

Second Sunday in Lent  
*All In for the Unknown*  
March 1, 2026  
10:30 AM



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University Lutheran Church of Hope is a welcoming, Christian community of faith centered on God's grace and called to demonstrate God's love for the world. University Lutheran Church of Hope is a Reconciling in Christ congregation with a commitment to racial equity.

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### Welcome. Peace be with you.

**We continue our holy experiment.** We're worshipping together in-person and virtually on YouTube. Welcome to all!

**For those worshipping in-person, please remember:**

- ❖ **To support the health and wellness of all those among us**, feel welcome to use masks and hand sanitizer, stay current with your vaccinations, and stay home as needed if you are unwell.
- ❖ **We honor one another's boundaries** by asking permission to be in close proximity, and finding alternate ways to greet one another and share the peace (a deep bow, the peace sign, an air hug, etc.). Our risk levels and comfort differ.
- ❖ **In our service today, we will share Holy Communion.** Ushers will direct you.
- ❖ **If you are new to the community** and wish to speak with a Pastor or be included in our communication and activities, fill out the blue slip in the pew rack and give it to an usher. We'll follow up. It's also just fine to be anonymous. To get more involved, check out our website: <http://www.ulch.org/> To receive the weekly enews, the Thursday Epistle, contact our church administrator at [ulch@ulch.org](mailto:ulch@ulch.org).
- ❖ **Children are welcome in worship.** Kids, grab your SPARK Story Bibles. Craft tables are available for families at the front of the sanctuary. Note: The nursery is not staffed, but is available for your use. The nursery is on the upper level of the education wing, most easily reached from the doors nearest the baptismal font.
- ❖ **After worship, enjoy the time to linger for conversation** in the lounge, courtyard and patio.

### Land Acknowledgment

*This Land Acknowledgment, and our response, are both a work in progress. We're actively engaged in a process to move beyond a simple acknowledgment, and toward a more active commitment. Watch for more opportunities for our community.*

We gather for worship on the land of our Creator. Many of us and our church building dwell in the traditional home of the Dakota people, and a land over which the Anishinaabeg people and others also moved. They gathered and ate food, rested, died and gave birth, and prayed here, and many still do.

# GATHERING

+ Indicates the assembly stand as able. Assembly parts are marked in **bold**.

ELW refers to the red hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. ACS refers to *All Creation Sings*, an ELW supplement.

**Prelude**                                      God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me                                      arr. Sherri Hansen

## **Welcome and Invocation**

We gather in the name of God, who created us, who was born to be with us, who guides us still. **Amen.**

## + **Confession and Forgiveness**

God knows our hearts, the guilt we carry, the heartache that keeps us awake, the burdens we bear.

God knows that “happy are they who are forgiven,” and so we confess in confidence of God’s forgiveness.

*A moment of silence for reflection.*

Good and gracious God,

**We have sinned and fallen short of the good you desire for us and for all creation.**

**We have seen the earth as resources to extract and forgotten to marvel at its beauty.**

**We have doubted your ability to provide and hoarded more than we need.**

**We have ignored the needs of the vulnerable, and when you called us to follow you to greater wonders, we remained where we were and clung to control.**

**Forgive us our sin and our selfishness.**

**Draw us out of ourselves, more deeply into your love, and more fully into a world in need.**

God knows our sin before we do and meets every confession with abundant grace. In Christ we are alive and forgiven. God’s goodness has the final word. May this gift renew our faith and lighten our load so that we are prepared to care for the world God so loves. **Amen.**

+ **Gathering Hymn**                                      Bless Now, O God, the Journey                                      ELW 326

## + **Greeting**

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## + **Prayer of the Day**

Faithful One, we fear what we do not know and hesitate to accept uncertainty. Yet you are faithful. You call us to where we are meant to be, even when we can’t perceive it. Give us trust in your faithfulness, that we might answer your call with ready hearts. **Amen.**

*from Barn Geese Worship, “All In” Lenten resources*

# WORD

## Children's Message

### Reading - Genesis 12:1-4a New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

Word of God, word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

El SEÑOR dijo a Abram: «Deja tu tierra, tus parientes, la casa de tu padre y ve a la tierra que te mostraré.» Haré de ti una nación grande y te bendeciré; haré famoso tu nombre y serás una bendición. Bendeciré a los que te bendigan y maldeciré a los que te maldigan; ¡por medio de ti serán bendecidas todas las familias de la tierra!». Abram partió, tal como el SEÑOR se lo había ordenado, y Lot se fue con él. Abram tenía setenta y cinco años cuando salió de Jarán.

