

Messiah United Methodist Church

Second Sunday in Lent

30 S. Penn St. Shippensburg, PA 17257

February 25, 2018

16=====

(*indicates standing as you are able.)

GATHERING MUSIC "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" 2129

PRELUDE "Praise God!" by Livingston

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & MINISTRY MOMENT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

People: For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

*SONG OF PRAISE "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" 297

*PRAYER

O Lord our God, you are always more ready to bestow your good gifts on us than we are to seek them, and are willing to give more than we desire or deserve. Help us so to seek that we may truly find, so to ask that we may joyfully receive, so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened to us; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*APOSTLES CREED 881 (catholic = universal)

*GREETING EACH OTHER

SPIRIT CHOIR

LAMB'S TALK "Where Children Belong" 2233

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Prayer (using the word "sins")

*HYMN "Open My Eyes, That I May See" 454

*SCRIPTURE LESSON John 3: 1-17

SERMON "How Does It Stand Between You and God?" Pastor Fran

THE OFFERING

Offering

Offertory

"Amazing Grace"

arr. by Larson

Pianist—Katelyn Beidel

**Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

95

* The Offertory Prayer

*HYMN "Where He Leads Me" 338

* THE BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

"The Trumpeter"

by Penfield

Rev. Francis H. Norton

Associate Pastor

Mrs. Bev Morton

Organist

Ms. Beth Dickinson

Choir Director

Mrs. Beth Evitts

Worship Leader

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus

3 Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. **2** He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

3 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

4 “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

5 Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. **6** Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. **7** You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ **8** The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

9 “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

10 “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? **11** Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. **12** I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? **13** No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. **14** Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,[□] **15** that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. **17** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

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