

Who Are We?

We are a welcoming church that
wants everyone to know God's love.

Our Core Values

Love First Foster Belonging
Grace-Powered Hope, Help, and Healing

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL to WORSHIP:

Leader: On this first Sunday in Lent, we join Jesus in the wilderness, a place of wild and dangerous things, of testing and temptation away from the security of home.

All: God, rescue us in the wilderness!

Leader: Once again, we watch and listen as Satan throws out temptation upon temptation, and we find our security in Jesus, who does not waver from the truth.

All: God, rescue us within the wilderness!

Leader: Once again, we face our own frailty and realize that the wilderness is not nearly as dangerous as our choices to prioritize selfish gain and hoarding of power.

All: God, rescue us through the wilderness!

Leader: Once again, we call upon God in the wildernesses of our lives, and we trust God's faithful reply:

**All: Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will
rescue them and honor them. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN *UMH 110* ***"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"***

OPENING PRAYER:

**O Lord our God,
a mighty fortress in troubling times and our refuge in the wilderness,
let us never fail to rely on your deliverance,
and let us not be led astray to trust in false salvation.
Instead, keep us mindful of mercies past and present blessings,
that we may celebrate your goodness with all around us,
and so rejoice in the promised inheritance,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING (see insert)

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

**Indicates stand as you are able.*

PSALM 91:1-2, 9-16 (see insert)

GOSPEL READING (see insert)

Luke 4:1-13

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Dee Dee Hart

SERMON

"My Father Was"

Pastor Andy

*HYMN of INVITATION

UMH 97

"For the Fruits of this Creation"

PASTORAL PRAYER and the LORD'S PRAYER (*UMH 895*)

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*PRAYER of THANKSGIVING:

**All things come from you, O God,
and with praise and thanksgiving we return to you what is yours.
You created all that is, and with love formed us in your image.
When our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior,
that we might have abundant and eternal life.
All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you.
And so, in gratitude for all that you have done,
we offer ourselves, and all that we have,
in union with Christ's offering for us.
By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

HOLY COMMUNION

*All who seek Jesus are welcome to share in this grace with us,
whether you are a member of this church, another church, or no church at all.*

*CLOSING HYMN

W&S 3113

"A Wilderness Wandering People"

BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE

Pianist: Chris Miller

Do good, be rich in the good things you do, be generous, and share with others. When you do these things, you will save a treasure for yourselves that is a good foundation for the future. That way you can take hold of what is truly life. 1 Timothy 6:18-19

Offerings may be placed in plates or given online through our website. Offerings can be made using electronic fund transfers from your bank account or by credit/debit card, with the option to be set as a recurring gift. Please go to <https://byronmn.umcchurches.org/giving>, or scan the QR code with your smartphone to be directed to the giving page.



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**COUNTERS SCHEDULE:**

- Mar. 9 – Al Miller, Terri Nelson
- Mar. 16 – Al Miller, Nancy White
- Mar. 23 – Terri Nelson, Roger Vick
- Mar. 30 – Marty Nelson, Roger Vick

**COMMUNION STEWARDS:**

- Mar. 9 -- Pastor Andy, Aubree Hart
- Mar. 16 – Chris Miller (RSW)
- Mar. 23 – Nancy White
- Mar. 30 – need volunteer

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Byron UMC Website: <https://byronmn.umcchurches.org>

# Byron United Methodist Church



## First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

9:30 a.m.

## TO PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

### ***For those who need healing:***

God of compassion, source of life and health, strengthen, restore, and relieve those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially now: Suze Anderson; Karin Byers; Loren Walters; Donna Walters; Jim Miller (brother of Suze Anderson); Claire Field; Nancy Kelly; Doris Frey; Treaver Bleichner (grandson of Julene Bleichner); Dick Hart (brother of Judy Luttmers); David Larsen, Calvin Bell, Vicki McIntosh, Paige Reder, Sara (granddaughter of Anita Carlson), Max Smith (family of Barb Smith), Wayne Petersen (friend of Julene Bleichner), Debbie Webb, so that they may receive healing and help in You.

### ***For those who have died:***

Eternal God, by Your steadfast love, open Your arms of mercy to those who have died, especially now: Dan McCollough; Russ Wright; Anita Nelsen; Rev. Deanna Woodward (daughter of the late Kenneth and Lennis Sigrist); Greg Rud; Dawn Bidwell; Jean Franklin (mother of Rev. Sharon Nelson); Loyola Shappell, Dirk Dehn, George Beech; that they may find their place with You.

