

Littleton United Methodist Church
February 28, 2010
The Second Sunday in Lent
Service of the Word

Prelude *God Is My Strong Salvation* arr. HELD
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)

+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: People of God, be gathered together!

People: **Like a hen with her brood beneath her wings, God has brought us together!**

Pastor: People of God, await Christ's coming!

People: **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord of heaven!**

+Entrance Hymn #140 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS

Prayer of the Day

In this place, our hearts take courage. Your goodness is all around us. The trials and cares of life are stilled before you. Show us your face, O God; let your love be known to us. We need this hour to remember who we are, to let you gather us under your wings. We need this time to feel close to one another, to recognize ourselves as brothers and sisters. We need reminders of the humanity and the glory of Jesus Christ that empower our discipleship. Hear our cries and help us. AMEN.

The First Reading *Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18* Darla Angel, Lay Reader

After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir." He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness. He also said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it." But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?" So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and

a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon." Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away. As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates-

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter

Psalm 27

The Lord is my sal - va - tion; whom shall I ev - er fear?

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
**The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?**
When evildoers assail me,
to devour my flesh,
my adversaries and foes
shall stumble and fall.
**Though a host encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.**
One thing I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:
**that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in the Lord's temple.**

R

The Lord will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble,
will conceal me under the cover of his tent,
and will set me high upon a rock.
**And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies round about me;
and I will offer sacrifices in the Lord's tent
with shouts of joy;**

I will sing and make melody to the Lord

R

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,
Be gracious to me and answer me!
“Come,” my heart said, “seek the Lord’s face.”
Your face, O Lord, I seek.

Hide not your face from me
Turn not you servant away in anger,
for you have been my help.

**Cast me not off, forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!**

**If my father and mother should forsake me,
the Lord would take me up.**

R

Teach me you way, O Lord;
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.

**Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they breathe out violence.**

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living!

**Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage.**

Wait for the Lord!

R

The Second Reading

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends!

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

Anthem

Come to the Cross of Jesus

LIVINGSTON

+Lenten Gospel Acclamation *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory.

+The Holy Gospel

Luke 13:31-35

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 Fox and the Hen ”

Rev. Rob Licht

+Hymn #2112

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

LONESOME VALLEY

+The Apostles' Creed

Page 881

Prayer of Confession

God of all people, we confess that we would like to claim your majesty and power for our exclusive benefit. We relish the good things of life and are reluctant to share with those who seem less deserving. We resist the prophets who point out our greed, even when we feel we are being generous. We resent persons in positions of authority over us who seem not to have our best interests at heart. We are angry about those whose evil deeds seem to go unpunished. O God, how can we receive your mercy when we are so reluctant to pass it on to others. Help us to center our lives in your love more than on our own desires. 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

Herzliebster Jesu

BURTON

+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 #396

O Jesus, I have Promised

ANGEL'S STORY

+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. A-men.

+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

Concluding Voluntary

THOMPSON

+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: 56
Sunday school: 17



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

Monday: 1:00 PM Mary Lucy Self Circle

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Study
12:00 PM Lenten Lunch in our fellowship hall
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday: 9:00 AM Food Delivery
7:00 PM Family Movie Night



Our Gifts

Offerings 2/14

\$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: Marie Fields (east)
 Maj Johnston(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 **Mary Lucy Self Circle** will meet in the board room on Monday at 1:00 PM.

The second **Lenten Lunch** will be in our fellowship hall this Wednesday at noon. Reverend David Smith will be speaking. Each person should bring a bag lunch. As the host church, we are responsible for providing drinks and desserts. If you would like to bring a dessert, please contact Helen Burtchell. The remaining schedule for the Lenten lunches follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
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

This Friday there will be a **Family Movie Night** at 7:00 PM in our fellowship hall. This month's movie will be the Disney animated classic, **The Sword in the Stone**.

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