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February 26, 2023

The First Sunday in Lent

Encountering Jesus: Waypoints on the Journey

We Gather Together

Prelude Sherry Steele

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Valerie Oden

Introit *And on This Path* MV 8

Call to Worship

One: This is the beginning of a journey. We are not alone as we travel.

All: We have people walking beside us each week, people in front of us who have been here before, and people behind us who will come after us.

One: We move down this Lenten road in community, listening for the wisdom of others and the whisper of the divine.

All: May we trust that God is here as we walk this Lenten path together.

*Hymn *Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights* VU 108

Children's Time Godly Play Carolyn Miller

*Children's Hymn *Lord Prepare Me* MV 18

Children and youth are invited downstairs for programing after this hymn. There is also a family room through the door behind the piano where the service can be seen and heard.

Listen for the Spirit Stirring

Scripture Reading Matthew 4: 1-11

Anthem *You Desire Truth / Give Me Wisdom (Harding)*

Reflection "In the Wild" Rev. Valerie Oden

*Hymn of Response *Jesus Tempted in the Desert* VU 115

We Respond with our Lives

Prayers of the People

Prayer Hymn *Take O Take Me As I Am* MV 85

Silent Prayer / Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

Stewardship Moment Marv Severson

Offering our Gifts

Offering plates can be found in the narthex and giving envelops are in the pews. Electronic gifts are welcome by e-transfer to: contactus@riverbendunited.org or on the church website. We give in gratitude for God's grace and in hope that peace may spread to all.

*Closing Hymn *Like a Healing Stream* MV 144

*Benediction

*Musical Response *I Am Walking a Path of Peace* MV 221

Postlude

**denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined*

*“VU” refers to the red hardback hymnal *Voices United**

*“MV” refers to the spiral bound songbook *More Voices**

Welcome to Riverbend United Church

If you're new with us, we'd love to meet you. Please fill out a newcomer welcome card in the pews or in the narthex. Thanks!

All are welcome for coffee and Fellowship in the Gathering Room following worship. Turn left as you exit the sanctuary.

Next Sunday, March 5, 9:30 AM

Lenten Study: *What do I Believe?*

Pick up A Song of Faith from the narthex. We'll use it to guide our discernment and discussion. The study runs 4 weeks.



Hearing assistance is available.
Please ask at the sound booth.
