

**Third Sunday of Lent: “The Way Around”
March 8, 2026 10:30 a.m.**

WE GATHER
Meeting One Another on The Way

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Prelude and Fugue in E Minor" J. S. Bach

*LENTEN INVITATION: “We Are Marching in the Light of God” #526
New Century Hymnal (sing twice)

(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, Oo, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, Oo, we are marching in the light of God.

*CALL TO WORSHIP: A PRAYER FOR THE PATH

One: God of the Bending Road, be with us on the Way.

All: We find ourselves changed by the things we encounter and the people we meet.

One: Help us as we navigate the twists and turns,

All: And help us see others as companions on your way of grace and peace. Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN “Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer” #18 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

Guide me, O my great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land;

I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow.

Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

**Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.**

When I reach the River Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.

Death of death, and hell’s destruction, land me safe on heaven’s side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever sing to you,

I will ever sing to you.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, you call us today to reflect on our lives with so much going on,

Often, we neglect to take the time to pray with you in quietness

God, you call us to remember that your Holy Spirit is our constant strength

Often, we walk in pride, thinking we can control all around us

God, you call us to take time to rest and refuel our bodies with your spiritual joy

Often, we think that slowing down will leave us behind in the rat race of life

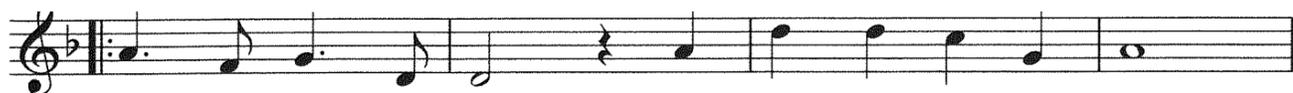
Oh God, we ask for your forgiveness to help us realize that you are our rest, our peace, our joy,
and our love in this world. (*Silent confession*)

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve.

Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Bless the Lord, My Soul” (*Taizé Community*) (*repeat once*)



Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.



Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM

WE PROCLAIM

Discovering Ourselves on The Way

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 13:10-17

Pew Bible p.848

A Word of God that is still speaking, **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF REFLECTION "Take My Life, God, Let It Be" #448 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully.

Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my spirit, let it move at the impulse of your love.

Take my intellect and use all its powers as you choose.

Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.

Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwelling place.

Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow.

Take me now and help me be part of Christ's community.

WE RESPOND

Opening to the Holy on The Way

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY "Christ the Life of All the Living" Flor Peeters

A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE tune #778 *New Century Hymnal*

Praise God, Creator of us all, praise Christ, by whom we hear our call,

Praise Spirit, that which sets us free, our way is yours, the One-in-Three.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE GO FORTH

Continuing with Jesus on The Way

*COMMISSIONING HYMN "I Danced in the Morning" #157 *Glory to God Hymnal*



1 I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be - gun, and I
2 I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but
3 I danced on the Sab-bath and I cured the lame. The
4 I danced on a Fri - day when the sky turned black. It's
5 They cut me down and I leapt up high. ♯



danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I
they would not dance and they would not foll - ow me. I
ho - ly peo - ple said it was a shame. They
hard to dance with the dev - il on your back. They
I am the life that will nev - er, nev - er die. I'll



came down from heav - en and I danced on the earth. At
danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John. They
whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, and
bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but
live in you if you'll live in me, 7



Refrain
Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
came with me and the dance went on.
left me there on a cross to die. Dance, then, wher -
I am the dance and I still go on.
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.



ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, and I'll



lead you all, wher - ev - er you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

***COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

The Creator God filled you with breath, inviting you to this journey called Life.

We will follow on The Way.

Jesus, our Guide, showed us what it means to make a new way with Love.

We will follow on The Way.

The Spirit gives us strength to move forward with courage and compassion for all we meet.

We will follow on The Way.

POSTLUDE "Toccatà in D Minor" Johann Ernst Eberlin

Worship Endnotes: Prayers and other liturgical elements adapted from www.worshipdesignstudio.com/TheWay

Music reprinted by permission OneLicense A-722326

Donate from your
smart phone



Thanks for your
contribution to the
ministries of Hope UCC!

"The Way" Week 3 journaling prompts:

Jesus faces pushback and threats from the Roman authorities during his ministry. Have you ever encountered resistance from others when living out your calling and doing what you knew was the right thing for your own life? How did you respond?

What voices, values, or influences shape your decisions and sense of purpose? Where do you notice yourself being pulled off course, either by fear, habit, or the expectations of others?

***Prayer for the Week:
God of the Bending Road,
be with us on The Way.
We find ourselves changed
by the things we encounter and the people we meet.
We want to grow and yet sometimes
the growing pains can be disorienting for everyone.
Help us as we navigate the twists and turns,
and help us see that others are doing the same.
Amen.***