### ***For those who mourn:***

Gracious God, whose Son knew our sorrows, our tears, and our death, look with compassion on those who grieve, especially now: the family of Dan McCollough; the family of Russ Wright; the family of Anita Nelsen; the family of Rev. Deanna Woodward; the family of Greg Rud; the family of Dawn Bidwell; the family of Jean Franklin; the family of Loyola Shappell; the family of Dirk Dehn; the family of George Beech; and all their friends who mourn with them, so that they may be comforted by Your sure presence and filled with hope in Your goodness.

### ***For the homebound, those in care facilities, and their caregivers:***

God of all seasons of life, bring comfort to those who are vulnerable, tired, or weak, especially now: Nancy Kelly, Bette Josephson, Calvin Bell, Loren Walters, Donna Walters, Alan Bourquin, Debbie Byers, John Lloyd, Carol Ramthun, Barb Smith; so that they may be blessed and at peace each day. Inspire and encourage those who care for them, so that their work may be filled with grace and their love may be multiplied.

### ***For those who celebrate:***

God of blessing, we praise You for the joy we have received and the gift we have in one another. We lift up special thanks for those who celebrate milestones in life – birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, the birth of a child, graduations, promotions, and new jobs – and we ask Your continued blessing upon them, now and always.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*If you or someone you know would like to be included in these prayers, please contact Pastor Andy directly at 210-288-9477 or [Andrew.L.Petter@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.L.Petter@gmail.com).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION

**SENIOR CITIZEN SUPPER:** The Salem Sailors 4-H group is hosting its annual Senior Citizen Supper today, **March 9 at Byron UMC**. Serving begins at 4:30 p.m. This is free to seniors and all seniors are welcome!

**LENTEN BOOK STUDY:** Join us for a six-week Lenten study as we dive into Bishop Tom Berlin's book, *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*, **starting Tuesday, March 11, at 6:30 PM**. From the publisher: on the third day, he rose again. In *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*, Tom Berlin uses his gifts of storytelling and understanding the Scriptures to connect the reader to the experiences of several individuals around Jesus in his final days, focusing on new life and redemption rather than loss. Join Peter, Mary Magdalene, and Thomas as they feel the despair of losing Jesus and the surprise and joy that awaits them in the resurrection. This study traces events around these characters, along with Paul and the disciples at Emmaus, and how the resurrection transforms their lives. You can order the book at [Cokesbury.com](http://Cokesbury.com) or search online at other major book retailers.

**GRIEF GROUP:** Our next ***grief group meeting*** at Byron UMC is **Wed., March 12<sup>th</sup> from 10-11 a.m.** The group offers opportunities to talk about things that cannot be discussed in other settings and to find others who can relate to their situation. For more information, please contact Pastor Andy or Marlene Abel.

**READY, SET, WORSHIP!:** On the third Sunday of each month, our regular worship service is replaced by an engaging, kid-centered worship service for God's children of all ages called Ready, Set, Worship! Our next Ready, Set, Worship! is March 16. ***We are looking for adult greeters for our Ready, Set, Worship! services. Contact Pastor Andy to be added to the list.***



**DINNER AND THE CHOSEN:** Dinner and the viewing of *The Chosen* - Season 3, Episode 5 (*Clean – Part 2*) is **March 16, at 5:30 p.m.** All are welcome! To watch previous episodes, search *The Chosen* on your smartphone, smart TV or computer.



**SUMMER CHURCH CAMP:** Pastor Andy will again lead the Faith, Fun, and Friends youth camp for Jr and Sr High students at Northern Pines this summer, June 22-27. There is also a Discovery Camp (age 9-13) available that same week at Northern Pines. Our group from Byron UMC had a great time last year – just ask them! For more information or to check out other camping opportunities, go to [www.campminnesota.org](http://www.campminnesota.org).

**SCOUTING RELIGIOUS RECOGNITION AWARDS:** All Scouts (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies, etc.) are eligible to work on and receive their Scouting Religious Recognition Medals. Each medal is age appropriate and a growing opportunity for the scout and their family to learn about their faith. If interested, we can work to get all the materials ordered around Ash Wednesday and then complete the program so medals could be presented shortly after Easter. Any questions: Check with your Scout Leader or Rob Thompson (507-634-4345).