

Littleton United Methodist Church
February 21, 2010
The First Sunday in Lent
Service of the Word

Prelude *Jesus, Priceless Treasure* WALTHER
During the prelude, please silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Members and guests please sign the friendship pad located at the end of the pew.

+Introit *Hear Us, Almighty Lord* WRIGHT
Refrain: Hear Us, Almighty Lord, show us Your mercy. Sinners we stand here before You.
(congregation sings refrain, choir sings verse)

+Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

+Greeting

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: O sisters of Christ, where do you live?

Women: **We live in the fields ripe unto harvest.**

Pastor: O brothers of Christ, where do you dwell

Men: **We dwell in the barns filled with first fruits.**

Pastor: O Children of God, where is your home?

People: **Let us be righteous, for the Lord our God is righteous.**

Pastor: The Lord our God is a jealous God.

People: **Our home is where we offer our baskets- the table of blessing, the altar of God!**

+Entrance Hymn #116 *The God of Abraham Praise* LEONI

Prayer of the Day

God above all gods, revealed to us in the faithfulness of Jesus and in the testimony of our ancestors in the faith, keep us from temptations that block our worship and silence our witness. Inspire us to share both bread and meaning, to worship with pure motives, to serve without need of recognition or reward, that your name may be glorified and your will be done among us and through us. AMEN.

The First Reading *Deuteronomy 26:1-11* Susannah Sherman, Lay Reader
When you have entered the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the first fruits of all that you produce from the soil of the

land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come to the land the LORD swore to our forefathers to give us." The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the LORD your God. Then you shall declare before the LORD your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, putting us to hard labor. Then we cried out to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. So the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with miraculous signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; and now I bring the first fruits of the soil that you, O LORD, have given me." Place the basket before the LORD your God and bow down before him. And you and the Levites and the aliens among you shall rejoice in all the good things the LORD your God has given to you and your household.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
 People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16



Those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
 who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
 will say to the Lord,

**“My refuge and my fortress;
 my God, in whom I trust.”**

Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
 the Most High your habitation,

**no evil shall befall you,
 no scourge come near your tent.**

R

For God will give his angels charge over you
 to guard you in all your ways.

**They will bear you up on their hands
 lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

**You will tread on the lion and the adder,
 the young lion and the serpent you will trample
 under foot.**

Because they cleave to me in love, I will deliver them;
I will protect them, because they know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them.
**I will satisfy them with long life
and show them my salvation.**

R

The Second Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

"The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked

O'HARRA
Greg Solovieff, soloist

+Lenten Gospel Acclamation *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ*
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory.

+The Holy Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord, the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"The Shape of Things"

Rev. Rob Licht

+Hymn #2105

Jesus, Tempted in the Desert

EBENEZER

+The Apostles' Creed

Page 881

Prayer of Confession

Sovereign God, we confess our desire to reshape your world to our own advantage. We are more concerned with what we eat than with who will get to eat today. Our own security is more important to us than the health and safety of all your children. The first fruits of our labor grace the altars of our own desires instead of honoring you. We prefer that you keep your distance from us unless we need you. We like promises without commands, gifts without responsibilities. O God, we confess that our ways don't work. Turn us around for true worship and service, as forgiven and forgiving people. AMEN.

A Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Pardon

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet Sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

MUELLER

A special note to our guests: The ministries and work of our church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled to make a contribution. Please accept this time of worship as our gift to you. We hope that it has been meaningful and that you will worship with us again.

+The Doxology #95

OLD 100th

+The Prayer of Dedication

The Prayers

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Page 895

+Closing Hymn #269

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

LAND OF REST

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response

Keep, O Keep Us

SMYTTAN

Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, Ever constant by Your side;
That with You we may appear at the-eternal Eastertide.

+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

Forty Days and Forty Nights

HERBST

+The congregation will stand as you are able

*** Printed copies of the sermon are available after the service in each narthex*

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 52
Sunday school: 7



Today: 10:00 AM Worship Service
11:20 AM Sunday school

Monday: 10:00 AM UMW meeting

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Study
12:00 PM Lenten Lunch - South Street Baptist Church
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday: 10:00 AM Littleton ACTS Food Pantry

Our Gifts



Offerings last week \$972.15

Our Mission Statement

Littleton United Methodist Church strives to provide all-inclusive worship of God through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are committed to deepening our spiritual growth.

We are to minister in Christ's name to the needy, the sick, the dying, the unchurched, and to each other.

We are to be active Christians, spreading the Good News.

We are to strive to witness for Jesus in our daily lives, in our community and throughout the world.



Our Service

Serving in Worship:

Choir Director / Organist: Tom Parker
 Organist emeritus: Trudi May
 Acolyte: Martha Sherman
 Greeters: Susan Merchant (east)
 Barbara Reinhardt (west)
 Ushers: Ed Angel (east)
 Bob Workman (west)
 Al Prescott (west)
 Nursery: as needed
 Sound: Dick O'Sullivan
 Ed Angel

2010 Committee Chairpersons:

Administrative Council: Richard Sherman
 Congregational Care: Jean Houston
 Shepherding: Elizabeth Solovieff
 Discipleship: Helen Burtchell
 Age Level: Diana Parham
 Outreach: Helen Burtchell
 Missions: Richard Sherman
 Finance: Mike Herman
 Pastor-Parish: Sherman Merchant
 Lay Leadership: Rob Licht
 Trustees: Shirley Anschutz
 Kitchen: Marie Fields
 Membership: Marj Prescott
 Scholarship: Marvin Newsom III
 Memorials: Matt Johnston
 Newsletter: Susan Merchant
 Sunday School Superintendent: Jean Jarvis

Serving in our Church, Community and World

The **UMW** will meet in the board room on Monday at 10:00 AM.

The Companions in Christ **Bible Study** meets each Wednesday in the board room at 10:00 AM. New attendees are always welcome.

The second **Lenten Lunch** will be at South Street Baptist Church this Wednesday at noon. Reverend Timothy Edwards will be speaking. Each person should bring a bag lunch. Drinks and desserts will be provided by the host church. Come as you are and invite someone to join you for this time of community fellowship and devotion. The remaining schedule follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Feb 24	South Street Baptist Church	Rev. Timothy Edwards
March 3	Littleton United Methodist	Rev. David Smith
March 10	St. Alban's Episcopal Church	Rev. Fred Eichner
March 17	Weaver's Chapel UMC	Rev. Mike Currin
March 24	at Littleton United Methodist (Littleton Presbyterian host)	Rev. Will Tabron

The **Littleton ACTS Food Pantry** will be open this Friday from 10:00 until noon. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 9:30.

*****Note—the side door will be locked during the worship service.**