



*I have
come looking
for fruit*

LUKE 13:7



UNITED MORAVIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Nigel Powell, Pastor

Bro. Oswald Steele, Vice-Chair, Board of Elders

Bro. Patrick Bernard Sr., Chairman, Board of Trustees

Mr. Fabio Alvarez Organist/Choir Director

Watchword for the Week: Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. **Isaiah 55:6**

Prelude

Mr. Fabio Alvarez

***Call to Worship & Daily Text .. February 28, 2016**

Rev. Nigel Powell

***Introit**

The Combined Choir

***Processional Hymn #330**

"Hail, O Once Despised Jesus"

***Liturgy for Lent 3**

Rev. Nigel Powell

I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, says the Lord, but rather in the conversion of the wicked, that they may live.

Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

Return to the Lord, your God, for gracious and merciful is he.

Not according to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

(LMWS #A31)

Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
full of pity love, and pow'r

I will arise and go to Jesus;
He will embrace me in his arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O, there are ten thousand charms.

(Sitting)

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say. "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, "Where is their God?"

Then the Lord became jealous for his land and had pity on his people.

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.

(LMSW #A32)

Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me.

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore, teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.

(Pause for Silent Prayer.....)

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

(LMWS #A35)

Lord Jesus, think on me and purge a-way my sin;
From earth-born passions set me free and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,
I may eternal brightness see and share your joy at last.

Lord, may your people turn again to you and serve you with all their hearts. With confidence we have asked for your help; may we now know your mercy and love in our lives.

Father of infinite mercy and compassion, we recognize the truth of your persistent love and acceptance. We recognize our frailties and limits in finding the inner harmony and personal integrity for which our human hearts so ardently yearn. By the power of your Spirit, help us to turn to your Son, Jesus, ever present in the community of faith, for the reconciling power he alone can give. Heal the wounds and hurts that divide us. Renew our minds and hearts as people bound to you in covenant. Let us experience a genuine inner conversion from the paralysis of sin so that with all your saints we may live in the freedom of your children, acknowledging the dominion of Jesus' power in our lives. May we find in confession and forgiveness an experience of worship in spirit and truth, so that we may ever proclaim our Eucharistic praise of your healing acceptance and transforming love.

[Standing]

(LMSW #A36)

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven;
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am his child, and I am not afraid.
So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive another;
The law of love I gladly will obey.

Father, bless our living of this Lenten season.

Let the great day at its end flood all the days between with Easter hope, so that our observance may not darken into gloom but may remain bright with its promise.

The Father of mercies has given us an example of unselfish love in the sufferings of his only Son.

Through our service of God and neighbor, may we receive countless blessings.

We believe that by his dying, Christ destroyed death forever.

May he give us everlasting life.

He humbled himself for our sakes.

May we follow his example and share in his resurrection.

(LMSW #A37)

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.
So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory!

Welcome & Announcements *(Please see printed items)* Bro. Lloyd Farquharson

Birthday/Anniversary Hymn #447 "With Your Presence, Lord"

Greeting Hymn: "I Am Blessed"

Praise and Worship *The Praise Team*

Intercessory Prayer *The Prayer Warriors*

(The Sunday School leaves for classes)

#1st Scripture Reading Isaiah 55:1-9 *Sis. Audrey Walker*

2nd Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 *Bro. Rolston Dolphin*

***Choral Response #846 "Glory be to you, O Lord"**

***THE GOSPEL**

Luke 13:1–9

Sis. Hazel Hazel

***Choral Response #846 “Praise, Praise, Praise, Praise”**

Worship Selection

The Combined Choir

SERMON

Rev. Nigel Powell

***Hymn #707**

“Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing”

Stewardship of Talent Report

Sis. Shareen Simon-Edwards

Financial Secretary

Worship Through Giving

Sis. Blondel Jones Grant

***Offertory Sentence:**

I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' " (Acts 20:35 NKJV)

***Dedication of Tithes and Offering:**

Lord we acknowledge our call to generously give a portion of what you have given to us. You have been faithful in granting us your grace and mercy each day. You have provided for us generously. Accept these offerings Lord from our hearts and use them for the benefit of your kingdom, in the name of Jesus we pray. AMEN.

***Tithes and Offertory Hymn #648 “Son of God, Eternal Savior”**

***Presentation of Tithes/Offerings**

***Ascription of Praise #817 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

***Benediction**

Rev. Nigel Powell

***Recessional Hymn #690 vs.1-5 “The Right Hand of God”**

Organ Postlude (Congregation seated)

Mr. Fabio Alvarez

#Means the lesson is read responsively. * Means that the congregation stands.

