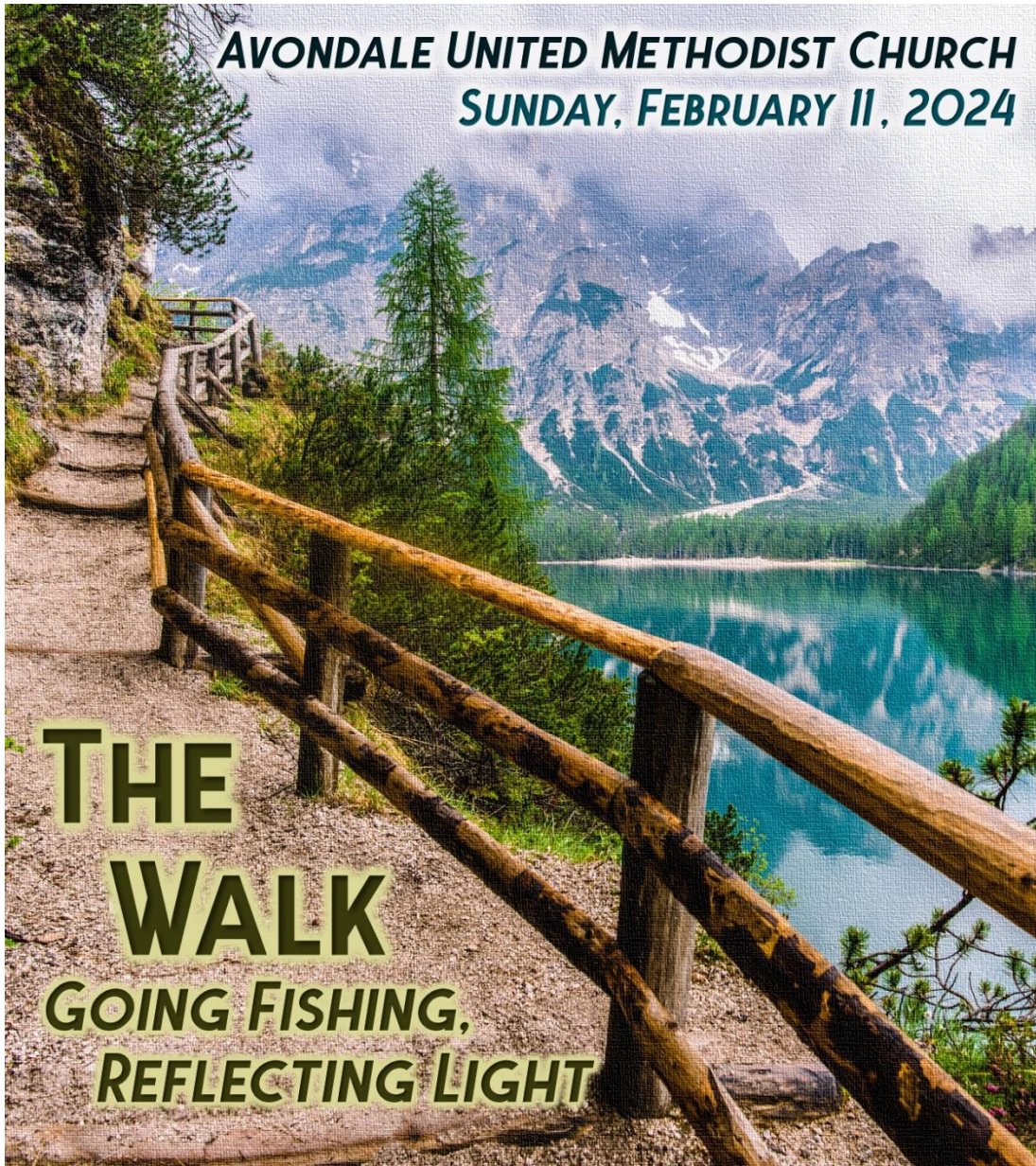


AVONDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024



**THE
WALK
GOING FISHING,
REFLECTING LIGHT**



AVONDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3101 NE Winn Road | Kansas City, MO 64117
(816) 452-3518

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GATHERING

Gathering Music

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

MESSAGE | WORDS: H. Ernest Nichol, 1862-1928 (CWH attrib to Colin Sterne) | MUSIC: H. Ernest Nichol, 1862-1928 | CCLI Song #2257437 | All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #20356168.

Gathering

* Call to Worship

One: O God, make the door of this house
wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship,

All: and narrow enough to shut out envy, pride, and strife.

One: Make its threshold smooth enough
to be no stumbling block to children, nor to straying feet,

All: but rugged and strong enough to turn back evil's power.

God, make the door of this house the gateway to your eternal kingdom.

