

Sunday, March 3, 2024

Avondale United Methodist Church

Wandering Heart

"Praise the mount"

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

GATHERING

Gathering Music

At the Cross

Pete Fucinaro, Tenor Sax | Kevin Hershberger, Piano

Gathering

* Call to Worship

* Song of Faith

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

UMH 139

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 19 | Matthew 16:13-20

Act of Praise

How Beautiful

Pete Fucinaro, Tenor Sax | Kevin Hershberger, Piano & Vocals

Message

Wandering Heart: "Praise the mount"

THANKSGIVING

Call to the Table

You Feed Us, Gentle Savior

Gathering at the Table of Christ

As you come forward to receive communion you are invited to place your tithes, offerings, and Connections Card in the plate. Everyone is invited to the Feast of Grace. Gluten-Free crackers and a dedicated Gluten-Free cup are available to the pastor's left. If, for any reason, you are not able to partake in the bread and cup, know that you are still welcome to celebrate with us. Simply come forward with arms crossed over your chest and the pastor will be honored to offer a blessing for you.



Invitation | Our Shared Confession | Words of Forgiveness

The Great Thanksgiving (UMH pg. 15) | The Lord's Prayer (UMH 895)

Breaking the Bread | Sharing the Feast

Musical Offering

Lamb of God

Pete Fucinaro, Tenor Sax | Kevin Hershberger, Piano

Returning Thanks

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

Here at the Peak

Blessing

Parting Music

Freely, Freely

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Dunger Peak

Ministers: The People

Music Director: Kevin Hershberger

Guest Musician: Pete Fucinaro, Tenor Sax

Worship Leader: Gwyn Roberts

Tech Team: Brent Henry & Mike Slavic

Candle Lighters: Our Youth



AVONDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Office Open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday

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“Praise the mount” | The 3rd Sunday in Lent

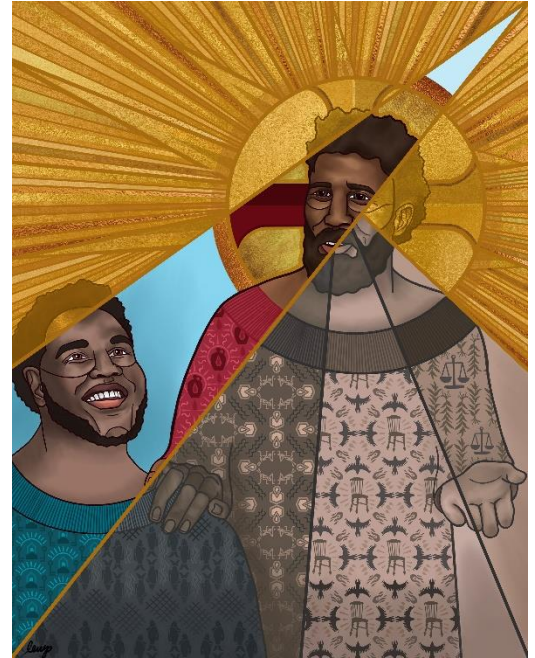
Mountain Peak: Peter has a moment of clarity and professes Jesus to be the Messiah. Jesus affirms Peter’s proclamation by saying Peter is the rock upon which he will build his church and that Peter will be given “the keys of the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 16:19). A mountain peak represents this moment of clarity and affirmation along Peter’s wandering journey.

This Week’s Centering Practice for Wandering Hearts

Center yourself in scripture. Read Psalm 51:1-17 a few times through.

This Week’s Journaling Prompts for Wandering Hearts

Sunday: When in your life have you felt closest to God? What are some of the “mountaintop” moments in your faith? | **Monday:** In your own words, how would you describe Jesus? Who do you say that Jesus is? | **Tuesday:** What actions feel like praise for you? | **Wednesday:** When did your faith become your own? What do you remember about that moment or season? | **Thursday:** Conviction can be a powerful tool. What are 3 things you feel convicted about? | **Friday:** What places feel like “mountaintop” places for your faith? | **Saturday:** Jesus affirms Peter, calling him the “rock of the church” (Mt. 16:13-20). What affirmations have helped you live into your call or trust your God-given gifts?



Who Do You Say that I Am? digital painting inspired by Matthew 16:13-20 by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Praise the Mount

I have stayed quiet before.
I have held my tongue
while passing mountains.
I have slipped my hands deep into pockets,
despite the music that invites me to dance.
I have glimpsed a new moon and a new love
and have acted as if it was something other
than a complete, God-given miracle.
But not today.
Not today.
Today I will dance.
Today I will tap my toes all the way to
heaven’s gates.
Today I will point out every shade of gold and

periwinkle that we pass.
Today I will talk about my faith like we talk
about the weather—
early and unprompted, comfortable and
unashamed.
Today I will tell you that God did such a good
job with freckles, willow trees,
and your entire being.
And I will not be embarrassed by my own
conviction.
I will not swallow my praise.
I have stayed quiet before,
but not today.
Today I will sing.