WELCOME

On behalf of United Moravian Church I extend a warm welcome to everyone as we gather to worship the Lord on the day we celebrate the Third Sunday in Lent. May we share and experience the love of Jesus, find healing for our hurts and answers to our prayers. Visitors, we are especially glad that you are here with us. We invite you to worship with us again and please join our fellowship if you are seeking a church home.

Announcements February 28, 2016

- During the Lenten Season Bible Study is on hiatus.
- Thank you to all our groups for pledging to purchase new chairs for our church hall. These chairs will be here by Easter Sunday.
- We celebrate the use of our church by our youths but we are reminded that they must have designated adult supervision at all times.
- The Men's Fellowship has made some changes. Bro. Lloyd Farquharson has stepped down as President and Bro. Allan Cran Joseph was elected to be the new president. We congratulate Bro. Farquharson for his many, many years of faithful service and we welcome Bro Joseph.
- Confirmation classes meet on Thursday at 6:00 pm.
- Sister Etta Chambers has been appointed to the position of Gifts/Grants Coordinator. Congratulations Sis. Chambers!
- As she convalesces at home, Sis. Elaine Elvin sends thanks to Rev. Powell & the church family for the prayers, visits, calls & cards during her ailing period.
- As well, Sis. Hyacinth Isaacs sends her regards and thanks all for well wishes, prayers & cards.
- The next meeting of Youth and Parents is this Friday March 4th at 8:00 pm. The topic will be on using Vision Boards.
- **Two very important meetings are to be held this Saturday March 5th:**

At 10:00 am to Noon the Joint Board and ALL GROUP LEADERS are invited to meet with Dr. Jill Peters, Moravian Seminary to share on building a mission plan for the congregation.

At 12:30 pm the Joint Board and PEC will meet to begin exploring our Air Rights sale.

- The Eastern District Pre-Synod meeting shall be held at United on Saturday March 19, 2016 from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm.
- C.A.R.D's Lenten concert is Sun. March 20th at 3:30 pm right here at United. Please see C.A.R.D. members for tickets. Sisters Eldra Drew, Esmie Fraser McLeod & Bros. Melverton Newell, Patrick Bernard or Wendell Smith. Adults \$20 and \$10 for ages 12 & under.
- There will be two worship services Easter Sunday, March 27th, at 8:00 am & 11:00 am. Breakfast will be available after the first service.
- The Antigua and Barbuda Group will also host a delightful luncheon on Easter Sunday in the Social Hall. The holiday celebration begins at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for youth 12 and under. Please see a group member for your tickets.

- Save the dates: The Moravian Women in Ministry's Spring Rally will be held on April 23rd at Tremont Terrace Church in the Bronx. Their Fall Rally will be in Dover, OH from Sept. 22nd to 24th. Additional information will follow.
- The Busy Bees are heading to Maryland on Fri., May 27th through Mon. May 30th. The first deposit is due on March 6th. Please obtain a flyer from the rack for more details.
- The Ushers on duty next Sunday are: Terrell Hamm, Aniyah Brown, Lydia Spencer, Shena David, Glenroy Aska, Danika Chambers, Ellie Harvey, Tesean Hamm, Andre Collette

Coming Events

Mar. 2	Lenten Service at 7:00 pm - The Men's Fellowship
Mar. 6	Worship Service - Pastor
Mar. 9	Lenten Service at 7:00 pm - The Jamaica Group
Mar. 13	Worship Service - Pastor
Mar. 16	Lenten Service at 7:00 pm - The Youth Group
Mar. 20	Palm Sunday
	HOLY WEEK
Mar. 21	Monday Lenten Service at 7:00 pm - The Gospel Choir
Mar. 22	Tuesday Lenten Service at 7:00 pm - The Chancel Choir
Mar. 23	Wednesday Lenten Service at 7:00 pm - The U.S.V.I. Group
Mar. 24	Holy Thursday - Lenten Service at 7:00 pm
Mar. 25	Good Friday service at Noon
Mar. 27	Easter Sunday services at 8:00 & 11:00 am

