

Sunday, February 25, 2024

Avondale United Methodist Church

Wandering Heart

"Rescue me from danger"

Every Sunday:

Small Groups @ 9 a.m.
Worship @ 10:10 a.m.
Prayer Circle @ 11:20 a.m.

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Stand By Me

Gathering

* Call to Worship

* Song of Faith

Trust and Obey

UMH 467

ENGAGING

The Brown Bag Mystery Tour

R² & The AUMC Young Ones

Children and youth of all ages and stages are welcome to come to the front of the sanctuary to hang out with Rev. Rebecca as we discover the surprise awaiting us in the Brown Bag.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Psalm 22:23-31 | Matthew 14:22-33

* Song of Faith

Into the Waters

Message

Wandering Heart: "Rescue me from danger"

Affirmation of Faith

THANKSGIVING

Call to Prayer

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

UMH 474

Call to Confession | Prayer of Confession | Words of Forgiveness

Prayers of the People | The Lord's Prayer (UMH 895)

Offering

One of the ways we give thanks to God at Avondale UMC is by meeting God's generosity with our own. The Connection Card in the bulletin is a tool for offering to God our acts of discipleship throughout the previous week. It's also a place to share with the pastor any prayer requests. As the offering plate comes your way, we encourage you to connect with your nearest neighbors.



Musical Offering

His Strength Is Perfect

* Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

* Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

Upcoming

These upcoming opportunities are a chance to carry this week's message into the world. Be sure to mark your calendars and invite others to join us.

* Song of Faith

Love Lifted Me

Blessing

Parting Music

Love Lifted Me

Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Dunger Peak

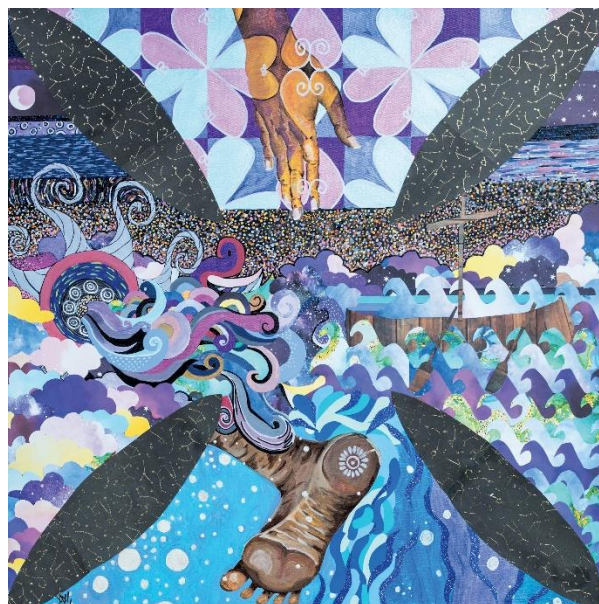
Ministers: The People

Music Director: Kevin Hershberger

Worship Leader: Aaron Roberts

Tech Team: Cheryl Henry & Jason Wimberley

Candle Lighters: Our Youth



Lift Off, acrylic, ink, paper collage, and mixed media on canvas inspired by Matthew 14:22-33 by Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda



“Rescue me from danger” | The 2nd Sunday in Lent

Choppy water: Peter walks out in faith on the choppy waters, and Jesus saves him from sinking. The choppy water lines represent the turbulent waters we all walk through on our journey of faith.

This Week’s Centering Practice for Wandering Hearts | Center yourself in prayer. Pray to God using this template: “God, thank you for _____. God, rescue me from _____.”

This Week’s Journaling Prompts for Wandering Hearts | **Sunday:** What truths or wounds weigh heavily on you today? What things cause you to sink? | **Monday:** When the storms in your life rage, what do you do? How do you pray? Where do you go? | **Tuesday:** Peter gets out of the boat and walks toward Jesus (Mt. 14:22-33). When in your life have you intentionally moved closer to Jesus? What prompted that? | **Wednesday:** Who in our world needs rescuing right now? Pray for those people today. | **Thursday:** When Peter begins to sink, Jesus reaches for him immediately (Mt. 14:22-33). What does this tell you about God? About Jesus? About the storms of our life? | **Friday:** Jesus tells Peter, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid” (Mt. 14:22-33). Where in your life do you need courage? | **Saturday:** When Peter sinks, Jesus asks, “Why did you doubt?” (Mt. 14:22-33). Do you think Peter doubted himself or Christ? How does doubt show up in your life?

Rescue Me

I’d rather not need rescue.
I’d prefer a five-step plan
and a quick-fix solution.
I’d prefer stubborn insistence
over honest vulnerability,
because rescue requires
asking for help.
Rescue names
the rising water.
Rescue sees
the tired, treading feet.

Rescue feels
the swell of the wind
and the rain at a slant.
But when the floor falls out
and the world is on fire
and my small hands
cannot fix the hurt welling in me,
the prayer that slips out
is *rescue*
rescue
rescue me.