* Song of Faith

Christ for the World We Sing

UMH 568

ITALIAN HYMN | WORDS: Samuel Wolcott, 1813-1886 | MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796 | CCLI Song #2647487 | All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #20356168.

Christ for the world we sing,
the world to Christ we bring,
with loving zeal;
the poor, and them that mourn,
the faint and overborne,
sinsick and sorrow-worn,
whom Christ doth heal.

Christ for the world we sing,
the world to Christ we bring,
with fervent prayer;
the wayward and the lost,
by restless passions tossed,
redeemed at countless cost,
from dark despair.

Christ for the world we sing,
the world to Christ we bring,
with one accord;
with us the work to share,
with us reproach to dare,
with us the cross to bear,
for Christ our Lord.

Christ for the world we sing,
the world to Christ we bring,
with joyful song;
the newborn souls, whose days,
reclaimed from error's ways,
inspired with hope and praise,
to Christ belong.



ENGAGING

The Brown Bag Mystery Tour

R² & The AUMC Young Ones

Jesus Loves the Little Children; WORDS & MUSIC: Clare Herbert Woolston and George Frederick Root; alt. |
Public Domain | CCLI Song #58415 | All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #20356168.

Jesus loves the little children
All the children of the World
Every shade from dark to light

All are precious in His sight
Jesus loves the little children
of the world.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

John 13:34-35 | Matthew 5:14-16

Act of Praise

Go Light Your World

Kelsie Clark Massey

WORDS & MUSIC: Chris Rice | © 1995 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing | CCLI Song #
1829337 | All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #20356168.

Message

The Walk: Going Fishing, Reflecting Light

THANKSGIVING

Offering Our Generosity

You may send your offerings to the church at 3101 NE Winn Rd., Kansas City,
MO 64117. Or you may make your contribution electronically. Simply
follow the QR code on the right to the donation page at
avondalemethodist.org.



Musical Offering

People Need the Lord

Kelsie Clark Massey

WORDS & MUSIC: Greg Nelson and Phil McHugh | © 1983 River Oaks Music Company | CCLI Song
#18084 | All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #20356168.

* Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

OLD 100th | WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; alt. | MUSIC: Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551 | CCLI
Song#56204 | All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #20356168.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Maker, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, faithful and gracious forever, You love us more than we love ourselves. You believe in us more than we believe in ourselves. You call us to walk with Christ, and be more than we ever thought possible. Take our gifts. Receive our thanks. Accept our praise: through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Call to the Font

Down to the River to Pray

DOWN TO THE RIVER | WORDS: Southern USA folk song | MUSIC: Southern USA folk song; trans. by Jackson Henry © 2011 Jackson Henry | All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #20356168.

Reaffirmation of Faith and Reception into the UMC and Local Congregation

UMH pg. 33

Introduction to the Service

Presentation of Candidates

Renunciation of Sin

Profession of Faith

One: Let us join together in professing the Christian faith
as contained in the Scripture of the Old and
New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**All: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
[who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living
and the dead.]**

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**All: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
[the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.]**

* universal

Thanksgiving Over the Water

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

Eternal Father:

When nothing existed but chaos,
you swept across the dark waters
and brought forth light.

In the days of Noah

you saved those on the ark through water.

After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.

When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,
you led them to freedom through the sea.

Their children you brought through the Jordan
to the land which you promised.

**All: Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Tell of God's mercy each day.**

One: In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,
nurtured in the water of a womb.

He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.

He called his disciples

to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection
and to make disciples of all nations.

**All: Declare Christ's works to the nations,
his glory among all the people.**

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit,
to bless this gift of water and those who use it to reaffirm their faith,
to wash away their sin
and clothe them in righteousness
throughout their lives,
that, dying and being raised with Christ,
they may share in his final victory.

**All: All praise to you, Eternal Father,
through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
lives and reigns for ever.**

Amen.

Reaffirmation of Faith

Here water may be used symbolically in ways that cannot be interpreted as baptism, as the pastor says:

One: Remember your baptism and be thankful.

The people respond.

All: Amen.

The pastor will anoint the candidates. After the prayer the people respond.

All: Amen.

Reception into the United Methodist Church

Reception into the Local Church

Commendation and Welcome

One: Members of the household of God,
I commend Cheryl and Debbie to your love and care.
Do all in your power to increase their faith.
confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**All: We give thanks for all that God has already given you
and we welcome you in Christian love.**

**As members together with you
in the body of Christ
and in this congregation
of The United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant
faithfully to participate
in the ministries of the church
by our prayers, our presence,
our gifts, our service, and our witness,
that in everything God may be glorified
through Jesus Christ.**

Call to the Font Reprise

Down to the River to Pray

DOWN TO THE RIVER | WORDS: Southern USA folk song | MUSIC: Southern USA folk song; trans. by
Jackson Henry © 2011 Jackson Henry | All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #20356168.