February Birthdays

Bro. Desmond Gray	Feb. 3	Sis. Tracye S. Harvey	Feb. 22
Sis. Athalia Morrissey	Feb. 3	Sis. Bernice King-Campbell	Feb. 23
Sis. Jasmine Aska	Feb. 3	Sis. Yolanda Christopher	Feb. 23
Sis. Tiesha Adams	Feb. 3	Sis. Unique Shaw	Feb. 23
Sis. Priya Smith	Feb. 4	Bro. Oswald Steele	Feb. 24
Sis. Hazel Hazel	Feb. 8	Sis. Melsadis Dolphin	Feb. 24
Bro. Norris Hamilton	Feb. 8	Sis. Danielle Chambers	Feb. 25
Sis. Sonia Palmer	Feb. 9	Sis. Joyce McIntosh	Feb. 26
Bro. Tyrone A. Williams	Feb. 9	Bro. Oral Solomon	Feb. 26
Sis. Hilarine Scotland	Feb. 15	Sis. Millicent Hodge	Feb. 29
Bro. Tralane Donovan	Feb. 16	Sis. Nevaeh Campbell	Feb. 29

2016 BOARD OF ELDERS

Name & Title		Zip Codes
Rev. Nigel Powell Chairman		
Bro. Oswald Steele Vice-Chair/ Island Groups		New Jersey, 10475, 10473, 10472
Sis. Hazel Hazel Chair of Ushers Board		10465, 10466, 10468
Sis. Danielle Chambers Y.A.C./ Y.O.U.		10451, 10454, 10455
Sis. Meshelle Edwards Moravian Women		10453, 10458
Bro. Philbert Jeffrey Sick and Home Bound		Westchester, Rockland, Connecticut
Sis. Myrna Higgins Rentals/ Community Dinner		10452, 10456, 10457
Bro. Emiel Henry Men's Fellowship		Queens, Brooklyn, Long Island
Sis. Michelle Joseph– Sunday School, Sick and Home Bound/ Evangelism		10462, 10469
Sis. Blondel Jones-Grant Secretary/ Choirs/ Stewardship		Manhattan
Sis. Jonelle Bernard Sunday School		10470, 10474
Sis. Regina Solomon Assitant Secretary		10459, 10460, 10467

2016 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Name		Title
Bro. Patrick Bernard		Chairman
Sis. Bernalyn Jones-Clarke		Vice-Chair
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Sis. Shareen Simon-Edwards		Financial Secretary
Sis. Yolanda Christopher		Secretary
Bro. Trisha Simon		Assistant Secretary
Sis. Etta Chambers		
Sis. Simone Merchant-Taylor		
Bro. Whitfield Nicholas		

Bro. Hugh Abel		Chair - Maintenance Committee
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**PRAY & GIVE SUPPORT TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS
AND THEIR FAMILIES**

**Sis. Jannette Abel
Sis. Alicia Benjamin
Sis. Anna Bishop
Bro. Tralane Donovan
Sis. Elaine Elvin
Sis: Ludwina George
Sis. Hyacinth Isaacs
Sis: Millicent Hodge
Sis. Eva Joseph
Sis: Minerva Joseph
Sis. Carmelita Keith
Sis. Rose Lemond
Sis. Bernice McLean
Sis. Hyacinth Pelle
Bro. Luvey Williams
Sis. Iris Woodley**

When we are not in the best of health it is always comforting to know prayers and support are available. Remember those who are unable to join us week to week. To add them to our list of infirmed members call the church office at 212-722-2109.

Listening to the Sermon

Use the space provided below to make your personal notes. Reflect prayerfully and thoughtfully on them over the coming week. Seek the help of the Holy Spirit to apply God's truth to your heart and life.

SERMON TITLE

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Main points to remember

1.....
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2.....
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3.....
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Having heard the sermon, I have decided on the following:

1.....
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2.....
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3.....
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Turning

Jesus is a hands-on, down-to-earth kind of guy! He lays his hands on folks to heal and bless, he doesn't shy away from truth-telling, and he loves to use gardening metaphors.

The common element in this two-part passage is turning. The word "to repent" means "to turn, to turn again, to return." Jesus first confronts the common notion (in his day and ours) that bad things happen only to bad people. No, he tells his followers; those other people's experience of tragedy did not occur because of their great sinfulness. *"Not at all. [But] unless you turn to God, you too will die"* (Luke 13:5 *The Message*).

Turning over the soil, Jesus tells us, is what the gardener proposes as a solution to the owner of the fig tree that is failing to produce. *"[Let me] dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down"* (Luke 13:9).

Turning to God, like good gardening, is a daily task, but one to which we are especially invited during Lent. Imagine yourself as a garden. How are you growing, and what are you producing? Are there weeds among your rows that need pulling out? Where do you need to fertilize your life with the good news of Jesus' love? What is green and growing in you during this season of your life?

*Vicki Jens-Page, pastor, Morongo Moravian Church,
Banning, California*

The Moravian Church

Third Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2016

