"I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying." — John 11:25

> March 19, 2023, 10:30 a.m. Fourth Sunday in Lent

# Order of Worship

(\*Please rise in body or in spirit.)

PRELUDE "Meditation on 'Ah Dearest Jesus'" (Dickinson) Henry Repp Rev. Todd Lattig GREETING \*CALL TO WORSHIP Kathleen Meredith We wonder why things happen the way they do. We come looking for answers and deeper understanding. Illuminate us, Lord. Teach us. Be near to us. God — comfort us. love us. \*OPENING HYMN "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" UMH 298 \*OPENING PRAYER (unison) Kathleen Meredith Why, Lord? Is there a pattern, a plan, a purpose to the pain of the world? While our minds seek answers, our hearts seek comfort. Gentle God, we are hurting; hold us close. Amen. ANTHEM "How Beautiful" (Paris/Courtney) Chancel Choir COMMUNITY PRAYER Rev. Lattig CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER Chancel Choir KIDS ROCK CHILDREN'S SERMON Rev. Lattig SCRIPTURE READINGS Kathleen Meredith Psalm 137:1-6 <sup>1</sup>Beside the rivers of Babylon, we sat and wept as we thought of Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> We put away our harps, hanging them on the branches of poplar trees. <sup>3</sup> For our captors demanded a song from us. Our tormentors insisted on a joyful hymn:

- "Sing us one of those songs of Jerusalem!" <sup>4</sup> But how can we sing the songs of the LORD while in a pagan land?
- <sup>5</sup> If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget how to play the harp.
- <sup>6</sup> May my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth if I fail to remember you,
  - if I don't make Jerusalem my greatest joy.

### John 11:23-25

<sup>23</sup> Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again."

<sup>24</sup> "Yes," Martha said, "he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day."

<sup>25</sup> Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God for this Word.** 

ANTHEM	••	Ave Verum" (Clarke)	Chancel Choir	
SERMON	"Why Do Bad	Things Happen to Good Pe	ople?" Rev. Lattig	
OFFERTO	RY "Chor	rale on Melcombe" (Blake)	Henry Repp	
one of the		fering in the plate in the nar the back of this bulletin to		
*DOXOLO	GY		UMH 95	
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison) Kathleen Meredith God who weeps with us, receive our gifts today. Bless them and bless us to go deep into the wounds of your hurting world without judgment and without explanation. Bless us to go into your world with compassion, carrying each other's crosses until the sun rises, bringing us the warmth of new life and light once again.				
*CLOSING	HYMN	"It Is Well With My Soul"	UMH 377	
SERVICE OF DIMINISHING LIGHTS			Kathleen Meredith	
*BENEDIC	TION		Rev. Lattig	
POSTLUD	E	"Toccata" (Leclerc)	Henry Repp	

## Did you know...?

The color of the drape on the banner on the altar changes weekly during Lent.

Today's drape is green which symbolizes growth in the Christian Life. It is a summons to reflection, prayer, and the study of scripture.

### Schedule This Week...

Monday, March 20:	10 Chair Yoga HH 2 ABC Book Club via Zoom
Tuesday, March 21:	10 Manna House Lunch Prep 6 Cub Scouts HH
Wednesday, March 22:	7 Worship Team Meeting
Thursday, March 23:	7 Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, March 25:	9-2 Treasures of Hope
	10 Unity Choir
	10-2 Craft Fellowship
Sunday, March 26:	9 Joy Fellowship Service & Sunday School
	10:30 Sanctuary Service
	2 Unity Choir Rehearsal

#### **Today's Worship Leaders**

Pastor Liturgist Organist/Music Director Greeter Camera Operator Soundboard Operator Rev. Todd Lattig Kathleen Meredith Henry Repp Evelyn Cornwell Jen Phlegar Jay Morrison





Fírst United Methodist Church of Newton 111 Ryerson Avenue Newton, NJ 07860 973-383-4450 newtonumc07860@gmail.com