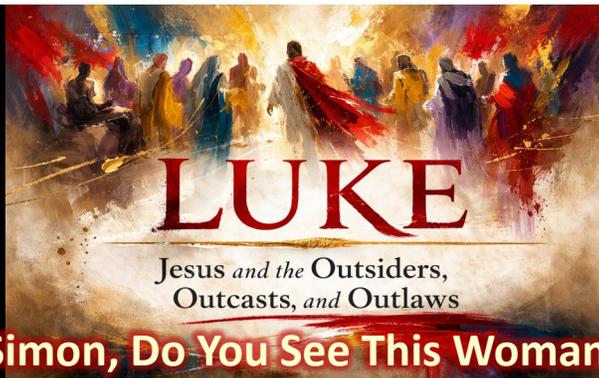


March 1, 2026



## Simon, Do You See This Woman?

WELCOME

PRELUDE *If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee*  
arr. Walther

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all who carry stories that have been judged or dismissed.

**We come longing to be seen.**

Come, all who have known both regret and deep love.

**We come trusting that grace still finds us.**

Jesus enters the rooms we try to keep tidy and the lives we try to hide.

**He sees what others overlook.**

Come and worship the One who looks at us with mercy.

**We come to worship the Christ who sees us fully—and loves us still.**

OPENING HYMN NO. 378 *Amazing Grace*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that too often we see with the eyes of judgment rather than love.**

**We notice reputations more than people, labels more than lives, and appearances more than pain. Like Simon, we welcome you in theory but resist the kind of grace that disrupts our certainty. We struggle to believe that forgiveness can be so extravagant, that love can be so freely given, that mercy can reach even those we have written off—and even ourselves. Forgive us, O God.**

**Open our eyes to see as Jesus sees. Soften our hearts to love as Jesus loves. Teach us again that we are all in need of grace, and that your mercy is never earned, only received. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: Jesus says, “Your sins are forgiven. Your faith has saved you; go in peace.” In Christ, forgiveness is not withheld until we are worthy—it is offered because love has already met us. We are seen. We are forgiven. We are set free to love in return. Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

ANTHEM *By Faith* arr. Richard A. Nichols  
Men's Ensemble

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

SUNG RESPONSE No. 191, vs. 1  
*Jesus Loves Me*

**Jesus loves me! This I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong;  
they are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

ANTHEM *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*  
Tune: Beachspring, Text: Frederick W. Faber  
Chancel Choir

VERSE 3: Choir and Congregation (a cappella)

**Troubled souls, why will you scatter  
like a crowd of frightened sheep?  
Foolish hearts, why will you wander  
from a love so true and deep?  
There is welcome for the sinner  
and more graces for the good,  
There is mercy with the savior,  
there is healing in his blood.**

SCRIPTURE Luke 7:36-50

A SEAT AT THE TABLE *A Love That Crosses Lines*  
Stephanie Krug

MESSAGE  
*Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts and Outlaws  
Simon, Do You See this Woman?*

OFFERING  
*You may give your offering by using the QR code on your screen, at umcwc.org, through the mail, by automated giving through Realm, or by dropping it off at our office.. Thank you for your generosity.*

OFFERTORY *Wondrous Love* arr. Johnson

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You brought all things into being and called them good. From the dust of the earth you formed us into your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. When rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights, you bore up the ark on the waters, saved Noah and his family, and made covenant with every living creature on earth. When you led your people to Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights, you gave us your commandments and made us your covenant people. When your people forsook your covenant, your prophet Elijah fasted for forty days and forty nights; and on your holy mountain, he heard your still small voice. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. When you gave him to save us from our sin, your Spirit led him into the wilderness, where he fasted forty days and forty nights to prepare for his ministry. When he suffered and died on a cross for our sin, you raised him to life, presented him alive to the apostles during forty days, and exalted him at your right hand. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this,

as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen;**

**Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP/ANOINTING

COMMUNION HYMNS Nos. 616, 420

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### CLOSING HYMN NO. 121

*There's A Wideness in God's Mercy*

### BENEDICTION

Go now, seen and loved by Christ. Go with eyes open to the grace at work in unexpected places. Go with hearts bold enough to love deeply, and lives shaped by mercy rather than judgment. Go in peace—for the One who sees you goes with you.

**Amen.**

### POSTLUDE

*A Lenten Meditation*

Havergal/Rasley

**Bold text indicates congregational response.**

### **Worship Participants**

Message: Cyndi Stouffer

Liturgist: Rev. Allen Keller

Reader: Grace Muzzo

Message for Growing Christians: Tim Case

Chancel Choir Director: Jeannie Nelson

Men's Ensemble Director: Mike Muzzo

Organist: Steve Campitelli

Live Stream Team: Tim Case, CC Clark, Brad Rush,  
Jacqueline Rush, Cory Smith

## Education and Growth Opportunities

Sunday School for all ages is at 10:00 AM

Children's Sunday School (Rm 4-5)

Youth Sunday School (Youth Rm)

Adult Sunday School

Mustard Seed (Rm 12)

Seekers (Rm 7)

Upper Room (Chapel)

Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 9:30 AM

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 7:30 AM

Youth Group

Sundays at 6:00

PM

Pastor Jo Higgins Children's Library - Books for 1 year olds through teenagers. Located on the lower level.

