acclamation*

TFWS 2257- c

BLESSING

*Amen*

TFWS 2257- d

LORD’S PRAYER

SHARING THE LOAF AND THE CUP

The invitation to share God’s covenant love through the sacrifice and  
resurrection of Jesus Christ is extended to all. We will serve by  
**intinction**. You are invited to come by the center aisle, receive a piece  
of the bread, dip it into the cup and partake. Return to your seats by  
the side aisles. The chancel rail is always available if you would like to  
take some time to pray. You are invited to reflect in song as all are  
being served. GLUTEN FREE elements are available.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

UMH 618

*For the Bread Which You Have Broken*

UMH 614

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Love God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament,  
united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly  
banquet in your eternal kingdom. Help us to listen for your  
invitation to follow you, that we might open our eyes and see the  
needs of others. That we might open our ears and hear their  
cries. That, as the faithful, we might open our hearts and build  
your kingdom. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO THE MINISTRY OF GOD

\*PRESENTATION

*My Tribute*

UMH 99

**To God be the glory, to God be the glory,**

**to God be the glory for the things he has done.**

**With his blood he has saved me, with his power he has raised me;**

**to God be the glory for the things he has done.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Bless these offerings, Bread of Life, that they may nourish the  
hungry, bring hope to the weary, and proclaim your love to all.**

**May every heart taste and see your goodness, in whose name we  
pray. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION

*All Who Hunger*

TFWS 2126

\*SENDING FORTH

\*LIGHT OF CHRIST LEADS US INTO THE WORLD (9:30 a.m.)

*As We Go*

W&S 3183

**As we go, may your Spirit go before us.**

**As we go, may we follow where you lead.**

**May we live what we have learned, share the message we have heard,  
and be a light unto the world as we go.**

\*POSTLUDE

*Lento*

Alcock

Please join us at **10:30** in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and fellowship.  
 Adult Study is offered in FUMCO's Wesley Hall at **11:00 a.m.**,  
 located on the lower level of the building. All are welcome.

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**Our Service Of Worship Has Ended.  
 Our Worship Through Service Begins.**

Today's Communion Set is from *The Church of Multiplication in Tabgha, Israel; on a hillside outside Capernaum. This church marks the spot Christians believe Jesus performed the miracle of the loaves and fishes and close to the cave where Jesus spoke the Beatitudes.*

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Given in loving memory of Marty Bailey & Ken Ward by Mary & Marty Bailey.

Given in loving memory of George Lynch by Pam & family.

**For Your Information**

- There are **hearing devices** to assist you to experience the service more clearly with our streaming team, at the rear of the sanctuary. Feel free to pick one up.
- A **rocking chair** is available for the comfort of parent and baby, in Blair Chapel, behind the pews.
- To access the **restrooms**, please exit the side door to the right of the lectern/chancel area. In the hall, make a left into Fellowship Hall and follow the signs.
- There are **infant changing tables** available in the restrooms.
- There are **large print hymnals** available. Please ask the usher.

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

Welcome to this service of worship. We pray this service offered an opportunity to engage with the Divine. If we can be of service to you in any way, please let us know. If you are looking for a church to call home, please consider joining us, where we help one another grow in faith, love, and service.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Lenten Offering:** If you would like to make a special Lenten offering, there are offering envelopes available on the sanctuary entrance tables. May this offering give you a deeper relationship with the Great "I AM".  
**Call to Prayer & Self Denial:** The UWIF annual offering combines spiritual reflection with sacrificial giving to support mission projects for women and youth. To see how you can participate in this sacrificial giving, please see *The Cornerstone*.  
**Free Spaghetti Dinner:** The next dinner is on March 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.

**Our Leadership Team This Morning (9:30 a.m.)**

Acolyte: Bonnie McNamara      Lay Reader: Len Gruezke  
 Greeter: Jim Scisco              Usher: Scott Danielson  
 Counters: Patty Aria, John Montgomery, Judy Gorra  
 Fellowship Host: Meg Macan

**Please Join Us in Mission and Ministry**

**...where together we help each other grow in faith, love, and service.**

<b>TODAY:</b>	Fellowship – Fellowship Hall	10:30 a.m.
	Adult Sunday School – Wesley Hall	11 a.m.
	Worship In Person	11 a.m. (Old First)
<b>Monday, March 2</b>	AA – Wesley Hall	7:30 a.m.
	Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m.
<b>Tuesday, March 3</b>	Women's Covenant Group – Library	8:30 a.m.
	Scouts – Fellowship Hall	6:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, March 4</b>	AA – Wesley Hall	7:30 a.m.
	Knitting Ministry – Library	1 p.m.
	Lenten Study - Wesley Hall	7 p.m.
<b>Thursday, March 5</b>	Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m.
	Brownies Show Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall	4:15 p.m.
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary	6:30 p.m.
	OA – Wesley Hall	6:30 p.m.
<b>Friday, March 6</b>	AA – Wesley Hall	7 p.m.
<b>Saturday, March 7</b>	Eagle Scout Honor Court – Sanctuary	11 a.m.
	Private Function – Fellowship Hall	12 p.m.
<b>Sunday, March 8</b>	Worship in Person & Online	9:30 a.m.
	Fellowship – Fellowship Hall	10:30 a.m.
	Worship In Person	11 a.m. (Old First)
	Adult Sunday School – Wesley Hall	11 a.m.
	Nelson Macan Memorial & Repast	1 p.m.



