



NEWTOWN United Methodist Church

March 3, 2024 – Third Sunday in Lent

Worship is a time to move closer to God and receive spiritual energy for living courageously and serving others faithfully.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit “O Lord, Your Mercy Does Extend” setting by Lewis

*Call to Worship

Leader: Join us as we embark on this Lenten Journey to the Temple, where the presence of God beckons us all.

People: Within the Temple, amid our cries, the Lord listens and waits.

Leader: Yet, even within these sacred walls, greed and selfishness may find a way in. Nevertheless, the Lord calls us onward on this pilgrimage.

People: Guide our steps, O Lord, as we confront the challenges to our priorities.

Leader: We are tasked with acknowledging any traces of selfishness within our hearts. Grant us the courage to purge anything that hinders the flow of God’s compassionate Spirit through us.

People: May our hearts be receptive to God’s healing and renewing love. Lord, hear our cries! Amen.

*Hymn “Be Thou My Vision” UMH #451

*Opening Prayer

Creator God, in your infinite wisdom, your strength surpasses human understanding, and your “foolishness” exceeds our greatest wisdom. Today, we rejoice in your presence among us. Illuminate our hearts and strengthen our resolve. Guide us along the path of righteousness. Challenge us with your righteous decrees. Like a refining fire, purge us of

all that is unholy and lead us toward the light of your sacred truth. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, may your holy gospel bring peace and redemption to the world. It is in his holy name that we pray. Amen.

*Affirmation of Faith UMH #881

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Pew Bible pg. 166

Choral Anthem “Ah Holy Jesus” William Roger Price

*Gospel Reading John 2:13-22 Pew Bible pg. 93

Message “Turn the Tables” Pastor Rodney Brailsford

Pastoral Prayer

*Hymn “What Wondrous Love Is This” UMH #292

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

*Response Doxology, UMH #95

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

*Offertory Prayer

Invitation to the Lord’s Table UMH Pg. 9
(Gluten Free option available)

Passing of the Peace

*The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" TFWS #2223

*Dismissal and Blessing

*Postlude

*Please Stand as you are able



Newtown United Methodist Church

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