## Connection and Sharing Opportunities

Chancel Choir (Adults)

Thursdays at 6:30 PM

Children's Choir

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

Praise Team

Wednesdays at 7:15 PM

Carillon Choir

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

Sunshine Memory Café

Tuesdays at 1:00 PM

*A welcoming place for persons with memory loss and their care partner.*

Coffee With the Pastor

2nd Monday, 10 AM, at

Gamm's Diner Wednesday Night Out Dinner

Wednesdays at 5:45 PM

Retired Men's Lunch Group

2nd Wednesday at 11:30 AM

United Women in Faith

1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM,

Sept-May

*Circles meet at various times throughout the month.*

Web Dance

1st Sunday of each month, 6:00 pm,

Sept-May

*High school hosted themed dance party for adults with intellectual disabilities*

## Opportunities for Growth, Fellowship, and Service

**ACT Now (formerly Act In Faith)** - Items for their Community Cupboard can be dropped off at the table in the Gathering Area. Donations of paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo, all purpose cleaner, and laundry detergent are needed, as these items are not available at other cupboards.

**Unused hotel toiletries needed** - Items go to Ronald McDonald House, Safe Harbor, and Salvation Army. Place items in the basket by the elevator in the Gathering Area.

**Stephen Ministry** - Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one confidential lay caring ministry for people who are going through a tough time. If you would like more information about how one of our trained Stephen Ministers can walk with you during this time, contact Kelly Lynn (Kelly@umcwc.org).

**PRAYER NEEDS** - The full list of prayer concerns can be found on the round table in the Gathering Area. Requests are also sent through our "Prayer Link". To receive the prayer link contact Luanne Sims (lsimsumcwc@gmail.com). To submit a prayer request, please sign the form in the friendship folder or contact Pastor Cyndi (pastorcyndi@umcwc.org).

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK

### Today, March 1

6:00 PM - Web Dance (Youth Room)

### Monday, March 2

7:00 PM - Digital Disciple I (via Zoom)

7:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous (Fiesta Center)

7:00 PM - Boy Scouts (Rm 4)

### Tuesday, March 3

1:00 PM - Sunshine Memory Café (Fiesta Center)

### Wednesday, March 4

7:30 AM - Men's Bible Study (Chapel)

9:30 AM - Women's Bible Study (Chapel)

5:45 PM - Wednesday Night Out Dinner

6:30 PM - Digital Disciple III (Chapel)

6:30 PM - Children's Choir (Rm 10)

7:30 PM - Carillon Choir (Rm 12)

### Thursday, March 5

8:30 AM - Stephen Ministry (Chapel)

6:30 PM - Chancel Choir

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

**Women's Bible Study** - Wednesdays at 9:30 am.

The current study is "We Believe - How the Nicene Creed Can Deepen Your Faith" by Michael Carpenter. Michael is the nephew of Anne Holton. Contact Sue Oliver at eaglesbrad@aol.com if you have questions.

**2026 parking hangers** must be displayed if parking in the leased spots Monday-Friday. Please return your current hanger to the church office (Mon.-Thu., 9am-5pm) to get a new one. The suggested donation is \$5.00 for each hanger. If you aren't available during those hours, contact Sue in the church office (610-692-5190) to make other arrangements.

**Undies for Easter** The EPA Conference Prison Ministry Team is collecting men's socks and underwear that will be distributed to the Philadelphia prison system. Donations **must** be purchased through their Amazon gift registry [https://www.amazon.com/registries/gift-view/LGBJAE5EW8G2?ref=gr\\_search\\_page\\_result](https://www.amazon.com/registries/gift-view/LGBJAE5EW8G2?ref=gr_search_page_result) Deadline to order is March 29.

### Women's Spring Retreat - "Hearts Awake"

sponsored by United Women in Faith - Saturday, March 14. Continental breakfast at 8:30 am, retreat from 9am-12 noon. This year's guest speaker is Pastor Jill Laufenberg. There is no charge All women are invited. Bring a friend. Use the QR code to register or email umcwcuwf@gmail.com.

**ACTNow Fundraiser: Chef's Best-A Friendly Culinary Competition** March 5, 6:00 pm at the Chester County History Center, 225 N. High Street. \$100 per person. Get more information and tickets at [www.assistingnow.org](http://www.assistingnow.org).