

APTOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 9, 2025 ~ 10 AM Worship

First Sunday in Lent

Aptos UMC is an inclusive community that welcomes and encourages full participation of ALL PERSONS, regardless of race, culture, age, economic circumstance, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical/mental abilities. We affirm our denomination's motto, "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

Aptos UMC sends out a weekly email blast on Saturdays. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact the office at office@aptosumc.org and we will email you a sign up form.

Worship Assistant sign ups (usher, liturgist, coffee volunteer, altar flowers) are available in the Fellowship Hall.

Thanks Today to:

Our **Liturgist:** Cailan Darling
Our **Usher:** Tammy Philbin
Our **Tech Team:** Carolyn Collins
Our **Coffee Volunteer:** Jeanne Grimes

This Week:

Monday, 3/10: PACT 10 AM
Tuesday, 3/11: Alive Now 10 AM, Upper Room Group 7 PM
Wednesday, 3/12: Finance 5:15 PM
Thursday, 3/13: Senior Stretch 9:30 AM, Trustees 10:30 AM
Friday, 3/14: Scott Group 10 AM

Coming Up:

Wednesday, 3/19: Book Club 1:30 PM (*All the Beauty in the World* by Patrick Bringley)
Sunday, 3/30: UMCOR Sunday

~ *In Our Prayers This Week* ~

Pharis Harvey and the family and friends of Jane Harvey on her death on February 24.

You are invited to join our Prayer Team. The Prayer Team receives a weekly email with prayer requests. To join the Prayer Team or submit a prayer request, contact the church office.

Online giving is available. Go to aptosumc.org and click on the 'GIVE NOW' button, or scan this code using your smartphone.



Gabe House, Pastor
Daniel Goldsmith, Music Director

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Order of Worship

Gathering Music

Call To Worship

On this first Sunday in Lent, we join Jesus in the wilderness, a place of wild and dangerous things, of testing and temptation away from the security of home.

God, rescue us in the wilderness!

Once again, we watch and listen as Satan throws out temptation upon temptation, and we find our security in Jesus, who does not waver from the truth.

God, rescue us within the wilderness!

Once again, we face our own frailty and realize that the wilderness is not nearly as dangerous as our choices to prioritize selfish gain and hoarding of power.

God, rescue us through the wilderness!

Once again, we call upon God in the wildernesses of our lives, and we trust God's faithful reply:

Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue them and honor them. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Prelude

Opening Prayer

God, you are our refuge: you are the shore in sight, you are hands that reach out, you are the ground on which to rest. God, you are our strength: you are the life we long for, you are the refusal to give up, you are the keys of home we carry with us. God, you are our help in time of trouble: we call on you from the ruins and the rubble, we call on you from the wilderness and the deep, we call on you to meet us in this place. Amen.

Announcements

Hymn #269 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

Children's Time

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read, and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture Luke 4:1-13

Sermon "Rescue Me" Pastor Gabe

Hymn #2105 "Jesus, Tempted in the Desert"

Prayers of the People

Confession and Pardon

Jesus, when we read about your temptations, we are reminded that you are not only Savior; you are example. You faced the temptation to prove yourself, to be spectacular, and to have consuming power, and you walked away, resisting. Forgive us when we have not resisted, when we have yielded to temptation, when we have chosen power and prestige over God. Help us to choose a life rooted in God's word and grace. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Offering

Doxology #94 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn #2112 "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

Benediction

Postlude

Luke 4:1-13 NRSVue

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.' "

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.' "

⁹ Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,'

¹¹ and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a
stone.' "

¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put
the Lord your God to the test.' " ¹³ When the
devil had finished every test, he departed from
him until an opportune time.