Palabra de Dios, palabra de vida.

**Demos gracias a Dios.**

Psalm 121

Refrain Music: Mark Shepperd

Refrain (*1st time choir sings, all sing thereafter*)

I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
my help comes from the LORD.

Choir sings the plain text verses, *all sing the bold verses*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes   to the hills;<br/>from where is my   help to come?</p> <p><sup>2</sup> My help comes   from the LORD,<br/>the maker of heav-   en and earth.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> <b>The LORD will not let your   foot be moved</b><br/><b>nor will the one who watches over you   fall asleep.</b></p> <p><sup>4</sup> <b>Behold, the keep-   er of Israel</b><br/><b>will neither slum-   ber nor sleep; Refrain</b></p> <p><sup>5</sup> the LORD watches   over you;<br/>the LORD is your shade at   your right hand;</p> <p><sup>6</sup> the sun will not strike   you by day,<br/>nor the   moon by night.</p> <p><sup>7</sup> <b>The LORD will preserve you   from all evil</b><br/><b>and will   keep your life.</b></p> <p><sup>8</sup> <b>The LORD will watch over your going out and your  </b><br/><b>coming in,</b><br/><b>from this time forth for-   evermore. Refrain</b></p> | <p><sup>1</sup> A las montañas levanto mis ojos;<br/>¿de dónde ha de venir mi ayuda?</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Mi ayuda proviene del SEÑOR,<br/>que hizo el cielo y la tierra.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> <b>No permitirá que tu pie resbale;</b><br/><b>jamás duerme el que te cuida.</b></p> <p><sup>4</sup> <b>Jamás duerme ni se adormece</b><br/><b>el que cuida de Israel.</b></p> <p><sup>5</sup> El SEÑOR es quien te cuida;<br/>el SEÑOR es tu sombra a tu mano derecha.</p> <p><sup>6</sup> De día el sol no te hará daño<br/>ni la luna de noche.</p> <p><sup>7</sup> <b>El SEÑOR te cuidará;</b><br/><b>de todo mal guardará tu vida.</b></p> <p><sup>8</sup> <b>El SEÑOR cuidará tu salida y tu entrada,</b><br/><b>desde ahora y para siempre.</b></p> |
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+ Gospel Acclamation

Jesus, Remember Me

ELW 616

## + Gospel Reading - John 3:1-17 NRSVUE

The gospel according to John the third chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon - “All In For the Unknown”**

Había entre los fariseos un dirigente de los judíos llamado Nicodemo. Este fue de noche a visitar a Jesús.—Rabí —le dijo—, sabemos que eres un maestro que ha venido de parte de Dios, porque nadie podría hacer las señales que tú haces si Dios no estuviera con él.—Te aseguro que quien no nazca de nuevo no puede ver el reino de Dios —dijo Jesús.— ¿Cómo puede uno nacer de nuevo siendo ya viejo? —preguntó Nicodemo—. ¿Acaso puede entrar por segunda vez en el vientre de su madre y volver a nacer? —Te aseguro que quien no nazca de agua y del Espíritu no puede entrar en el reino de Dios —respondió Jesús—. Lo que nace del cuerpo es cuerpo; lo que nace del Espíritu es espíritu. No te sorprendas de que haya dicho: “Tienen que nacer de nuevo”. El viento sopla por donde quiere y oyes su sonido, aunque ignoras de dónde viene y a dónde va. Lo mismo pasa con todo el que nace del Espíritu. Nicodemo respondió:— ¿Cómo es posible que esto suceda? —Tú eres maestro de Israel, ¿y no entiendes estas cosas? —respondió Jesús—. Te aseguro que hablamos de lo que sabemos y damos testimonio de lo que hemos visto, pero ustedes no aceptan nuestro testimonio. Si he hablado de las cosas terrenales y no creen, ¿cómo van a creer si les hablo de las celestiales? Nadie ha subido jamás al cielo sino el que descendió del cielo, el Hijo del hombre. »Como levantó Moisés la serpiente en el desierto, así también tiene que ser levantado el Hijo del hombre, para que todo el que cree en él tenga vida eterna. »Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo que dio a su Hijo único, para que todo el que cree en él no se pierda, sino que tenga vida eterna. Dios no envió a su Hijo al mundo para condenar al mundo, sino para salvarlo por medio de él.

