

KNIGHTSVILLE Methodist Church

Faith - Family - Fellowship

ORDER OF WORSHIP **CONTEMPORARY SERVICE** MARCH 9, 2025 11:05 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP	Raise A Hallelujah	Praise Team & Congregation
SONG OF FAITH	What A Beautiful Name	Praise Team & Congregation
GREETING & PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION		PR
WORDS OF WISDOM	Ezekiel 14:1-8	Wayne Marchant
SONG OF HOPE	It Is Well	Praise Team (solo)
NEW DOXLOGY / BLESSING OF THE OFFERING		
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH / THE LORD'S PRAYER		Lisa Patrick
WORD OF GOD	Mark 1:9-15	Debbie Parks
SPIRITUAL VITAMIN	THE CROSS Repent! Turn around because there are new paths, Amen!	Tim Brannon
SONG OF LOVE	Great Are You Lord	Praise Team & Congregation
GOING FORTH		

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

Pastor: Please join me in today's Prayer of Transformation.

People: Lord Jesus, I am your witness.
I receive your righteousness and release my sinfulness.
I receive your wholeness and release my brokenness.
I receive your fullness and release my emptiness.
I receive your peace and release my anxiety.
I receive your joy and release my despair.
I receive your healing and release my sickness.
I receive your love and release my selfishness.
I receive your readiness and release my resistance.

Pastor: Lord, may we open up our hearts, minds, and souls to your presence in our lives. As living examples of a church that matters, allow us to be gracious in our love to all people in our words, our thoughts, and our deeds.

People: May we ever be reminded that **WE** as your church will;
Glorify God, Commit to Christ, Teach the Truth, Fellowship through Faith,
and Love the Least, Lost and Lonely.

Leader & People:

Come Holy Spirit transform my heart, mind, soul, and strength so that my consecration becomes your demonstration; that our lives become your sanctuary. For the glory of God our Father, Amen.

WORDS OF WISDOM - EZEKIEL 14:1-8

Ezekiel, a priest and a prophet, ministers during the darkest days of Judah's history: the seventy-year period of Babylonia captivity. Carried to Babylon before the final assault on Jerusalem, Ezekiel uses prophecies, parables, signs, and symbols to dramatize God's message to His exiled people. Though they are like dry bones in the sun, God will reassemble them and breathe life into their very heart and soul the breathe of heaven.

Allow these words from chapter 14 to ignite into you a newfound passion for a new heart and a time to refocus, refresh, restart as you journey into Lent 2025.

Some of the leaders of Israel approached me and sat down with me. God's Message came to me: "Son of Man, these people have installed idols in their hearts. They have embraced the wickedness that will ruin them. Why should I even bother with their prayers? Therefore tell them, 'The Message of God, the Master: All in Israel who install idols in their hearts and embrace the wickedness that will ruin them and still have the gall to come to a prophet, be on notice: I, God, will step in and personally answer them as they come dragging along their mob of idols. I am ready to go to work on the hearts of the house of Israel, all of whom have left me for their idols.' "Therefore, say to the house of Israel: 'God, the Master, says, Repent! Turn your backs on your no-god idols. Turn your backs on all your outrageous obscenities. To every last person from the house of Israel, including any of the resident aliens who live in Israel—all who turn their backs on me and embrace idols, who install the wickedness that will ruin them at the center of their lives and then have the gall to go to the prophet to ask me questions—I, God, will step in and give the answer myself. I'll oppose those people to their faces, make an example of them—a warning lesson—and get rid of them so you will realize that I am God.

Bless our understanding of these scared scriptures from the Prophet, Ezekiel.

People: Alleluia, Praise be to God, Alleluia!

WORD OF GOD - MARK 1:9-15

What matters in life is not how long we live but how we live. What matters is not the duration of our lives but the donation of our lives. We were put on earth to make a contribution. God has designed us to make a difference with our lives. While many best-selling books offer advice on how to “get” the most out of life, that’s not the reason God made you. You were created to add to life on earth, not just take from it. God wants you to give something back, and it is called your ministry, or service.

The message of Mark’s gospel is captured in a single verse: “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many”. Chapter by chapter, the book unfolds the dual focus of Christ’s life: service and sacrifice. Mark portrays Jesus as a Servant on the move, instantly responsive to the will of the Father.

Today’s reading comes from the 1st chapter highlighting Jesus’ call into ministry and the start of His journey to THE CROSS.

One day Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. As Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens splitting apart and the Holy Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, “You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy.”

The Spirit then compelled Jesus to go into the wilderness, where he was tempted by Satan for forty days. He was out among the wild animals, and angels took care of him.

Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God’s Good News. “The time promised by God has come at last!” he announced. “The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!”

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

People: Thanks be to God.