



Worship Bulletin and Herndon UMC News March 16, 2025

You are welcome here! This church is made up of people of all kinds. You'll hear music, words, prayers, laughter, and silence. Take it all in, participate in ways that make sense for you, and know that however you come and whoever you are, you are loved by God. If you are new, please introduce yourself to those around you or at [**welcome@herndonumc.org**](mailto:welcome@herndonumc.org).

HANDBELL CHOIR GATHERS TODAY from 11:30am-12:15pm in the music room. Prior experience and music reading ability are not required, though they are certainly welcome! For info, email [**christopher@herndonumc.org**](mailto:christopher@herndonumc.org).

PATHFINDERS IS STUDYING "WHY? Making Sense of God's Will" class meets on Sunday mornings at 11:15 am in room 115/116. For more information, contact Pastor Pam at [**pam@herndonumc.org**](mailto:pam@herndonumc.org).

WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP DINNER ON WEDNESDAY! Support the HUMC Preschool Scholarship Fund and enjoy a dinner of pulled pork barbeque sandwiches, chicken nuggets, and an assortment of sides and desserts. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm. All are welcome.

BARB CRALEY'S MEMORIAL SERVICE AND RECEPTION will be Friday 3/28 at 11am. If you would like to help with either the funeral or reception, there is a sign up in the app, at [**bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds**](https://bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds), or on the Connection Corners, or you may contact the office, [**office@herndonumc.org**](mailto:office@herndonumc.org).

SPRING CHURCH WORKDAY 3/29. Please lend your hands to help spruce up our beautiful church property for the Easter season. Wear gloves, and bring your favorite tools and wheelbarrow. The mulch will arrive earlier in

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the week, so if Saturday does not work for you, email **trustees@herndonumc.org** to see how you can help. All ages are welcome!

SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT, 3/29! Welcome back Rev. Kris Beckert for this retreat focusing on how we are SENT right where we are. Register at **bit.ly/womensspringretreat2025**. Email **womensevents@herndonumc.org**.

HERNDON UMC'S NEXT SERVICE DATE AT THE CLOSET IS 4/3. Sign up in the app, on the clipboard, or at **bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds**. Join the group to see all the needs. For info, contact **thecloset@herndonumc.org**.

NEW SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS. Support Cornerstones (and Mary Martha Circle). All sizes are welcome. Leave socks in the cabinet in room 105. There is a sign on the door and a basket inside.

SAVE THE DATES 7/21-25 and register kids (age 3 through grade 6) for Vacation Bible School today at **bit.ly/herndonvbs2025**! True North VBS shows them that Jesus is a faithful friend we can always trust. The fee is just \$60 for this summer adventure, scholarships are available. For more information or to volunteer, contact Jomo at **jomo@herndonumc.org**.

COMING SOON! MORE WAYS TO GROW IN FAITH OVER THE SUMMER. Keep an eye on **herndonumc.org/summer**.

LEARN WHAT IS HAPPENING during Lent at **herndonumc.org/lent-easter**. The Lent & Easter newsletter is also available in the app, at **herndonumc.org/newsletters**, or from the Connection Corners.

GET THE LENTEN DEVOTIONAL offering poems, hymns, artwork, and reflections. You need to request a copy (available electronically or on paper) from **bit.ly/getlentdevo2025**.

New UPPER ROOM devotionals are available from the Welcome Centers.

Get the latest news in the Herndon UMC app or **herndonumc.org**, under News, select Weekly eNews. Sign up for emails at **bit.ly/HerndonEmails**.

Worship—10 AM

Gathering Music | *Poor Wayfarin' Stranger* | Arr. Christopher Simon | Played by Christopher Simon

Welcome & Announcements | Melissa Chavez

Call to Worship | Melissa Chavez

[One] Come as you are.
If you have deep faith
or your faith has run dry,

**[All] if you know every scripture
or none at all,**

[One] if you have calloused hands
and live your faith through good works,

**[All] or if you kneel at God's feet,
with a million hungry questions,
come as you are.**

[One] This is God's house.
None are turned away.

**[All] All are welcome here.
Let us worship God.**

Opening Song | *Come and Find the Quiet Center* | FWS 2128 | Led by Melissa Chavez

**[V.1] Come and find the quiet center
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:**

**Clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.**

**[V.2] Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.**

**[V.3] In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!**

Call to Confession and Opening Prayer | Melissa Chavez

Call to confession

The story of Mary and Martha is often painted as a story where one does right and one does wrong.

We know that life is often more complicated than that.

We know that faith is embodied through being present and taking action—and everything in between.

Knowing this, like Mary and Martha, let us draw near to God. Let us be honest about our lives, our hopes, and our mistakes. For even in our messy middle, God meets us with grace. Let us pray:

**God of Grace,
We long to do the “right” thing.
We long to make the “right” choice.
We long to stand on the “right” side of the dividing line.
In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of
us. In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show
love.
Show us how to hold our heart’s desire for perfection loosely.
Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else.
For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to
you. Show us the way.
Amen.**

Words of forgiveness
Faithful friends, God knows your heart.
When you mean well and lose your way, God knows.
When you try to do the right thing and miss the point, God knows.
When you long to be close to God, and doubt your worth, God knows.
You are seen. You are loved. You are forgiven. You have been sent to
serve. This is the good news of the gospel!
Nothing can separate you from God’s love.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing of the Peace | Melissa Chavez

Prayer of Illumination | Margaret Tobat

As our kids leave for Kid's Club this morning, I invite you to join me in
our prayer for illumination.

**Loving God,
When our anxiety hovers close,
when fear clings to our bones,
when our stress rises like the tide,**

see us.

Speak to us.

Call us by name.

See us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the hospital waiting room.

Speak to us in the quiet, in the crowd, in the inky black of night. Call us beloved. Call us by name. Call us your child.

**Whatever you do, speak to us,
for we cannot live on bread alone.**

Amen.

Scripture | Luke 10:38-42 NIV | Margaret Tobat

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message | Rev. Pam Bentley

Affirmation of Faith | Rev. SeongJae Jo

**We believe in a Christ who teaches, sees, affirms,
and celebrates all of who we are.**

**We believe in a Christ who invites us to use our gifts for good
and celebrates every step we take in that direction.**

We believe in a Christ who understands our anxieties

**and is gentle with our concerns.
And we believe in a Christ who looks at us with undiluted love.
The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners, but we know
love has no limit.
So with God's help,
may we nurture our faith
and do good work. Amen.**

Invitation to Giving | Rev. SeongJae Jo

Offertory | *Sing When the Spirit Says Sing* | Mark Hayes | Wesley Choir, Tony Humphreys and Bill Foster, soloists

Doxology | *Lenten Doxology* | Old Hundredth | led by Melissa Chavez

**Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, Our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's love in Christ into our hearts.
Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer | Rev. SeongJae Jo

**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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.**

Closing Song | *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* | UMH 400 | led by
Melissa Chavez

**[V.1] Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy grace;**

streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love!

[V.2] Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

[V.3] O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

Benediction | Rev. Pam Bentley

Leaving Music | *Postlude on Nettleton* | Arr. Christopher Simon | Played by
Christopher Simon