El Evangelio del Señor.

**Alabanza a ti, oh Cristo!**

Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert

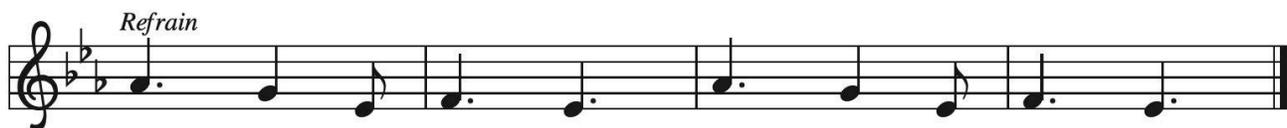
by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan (2004)



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
 2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -  
 3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,  
 4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
 es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
 strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
 light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
 hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967  
 Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan  
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### + Immigrants' Creed

**I believe in Almighty God, who guided the people in exile and in exodus,  
 the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon, the God of foreigners and immigrants.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean, who was born away from his people and his home,  
 who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger, and returning to his own country  
 suffered the oppression of the tyrant Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power,  
 who then was persecuted, beaten, and finally tortured, accused and condemned to death unjustly.  
 But on the third day, this scorned Jesus rose from the dead, not as a foreigner but to offer us  
 citizenship in heaven.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,  
 who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races.**

**I believe that the church is the secure home for the foreigner and for all believers who constitute it, who speak the same language and have the same purpose. I believe that the communion of the saints begins when we accept the diversity of the saints.**

**I believe in the forgiveness of sin, which makes us all equal, and in reconciliation, which identifies us more than does race, language, or nationality.**

**I believe that in the resurrection God will unite us as one people in which all are distinct and all are alike at the same time. Beyond this world, I believe in life eternal in which no one will be an immigrant but all will be citizens of God's kingdom, which will never end. Amen.**

*"The Immigrants' Creed" is excerpted from The Book of Common Worship: 2018 Edition.*

*© 2018 Westminster John Knox Press.*

## **Prayers of the People**

*Following each petition: God of all, Meet us here.*

### **+ Sharing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.

**And also with you.**

**Y también contigo.**

*All are invited to share the peace of Christ using these or similar words "Peace be with you" or "La paz del Señor."*

## MEAL

**Offertory**      Thou Knowest, Lord, the Secrets of Our Hearts by Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

*Hope Choir*

*Thank you for your continued generosity! Donations may be sent electronically or by mail, or placed in the offering plate in the center of our space as you come forward for Holy Communion. A QR code is available on the last page of the bulletin.*

### **+ Offertory Prayer**

God who provides, we return to you a portion of all that you have given us. Bless and use these gifts, our hands, our hearts, our ministry, to care for the world you so love. Now prepare us to receive you at this table and again in the world beyond our doors. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

### **+The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

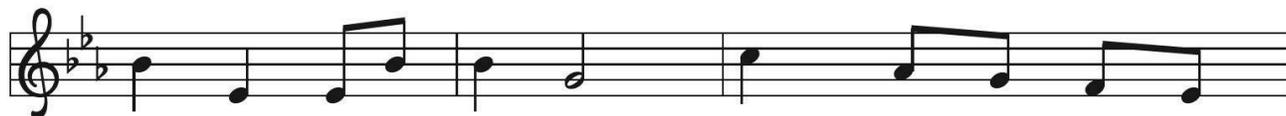
**We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to our gracious God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed...join their unending hymn:

+ **Sanctus**

ACS communion setting 12 by Anne Krentz Organ



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



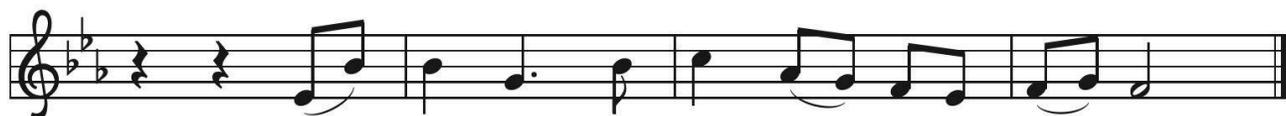
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

+ **Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution**

+ **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Creator, Our Mother, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Creador nuestro, Madre nuestra, Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder y tuya es la gloria, ahora y siempre. Amén.

## Holy Communion

*We believe that Jesus Christ is present in Holy Communion with gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. All who hunger for the presence of Christ in their life are invited to partake. By our participation in this meal and blessing, we are strengthened in faith and in life. All are welcome to commune.*

### ***If you are at home and sitting with others...***

*When sharing the bread with someone, say to them: "This is the body of Christ, given for you." When sharing the wine or grape juice, say, "This is the blood of Christ, shed for you."*

### ***If you are at home on your own...***

*Hear the voice of the pastor naming these promises of grace and life for you. If you'd prefer a blessing, hear these promises: "You are a beloved child of God. May God strengthen you with grace through Christ for all we face today."*

### ***If you are worshiping in-person today...***

*We invite you to come forward to receive the elements and hear the words of promise, or to receive a blessing. Following the direction of the ushers, come forward: pick up a cup, gather around the table, receive the bread (gluten free is available), the servers will pour into your cup either the red wine or white grape juice, place used cups in the basket. Children of all ages are welcome to partake at Holy Communion.*

### ***If you seek healing prayers today...***

*A healing minister is available during Holy Communion this morning. If you'd like prayers for healing for yourself, for those you love, or for other situations, you are invited to come to one of the healing ministers. You can ask for specific prayers, or simply ask them to pray with you...and they will. During this time, you may also dip into the baptismal waters and remember the promises, and light candles for situations around the world and close to home.*

**Music During Communion** Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song  
He Comes to Us as One Unknown

ELW 808  
ELW 737

## + Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

## + Prayer after Communion

God, you have revealed yourself to us again in the holy mystery of bread and cup. Strengthen us by your presence, draw us closer to one another as the Body of Christ, and send us to reveal you in all our words and ways. **Amen.**

## Announcements

### SENDING

+ **Sending Hymn** All My Hope on God Is Founded (*Vss. 1, 3-4*)

ELW 757

## +Blessing

As you have met God in this place, go now to meet God beyond this place. As you have received the love of Jesus, go now to give the love of Jesus. As the Creator has been all in for you, go now and be all in for the sake of the world. **Amen.**

## +Dismissal

Gracious God bless you as you go. **Amen.**

## Postlude

Sometimes Our Only Song Is Weeping arr. Brenda Portman (2022)

