

# *Avon Lake Presbyterian Church*

*Friends in Christ, Serving Together with Love*

## *Let Go and Let God*

February 25, 2024  
Second Sunday in Lent

"For those who want to  
save their life will lose it,  
and those who lose their  
life for my sake, and for  
the sake of the gospel,  
will save it."

MARK 8:35



*Hearing assistance available: FM receivers & earpieces are stored near the AV room. See sound technician with questions.*

*Coffee House Worship: in education wing foyer. Enjoy a more casual environment while worship is livestreamed from the sanctuary.*

**GATHERING MUSIC**

*What Wondrous Love is This*  
WONDROUS LOVE

Setting by John Folkening

**PRELUDE**

*What Wondrous Love is This*  
WONDROUS LOVE

Joan Wojcicki Fortney, cello

William Walker  
Arr. Richard A. Nichols**WELCOME****INTROIT**

*Think of Me and Remember*  
PREPARE THE WAY

Joel Raney

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Genesis 17, Romans 4, Mark 8*

One: In promise and covenant, God calls.

**All: In hope and trust, we respond.**

One: In love and faithfulness, God saves.

**All: In gratitude and joy, we come.**

One: Let us worship and praise God's holy name.

**OPENING PRAYER** *Genesis 17*

**All: Ancient of days, bring your future hope into our world. Bring your love into our lives. Bring your presence into our midst. Open our hearts and minds to your message, that we may respond with hope and trust. With our ancestors of old, may we walk in the lineage of faithful discipleship. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*  
BOURBON

No. 718

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Pastor Rick Stein

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *Genesis 17, Romans 4, Mark 8*

*Let us take a moment for personal reflection.*

**All: Faithful One, we want to believe. Help our un-belief. We yearn to follow faithfully. Forgive our hesitant, stumbling steps. Hold us by the hand, guide us with your love, and cover us with your mercy and grace. Help us answer your call, trust your promises, and walk in your ways all the days of our lives. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *Romans 4*

One: Christ's righteousness has become our righteousness. God's merciful love is enough to save us. All is forgiven. All is restored. God's beloved are made righteous in Christ's grace.

**ANTHEM***Where He Leads Me, I Will Follow*

Deborah Govenor

Muriel Homer, piano

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: As God has poured out the grace of forgiveness and love and peace through Christ, let us also share that grace among ourselves. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE***Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*Ken Medema  
Arr. Joel Raney**LORD'S PRAYER****PRAYER RESPONSE***I Surrender All*Winfield S. Weeden  
Arr. Joel Raney

I surrender all, I surrender all.  
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,  
I surrender all.

I surrender all, I surrender all.  
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,  
I surrender all.

**SCRIPTURE READING**[Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Mark 8:31-38](#)

Bob Ralston

**SERMON**

"Let Go and Let God"

Pastor Rick Stein

**\*OFFERING/DOXOLOGY***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

No. 606

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER****\*CLOSING HYMN***Will You Come and Follow Me – The Summons*

No. 726

KELVINGROVE

**BENEDICTION**

One: Each week we remind ourselves

**All:** to go out into the world. Return no one evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, and honor every person. Every person. And rejoice in the Lord always.

**One:** And now may the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with each of you, all your loved ones, and all your concerns, now and forever. Amen.

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE**    *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*                      Lowell Mason  
Setting by  
Gilbert M. Martin

**POSTLUDE**                                      *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*                      Setting by James Engel  
RATHBUN

# *Welcome to Avon Lake Presbyterian Church!*

*“In awe, we Receive God’s Grace and Gospel.  
In gratitude, we Respond with Worship and Servanthood.  
In love, we Represent Jesus Christ as we minister to transform lives  
in family, community, and the world.”*

*As you join us for worship at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church, we hope that you will sense God’s presence, be caught up in joyful praise, be challenged by God’s Word and leave strengthened to live for Christ in the world.*

*In the event you need to step out of the Sanctuary, speaker systems are in both the foyer and the nursery so that you may listen to the worship service. When leaving the Sanctuary during the service, take care to close the door softly.*

**If you feel you would like a call or visit from Pastor Rick**, please contact the church office at 440-933-6240.

**Please silence cell phones** during our worship services.

**Offerings** may be given through [SimpleGive](#) and are always appreciated. Scan this code with your smartphone to easily access [SimpleGive](#).



**Confidential prayers** are available now at the back of the sanctuary from the Healing Prayer Ministry after worship.

**Saints Alive articles** are due today!

## *This Week at the Church*

- Monday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m.
- Tuesday:** The church staff will meet at 10:00 a.m. Men’s Lunch Group will meet at noon.
- Wednesday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m. Handbell Choir will meet in the Sanctuary at 6:45 p.m., followed by Chancel Choir at 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday:** Bible Study will begin at noon in the Pastor’s office. Yoga begins at 6:30 p.m. in the church narthex.
- Friday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m.
- Next Sunday:** Worship with communion begins at 10:00 a.m.
- Birthdays:** Kenzi R., 3/1

*Please keep in your prayers this week...*

**Beth S.**, who continues with chemotherapy treatments.

**Joe U.**, who will be undergoing further treatment for his cancer.

**Charlie & Debbie S.**, who are both facing health issues.

**George L.**, for continued healing.

**Noel P.**, who seeks spiritual healing.

**Joy H.**, who is now home and recovering well after her surgery.

**Lee L.'s family** in the Ukraine; keep them safe and bring an end to this war.

Joyce B.'s daughter, **Brenda**, who is receiving cancer treatments.

Matt & Sybil W.'s nephew, **Tommy**, who has leukemia and recently suffered a stroke.

Penny H.'s daughter, **Jen L.**, whose cancer has returned and is on a treatment of chemo pills.

## *Chancel Choir*

Dave Brunner  
Doug Day  
Jackie Day  
Clayton Dusek  
Tammy Dusek  
Joan Wojcicki Fortney  
Deb Gantz

Barbara Graves  
Cathy Graves  
Jeff Hansen  
Ed Homer  
Sue Mabe  
Jan Mackert  
Makayla McAfee

Bob Palisin  
Sharon Pervo  
Susan Richardson  
Beth Shoemaker  
Linda Swartz  
Marcy Uhl  
Sarah Waggoner

## *Volunteers Today*

Greeters  
Worship Assistant  
Sound Board  
Projections  
Ushers

Ruth Ann McCarbery, Mary Stein  
Bob Ralston  
Paul Butrey  
AmyLynn Kaspar  
Alan & JoAnn Wainscott

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