Sunday, March 23, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. Third Sunday in Lent

TODAY'S FOCUS: **PENITENCE**. The Scriptures for this Lent are full of warnings about temptation, about getting complacent, and about pointing the finger at others. Do these warnings still apply to us?

PRELUDE — Anneke Toomey

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Lin

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST — Lin

*OPENING HYMN UMH #462 "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" (vs. 1, 3, 4)
1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, and to take him at his word;
just to rest upon his promise, and to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

REFRAIN: Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!

3. Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease; Just rom Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace. REFRAIN

4. I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, friend; And I know that thou are with me, wilt be with me to the end. REFRAIN

*CALL TO WORSHIP — Diana Murray

One: We are here this morning to worship our God. To worship and remember the love we share in the name of Christ.

Many: We sing for joy at the sound of his name.

One: We remember what was and what is and what will be because of the love we share in the name of Christ.

Many: We sing for joy because of his steadfast love

One: We tend the trees of our ministries so they will bear more fruit while we wait and hope for the harvest.

Many: We sing for joy and pray for full, fruitful lives.

One: Even in the watches of the night, we will sing for joy.

All: Let our souls be satisfied and our mouths be full of praise for our God.

OPENING PRAYER — Lin

SPECIAL MUSIC — Rinn Choir "River In Judea"

HYMNTFWS #2233"Where Children Belong"

CHILDREN'S STORY — Sharon Goldade

SCRIPTURE: Luke 13:1-9 — Diana Murray

¹At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did." ⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the man working the vineyard, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.'"

MESSAGE "Tattletales" Rev. Lin Cheek

RESPONSIVE HYMNUMH #468"Dear Jesus, In Whose Life I See"1. Dear Jesus, in whose life I see all that I would, but fail to be,Let thy clear light forever shine, to shame and guide this life of mine.

2. Though what I dream and what I do in my weak days are always two, Help me, oppressed by things undone, O thou whose deeds and dreams were one!

OFFERTORY — Margaret Regnier and Betsy Foushee "You Say"

*DOXOLOGY UMH #94

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION — Diana Murray

ALL: Faithful God, our guide and sustainer, as we offer these gifts, may they bear fruit for your kingdom. In this solemn season of Lent, we remember your call to repentance and renewal. Help us tend the soil of our hearts so that we may grow in faith and bear witness to your grace. Use these offerings to bring hope to those in need and light to those in darkness. May we live as your fruitful servants, trusting in you always. In Christ we pray. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER - Lin

All: 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.

*CLOSING HYMN TFWS #2188 "The Family Prayer Song" 1. Come and fill our homes with your presence; you alone are worthy of our reverence.

REFRAIN: As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (3x). We will serve the Lord.

2. Lord, we vow to live holy, bowing our knees to you only. REFRAIN

*BENEDICTION — Lin

POSTLUDE — Anneke Toomey

Prelude/Postlude—Anneke	Accomp.—Anneke	
Offertory—Margaret Regnier "You S	Say" Special Music	c — Rinn Choir "River In Judea"
Song Leader— Scott Anderson	Organ — Betsy Foushee	Violin — Rae Ann Norell
Liturgist — Diana Murray	Children's Message— Sharon Goldade	