

**February 21, 2021**

**First Sunday in Lent**

**10:00 am**

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Welcome and Announcements

Introit

\*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to nourish our souls so we may continue our race.

People: Today, we lighten our loads by throwing away everything that hinders us.

Leader: We run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

People: We fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Leader: Let us sing praises to Him who provides for us through his example with faith, hope, and inspiration.

\*Hymn of Praise

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

Celebration Hymnal No. 87

\*Prayer of Invocation

**Father, lighten our loads, open our ears to increase our faith. Help us to keep our eyes on you, thank you for perfecting our faith. In Jesus' Name. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 12:1-3

\*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

Sermon

*Keep Running*

Brian Sampson

Hymn of Reflection

*Higher Ground*

Celebration Hymnal No. 549

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer:

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory forever. Amen.*

\*Hymn of Going Forth

Celebration Hymnal No. 456

*O May All Who Come Behind Us  
Find Us Faithful*

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

*Make Us One*  
Make us one Lord, make us one  
Holy Spirit, make us one  
Let our love flow, so the world will know  
We are one in you; we are one in you.

Postlude

\*We invite you to stand if you are able.

## Scripture Reading

Hebrews 12:1-3

**12** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,

**2** fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**3** Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

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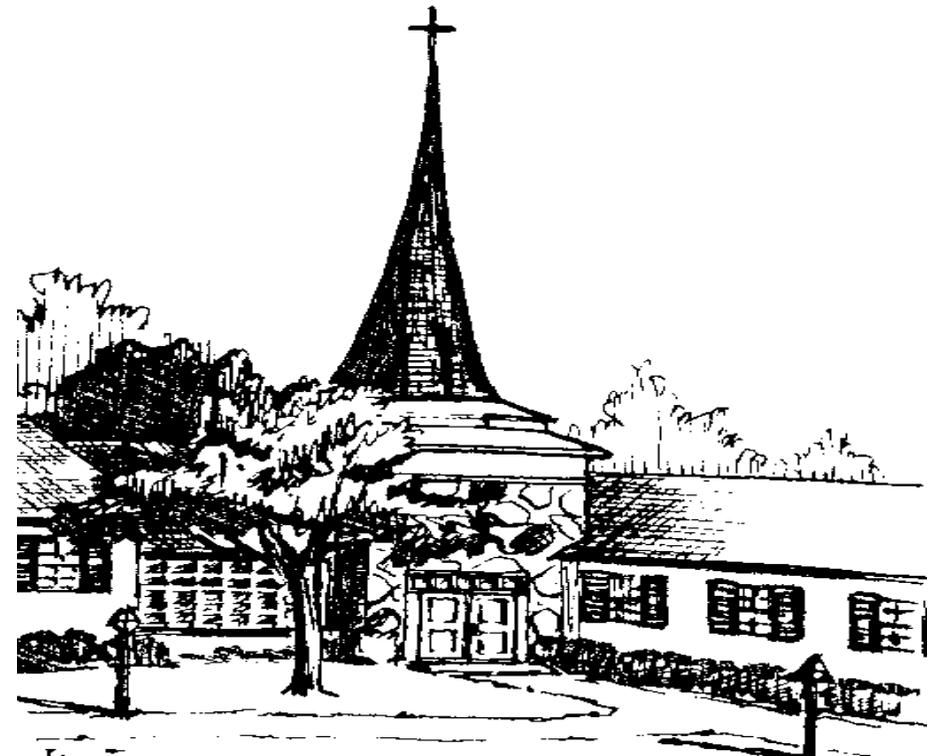
The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Church Covenant

**We are banded together as a Christian Church to maintain the worship of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer; to proclaim the gospel of Christ, to develop in ourselves and others a consciousness of our relationship and duties to God and each other; to create a spirit of love for truth, a passion for righteousness and enthusiasm for service; to respect and protect all of God's creation. To this end we pledge our loyalty to Christ and covenant with God and with each other to strive to express God's spirit in our individual and corporate life; to live together as Christians and to submit ourselves to the government of this church, working, giving, praying for its increase, purity and peace, seeking in every way to make it a power for the building up of the Kingdom of God.**

# ***WELCOME!***



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*Brian Sampson, Music Director*

*February 21, 2021*