As I went down to the river to pray,
studyin' about that good ole way
and who shall wear the robe and crown,
good Lord, show me the way.
O sisters, let's go down,
let's go down, come on down.
Come on, beloved, let's go down,
down to the river to pray.

SENDING

Upcoming

* Song of Faith

Go Make of All Disciples

UMH 571

LANCASHIRE | WORDS: Leon M. Adkins, 1955, alt. | MUSIC: Henry T Smart, 1835 | Words © 1964
Abingdon Press | CCLI Song #6104861 | All rights reserved. Reprinted CCLI #20356168.

“Go, make of all disciples.”
We hear the call, O Lord,
that comes from thee, our Parent,
in thy eternal Word.
Inspire our ways of learning
through earnest, fervent prayer,
and let our daily living
reveal thee everywhere.

“Go, make of all disciples,
baptizing in the name
of Parent, Son, and Spirit,
from age to age the same.”
We call each new disciple
to follow thee, O Lord,
redeeming soul and body
by water and the Word.

“Go, make of all disciples.”
We at thy feet would stay
until each life’s vocation
accents thy holy way.
We cultivate the nature
God plants in every heart,
revealing in our witness
the master teacher’s art.

“Go, make of all disciples.”
We welcome thy command.
“Lo, I am with you always.”
We take thy guiding hand.
The task looms large before us;
we follow without fear;
in heaven and earth thy power
shall bring God’s kingdom here.

Blessing

Parting Music

Pass It On

PASS IT ON | WORDS & MUSIC: Kurt Kaiser, 1969 | © 1969 Communiqué Music, Inc. | CCLI Song
#14284 | All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #20356168.

Worship Participants

Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Dunger Peak

Ministers: The People

Music Director: Kevin Hershberger

Guest Musician: Kelsie Clark Massey, vocals & piano

Worship Leader: Kathy Irvine

Tech Team: Brent Henry & Stephanie Johnson

Candle Lighters: Bruce Bol & Molly McDaniel

Walking Our Faith: Going Fishing, Reflecting Light

We've adopted some wonderful practices these last few weeks that are strengthening our discipleship, our walk with Jesus. We've recommitted ourselves, through the use of our hands, to worship and pray, study, serve, and give consistently because consistency is the key to building habits that last a lifetime. Today we focus our attention on sharing our faith by going fishing and reflecting light.

Our clenched dominant hand represents our shared witness as a congregation to the world around us. This is how we are a lighthouse in our community and world. Our unclenched hand with its five digits "represents your personal practice and a goal of sharing your faith with five people this year." Overall, these digits represent different spans of time from daily, weekly, monthly, and now yearly. These digits stand for five people who don't attend church, some of whom might be spiritual but not religious. Think about the people in your sphere of influence. How might you positively reflect the light of Jesus to them in a way that leads to holy conversation pointing to God, conversations that over time lead to a simple invitation to a church activity, small group, service project, and worship. Identify who those five people might be and then start praying for them every day. Pray for God to open doors, Jesus to shine a light, and the Spirit to fill your soul with words of blessing. A simple way to start is by sharing your faith on social media. Maybe you'll share pictures of your involvement or share comments about your faith or insights gleaned from our various ministries. Why not start today by sharing about our Souper Bowl.

Source: Hamilton, Adam. *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life*. (Nashville:Abingdon Press, 2019) 135-136.

Daily Prayer for the Week

Lord, thank you for your love for us. Thank you for the people you brought into my life who brought me to you. Thank you for giving them the courage to live their faith in such a way that I saw you through them. Bless them for the blessing they have been to me. Use me, Lord, as you used them. Let me be your light that pushes away darkness. Let me be your witness every day. Let me be a fisher who draws people to you. Let me be someone who allows others to see a reflection of you. Amen.

Source: Hamilton, Adam. *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life*. (Nashville:Abingdon Press, 2019) 136.

Daily Readings for the Week

Every day through scripture reading and prayer we will discover the broader story of God's Word. This week's readings remind us of our commission to go fishing and reflect light. Together let's go deeper into God's Word this week.

Monday ... Matthew 4:18-20
Tuesday ... 2 Corinthians 5:20 & Acts 1:8
Wednesday ... Matthew 28:19-20
Thursday ... Matthew 9:36-38
Friday ... Luke 19:1-10
Saturday ... 1 Peter 3:15-16



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Call to Worship from *Worship & Song Worship Resources Edition* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2011) 26.

Prayer for Illumination by Clara Welch, *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life: Leader Guide*. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2019) 49-50.

Walking Our Faith and **Prayer of the Week** adapted from: Hamilton, Adam. *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life*. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2019) 135-136.

Prayer of Dedication by Brian Wren, © 2004 Brian Wren. *Worship & Song Worship Resources Edition* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2011) 48.