

# The Spire Lite

March 2021



*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin...Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.* Psalm 51:1-2, 10



The gift of Lent is time to reflect and grow in our relationship with God. This journey is best when we travel it with companions.

Every Wednesday, from February 24 through March 31, at 7 pm there will be a Zoom conversation to discuss our journey through Lent. This time will be a chance to share our experience together. Bring your questions and your insights or simply come and share together.

The zoom link can be found at [www.uplandbaptist.org](http://www.uplandbaptist.org).



"These are vegetables, mother. You wouldn't want me to eat something I've given up for Lent, would you?"

## Easter Greetings

We will be sending an Easter box to our college student, Tom Geveke. Please put an Easter card or greeting in the basket at the back of the sanctuary or mail it to the church, attention Tom Geveke, by Sunday, March 21, 2021. We would like to include personal greetings in Tom's box.



BE  
joyful  
IN HOPE  
patient  
IN AFFLICTION  
faithful  
IN PRAYER  
-ROMANS 12:12

## St. Patrick's Prayer

May the Strength of God pilot us.  
May the Power of God preserve us.  
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.  
May the Hand of God protect us.  
May the Way of God direct us.  
May the Shield of God defend us.  
May the Host of God guard us  
Against the snares of the evil ones,  
Against temptations of the world.  
May Christ be with us!  
May Christ be before us!  
May Christ be in us,  
Christ be over all!  
May Thy Salvation, Lord,  
Always be ours,  
This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.



*I thank my God  
every time I remember you.*

*Philippians 1:3*

We want to take a moment to say thank you to...

- Dave Miskowic for plowing the church parking lot and driveway.
- Upland Fire Company for their support of the Ash Wednesday service.
- Rob James for the computer donation to keep worship online.

*Thank  
you*

## Birthdays and Anniversaries for March and April

### March Birthdays

22 Rev. Brenda Shaw  
25 Rachel Miskowic  
30 Normajean Colby  
Katie Boyer

### March Anniversaries

None

### April Birthdays

9 Sam DeVecchis  
12 Mary Keflas  
13 Dan Miller  
15 Kimberlee Kalichak  
21 Darlene Strunk  
24 Dave Pysker  
Denise Sweeney  
27 John Shaw  
30 Anna Geveke

### April Anniversaries

None

## Holy Week

### **Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2021**

The Thursday before Easter is known as either Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday. Maundy is derived from the Latin word for "command," and refers to Jesus' commandment to the disciples to "Love one another as I have loved you."

We will have an in person service with communion at 7 pm on Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Good Friday, April 2, 2021**

*He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:24)*

We will remember the crucifixion of Christ with an in person service at 7 pm on Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*Please wear masks and only sit in pews where the door of the pew is open.*

**You may also join us virtually for these services.**



## **Special Lenten Offering**

This year the Special Lenten Offering will be used to support Main Street Elementary as they welcome students back into their building. You are welcome to give your Lenten offering at any time. We encourage these gifts to be above your normal giving. We are grateful for each gift that is given.

## **Palm Sunday, March 28 and Easter Sunday, April 4**

We are looking forward to celebrating Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday in person, while keeping everyone as safe as possible. In an effort to continue social distancing, we will be taking reservations for in person worship. **There will still be the option of joining us virtually for worship on these Sundays.**

We have 26 pews available and each pew can accommodate up to 4 people. Reservations will have to be made for each service. Please be sure to indicate the services you wish to attend when making your reservation.

Reservations should be made by contacting Priscilla Mills at 410-378-0713 or prismi@qis.net. Reservations will be on a first come, first served basis.

## **Join Us for Worship**

Worshipping continues to be Sundays at 10 am whether in person or virtual. If you join us in the sanctuary, please only sit in pews where the pew doors are open and wear a mask.

You can also join us virtually through our website at [www.uplandbaptist.org](http://www.uplandbaptist.org). If you are worshipping with us from somewhere outside the sanctuary, please text Pastor Brenda, 610-453-8317 and let us know you are with us. You can also text prayer concerns.

## Devotional Thought...

"Because of the LORD's faithful love we do not perish, for his mercies never end. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness!"

Lamentations 3:22-23 (CSB)

To lament is to express grief, mourn, wail, or regret deeply. The Book of Lamentations is a collection of poetic laments about the destruction of Jerusalem by Babylon in 586 BCE. The book consists of three sections. In the first, the city is depicted as a desolate weeping widow overcome with miseries. The last section laments the ruin and desolation of the city and temple. Wedged in between these two, is a poem that speaks of hope for the people of God. Its placement at the heart of Lamentations appears to emphasize that God is a God of love and compassion. Although most of us will never see our cities and towns destroyed, at times we may lament that God has abandoned us. Know that It is good to honestly express such feelings and that, even in the midst of them, there is the reassurance of God's grace.



"But I have trusted in your faithful love; my heart will rejoice in your deliverance."

Psalms 13:5 (CSB)

**Dave Geveke**



Visiting his grandparents, a small boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out. He picked it up and found that it was an old leaf that had been pressed flat between the pages. "Mama, look what I found," he called out.

"What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked."

With astonishment in his voice, the boy answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear!"



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