<p><b>Staff at University Lutheran Church of Hope</b></p> <p><b>Lead Pastor</b> Rev. Amanda Simons (she/her) amandas@ulch.org</p> <p><b>Pastor</b> Rev. Maria Anderson-Lippert (she/her) mariaa@ulch.org</p> <p><b>Minister of Worship and Music</b> Paul Stever (he/him) pauls@ulch.org</p> <p><b>Church Administrator</b> Nathan Obrestad (he/him) nathano@ulch.org</p> <p><b>Financial Administrator</b> Catherine Menick (she/her) FinAdmin@ulch.org</p> <p><b>Sunday Opener/Closer, Worship Tech</b> <i>Please share our open position</i></p> <p><b>Custodian</b> Geremew Beshah (he/him)</p> <p><b>Lutheran Campus Pastor</b> Kate Reuer Welton (she/her) kate@umnlutheran.org</p>	<p><b>Giving electronically</b> Use this QR code to reach the University Lutheran Church of Hope donation page:</p>  <p>Or go to <a href="http://www.ulch.org">www.ulch.org</a> and click on the “Give” tab. Thank you for your generous support of God’s ministry through ULCH.</p> <p><b>Copyright Acknowledgments</b> Liturgy reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #3625 and from <i>Barn Geese Worship</i>, “All In” Lenten resources. Music throughout the service reprinted under OneLicense A-707451 unless otherwise noted. Scripture excerpts in English from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, unless otherwise noted. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Scripture excerpts in Spanish from Santa Biblia, NUEVA VERSIÓN INTERNACIONAL® NVI®, © 1999, 2015 por Biblica, Inc.® Usado con permiso de Biblica, Inc.® Reservados todos los derechos en todo el mundo. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF LUTHERAN HOPE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>University Lutheran Church of Hope</b> 601 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE Minneapolis, MN 55414-1437 612.331.5988 <a href="http://www.ulch.org">www.ulch.org</a> Office hours: 9am to 2pm weekdays</p>
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## Today’s Worship Leaders

Pastor Amanda Simons, Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert (presiding ministers); Eric Ringham (assisting minister); Hope Choir, Paul Stever (musicians); Kelleen Brooks, Randall Brooks, Julia Reimann-Perez, Beth Kautz (communion servers); Diane Greve (lector); Alex Carlson (worship tech facilitator); Elaine Sarkela (greeter); Antje Enders, Thomas Enders, Uli Koester, Ron Sorensen (ushers); Malena Carlson, Magda VanHeuvelen (acolytes); Carol Flaten (worship prep); Kathy Kufus, Gretchen Peik (communion clean-up); Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert, Ann Rolle (healing prayer)

### **Three Practices**

Following up on Pastor Amanda's February 8th sermon, you are invited to use some intentionality each week to take on three practices:

- one act for yourself - for example: take a walk, go to bed early, remove social media from your phone, make time for your preferred artistic expression, go dancing, etc.
- one act of prayer - for example: find a regular time each week, join the centering prayer group, call a friend and pray together, etc.
- one act of justice - for example: go to a rally, provide mutual aid, write to a congressperson, have a conversation with an ISAIAH Core team member (info below.)

Find a partner in the congregation to share your three practices with each week.

### **Spiritual Accompaniment Groups**

Each week you are invited to drop into a spiritual accompaniment group. These will be led by trained Spiritual Directors in the congregation who will facilitate an opportunity for a group to share and listen. You can show up every week, once, or just here and there. You can come to the same time every week or try out the different times each week. There are no sign ups for these groups. Groups are offered at the following times:

- Mondays, 1-2pm in the Chapel
- Tuesdays, 7:30-8:30pm on zoom ([link here](#))
- Wednesdays, 7-8pm in the lounge/heritage hall

### **Invitation to Conversation with the Isaiah Core Team**

During Lent, the Isaiah Core Team here at Hope would like to invite you (yes, you!) to an individual conversation with one of us. We're hoping to build deeper relationships within our congregation and understand how we can support your work in the community. You may receive a phone call from someone from the Core Team to schedule a conversation. If you don't hear from us but would like to be contacted, please reach out to John Beane ([pligrim.beane@gmail.com](mailto:pligrim.beane@gmail.com).) We're looking forward to getting to know you better!

### **Holden Evening Prayer (Lenten Midweek Worship)**

**Wednesdays** March 4, 11, 18, and 25 at **6:30pm** (Chapel/In person only).

Anointing prayer and time for reflection available after the service.

### **All In Lenten Devotional**

You are welcome to take home a print copy of the All In Lenten Devotional for these forty days of Lent to include in your prayer life. This devotional is also available online at [ulch.org](http://ulch.org) and via the weekly Thursday Epistle.

### **Holy Week Worship**

We will worship at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary for Maundy Thursday (4/2 ), Good Friday (4/3), and Easter Vigil (4/4).