

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Avondale United Methodist Church

Wandering Heart *"Here's my heart"*

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

GATHERING

Gathering Music

House of the Lord

Gathering

* Call to Worship

* Song of Faith

Crown Him with Many Crowns

UMH 327

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

Retracing Peter's Journey

Luke 5:1-11 | John 13:31-38 | John 18:15-18, 25-27

Act of Praise

Were You There

Jennifer Mitchell, Violin

Message

Wandering Heart: "Here's my heart"

Affirmation of Faith

THANKSGIVING

Call to the Table

Come to the Table

FWS 2264

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 | Great Thanksgiving | The Lord's Prayer | Breaking the Bread | Sharing the Feast
Musical Offering *River Medley* Jennifer Mitchell, Violin
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

Christ Has Risen

FWS 2115

Blessing

Parting Music

God Be with You

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Dunger Peak

Ministers: The People

Music Director: Kevin Hershberger

Guest Musician: Jennifer Mitchell, Violin

Worship Leader: Linda Klemp

Tech Team: Brent Henry & Mike Slavik

Candle Lighters: Our Youth



AVONDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

www.avondalemethodist.org | avondaleumc@gmail.com

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

Rev. Rebecca Dunger Peak
AvondaleUMCPastor@gmail.com

Kevin Hershberger
KevinHershbergerm633@gmail.com



"Here's my heart" | The 2nd Sunday of Easter

Heart: Peter is a heart-on-his sleeve kind of a guy. When Peter sees Jesus, he puts on his outer garment in reverence, and then dives into the sea, not wasting a second to embrace his teacher, friend, and Messiah who then asks him three times, "Do you love me?"



This Week's Centering Practice for Wandering Hearts | Center yourself in gratitude. Create a list of 10 things that you are grateful for.

This Week's Journaling Prompts for Wandering Hearts

Sunday: What have you learned from Peter's journey of faith? | **Monday:** Where do you feel called to serve, grow, or give in the coming weeks? | **Tuesday:** What feeds you spiritually? | **Wednesday:** Jesus feeds the disciples (Jn. 21:1-19). Who would you like to share a meal with in the coming weeks? | **Thursday:** What can you say "yes" to this Easter season? | **Friday:** When have you experienced unconditional love? What does that love look and feel like? | **Saturday:** Does love feel risky? When have you taken a chance to show love to someone who needed it?

Feed My Sheep yarn and paper collage on canvas inspired by John 21:1-19 by Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda

Here's My Heart

Inspired by "The Lanyard" by Billy Collins from The Trouble with Poetry: and Other Poems by Billy Collins. (Random House, 2005).

As a child I made a nativity set for my mother—
 pinch pot clay, uneven angel wings,
 hair made with the help of a garlic press,
 Joseph's staff rolled out like I was God
 and it was an earthworm.
 There was nothing beautiful about it,
 nothing whispering of talent,
 but I made it for my mother!
 So I wrapped
 that questionable piece of art in a box
 and gave it to her
 like I was handing her a Picasso.
*Here, mother,
 you carried me in your womb.
 You bandaged my knees when I fell.
 You made soup when I was sick.
 You rocked me to sleep as an infant
 and sewed my costumes by hand.
 In return, I made you this haphazard nativity!*

And in my childlike mind,
 I thought that the small white lamb,

molded from a lumpy piece of clay,
 could somehow make us even,
 could somehow balance the scales,
 could somehow pay her back.
 And bless my mother,
 because in her grace,
 she smiled and she displayed that
 hodge-podge nativity set
 on the mantel
 as if it were her pride and joy.
(I believed that it was.)
 Maybe that's the way it is with God.
 I say, *Here's my heart*
 and God smiles.
 And God takes it.
 And despite the ragtag nature of my
 human-hearted faith,
 whatever I can give always ends up on
 God's mantel.
 Whatever I can give always calls for
 pride and joy.