***"I AM The Bread of Life"***

*No one has ever seen God, except God's only Son, who has come to make God known.*

Paraphrased from John 1:18

**First UMC of Oakhurst**

*...is a community of faith committed to Christ, seeking to learn the needs of others and responding with Christian love.*

**9:30 a.m. Worship Every Sunday Morning In Person & Streaming**

**103 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755**

**732-531-1150**

[FUMCOakhurst@outlook.com](mailto:FUMCOakhurst@outlook.com)

[Oakhurst.umchurches.org](http://Oakhurst.umchurches.org)

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<https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchofOakhurst>

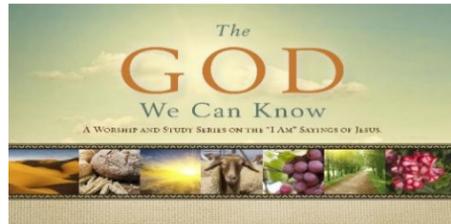
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**11:00 a.m. Worship Every Sunday Morning In Person at First UMC located at 103 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst**

**Mailing Address: PO Box 214, West Long Branch, NJ 07764**  
[office@oldfirstumchurch.org](mailto:office@oldfirstumchurch.org)



Our Lenten Worship and Study Series is based on *The God We Can Know: Exploring the "I Am" Sayings of Jesus.* by Rob Fuquay

**Sunday Worship:** Feb. 22 through Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026

9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

**Lent 3: March 8:** "I Am" the Light of the World: Knowing God's Guidance.

John 7:2, 14, & 8:12 with Special Music by our Chancel Choir.

**Lent 4: March 15:** "I Am" the Good Shepherd: Knowing God's Care.

John 10:1-10 with Special Music by our Bells.

**Lent 5: March 22:** "I Am" the True Vine: Knowing God's Power.

John 15:1-8 with our Praise Team and Children's Message.

**Palm Sunday (Lent 6) March 29:** "I Am" the Way, the Truth, and the Life:

Knowing God's Way. John 14:1-7

**Easter Sunday April 5:** "I Am" the Resurrection and the Life: Knowing

God's Possibilities. John 11:17-26

**Study and Small Group Sharing:**

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. & Wednesdays at Noon

In Wesley Hall, downstairs and to the left of our parking lot entrance.

**Tuesdays:** Feb. 24, March 10, March 17, March 24

(Note: Not March 3)

**Wednesdays:** March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25

(Note: Not Feb. 25)

**Daily Devotional:** Available each Sunday for the coming week.

If you would like them mailed or emailed to you, please contact Joy in the First UMC Office at 732-531-1150.

**This Week We Hold in Prayer...**



Marley, Jagger, Debbie Eckert

**Our Homebound:** Bev Itell, Jean Gillette, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Elaine Gould

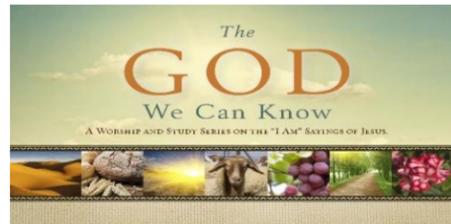
**At home:** Peg Kuchen, Barbara Novick

**Jersey Shore Care Center:** Dave Miller

**Sunnyside Manor:** Nancy Burttt

\*\*The church has a team of prayers, known as the Prayer Chain. If you have a prayer need, please contact the office.

\*\*If you know someone who is in need of pastoral care, please contact



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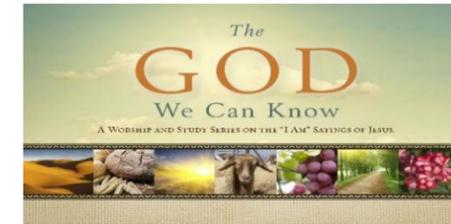
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## Reflective Discussion Questions

*How do you relate to the idea of “chasing after fullness?”*

*List all the types of fullness you can identify in the world. Now write down your personal definition of satisfaction. How many items in the previous list can provide satisfaction for you?*

*Thinking about the people in John 6 who followed Jesus looking for another miracle, what similarities do you see today in the way people follow Jesus?*

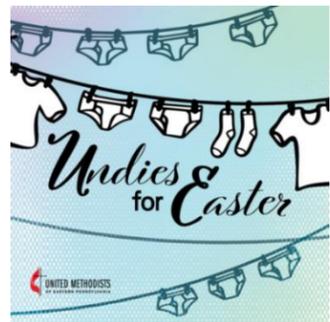
*If the people in this story represent all of humanity, what does it say about us that we can receive a miracle one day and on the next say to God, “What will you do for us now?”*

*How do you understand C.S. Lewis’ words, “I sometimes wonder whether all pleasures are substitutes for joy?”*

*Given the context of the story, what do you think Jesus meant when he said, “I am the Bread of Life.”*

*What does it mean to go from expecting to accepting?*

*Have you ever experienced a sense of being fed when you focused on feeding others?*



### Our Lenten Mission

Our Greater NJ Annual Conference is inviting all of us into a ministry to support prison inmates’ wellbeing and remind them they are beloved children of God by sending underwear, undershirts, and socks.

On Amazon, find the EPAUMC Prison Ministry’s gift list to make your purchase and have it delivered to the EPAUMC Prison Ministry P.O. Box 820, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0820 by **March 29.**

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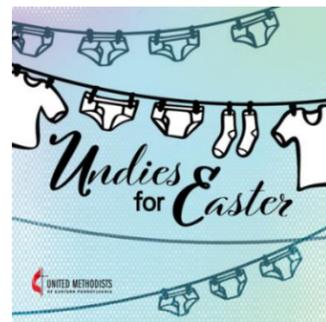
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