

Eagle Grove UMC and Goldfield UMC
"Look for the Resister"

Lent Week One, February 26

WE GATHER

Gathering Music

Welcome

Prelude and Bringing in the Light

Calling Ourselves to Worship

Jesus demonstrates it is in our resistance to evil that we find true communion with God. Resistance to evil starts with our own confession of complicit acts that move us further from love.

Our groaning can turn to "glad cries of deliverance" as we choose good over evil time after time — even and especially if it isn't the "popular" thing to do.

We gather and ask God to show us how, show us how to love.

We come with our "hearts open, minds awake..."

Come and Fill Our Hearts (sing 2x – words on the screen)

#2157

***Opening Hymn**

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

#269

Confession and Assurance

Holy and Merciful One, in this season of discernment we come bringing our deepest longings, and our failed attempts at satisfying them.

We have often looked for love, for acceptance and security, in the trappings of notoriety, popularity, and power that diminish others in order to gain for ourselves.

We yearn for lives that matter, we desire relationships that thrive, we want less regret.

At times we fail to see that you have already given us what really matters: your love and acceptance. You provide opportunities all around us to make a difference in the lives of others. You give us a fresh start each day, inviting us to do better. In this silence, we bring to you our pleas for openness to a different way of living.

Silence

The Psalmist says, "I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you."

We open our hearts, our minds, our souls, our vision to the ways of love created by God, embodied in Jesus, and already moving in us by the Spirit. We are forgiven, loved, and freed! Amen!

WE PROCLAIM

Children's Time

Scriptures for today

Reflection

Psalm 32, Matthew 4:1-11

Pastor Alaire



WE RESPOND

Prayers of the People *We will be praying during this season using prayers of petitions and a sung response. Each petition will end "God have mercy. In this singing we lift up _____ to you with our love: We will respond each time with the Kyrie.*

Kyrie

#2275

Lord's Prayer

We Give our Tithes, Offerings and Ourselves

***Doxology**

#95

***Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, as we remember Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, we acknowledge the temptation that pursues so many of us: to measure our worth, our power and our security by what we have. As we offer these gifts to you this morning, we pray that you might deliver us from the temptation of building our lives around what belongs to us. Continually lead us to the conviction that what matters is that we belong to you. We pray in the name of our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

WE GO FORTH

***Closing Hymn**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#384

We Go Out Into the World Practice Love

Benediction

Go forth into the world, looking for love in all the right places!

We will look for signs of The Resister, working against injustice wherever we find it!

We go with God, to live, to love, to share and to care. Let us sing as we follow the light

Go Now, In Peace (sing 3x, words will be on the screen)

#665

Postlude

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRACTICE LOVE

Wednesday, March 1, 2-5pm...Spirit-filled Wednesday, fun, food, learning, crafts and games for K-4 and middlers. Friends invited! We can use apples for snack.

5:15-7pm...Confirmation Class

Thursday, March 2, noon – 1pm...Lenten Lunch, this week gathering at Evangelical Free Church.

Friday, March 3, 9:30am... World Day of Prayer. This year we gather at GUMC. Our presentation will be from the director at The Lotus Community Project; their shelter is just outside Vincent. Donations will be received for their work. Everyone is encouraged to come and to invite others to join us as we pause and learn about this life-changing outreach right in our neighborhood.

Thursday Lenten Lunch Locations, noon – 1pm: March 9@Eagle Grove UMC; March 16@Sacred Heart; March 23@1st Baptist; March 30@Samuel Lutheran, UCC helping to serve. Come to one, come each week. Bring a neighbor with you.

Pick up a Lenten Giving Calendar and a bank today if you don't have one – you can use whatever coins you choose; they can be different each day. Or you can count for the "answers" each day – and put in cash on Saturdays. How you give is up to you. Eagle Grove giving will go to Heifer Project; Goldfield's will be for the Lotus Community Project. Pennies turn into dollars...and together we'll make an impact! Thank you in advance! We'll continue until Easter Morning.