

**Monmouth Grace Ministry Sunday Worship**  
**Third Sunday in Lent**  
**March, 23 at 10:30 am**  
**Order of Worship**

**Gathering**

**Welcome & Announcements**

1. Our Church's goal for 2025 is to read the entire Bible. If you require a schedule to assist you in participating, please do not hesitate to let us know.
2. Join us for our Lenten Bible Study on Zoom, on Wednesdays 7:30pm, through Lent.
3. Let us keep Judy Bornemann in our thoughts and prayers.
4. Join us for the SOK group meetings every last Sunday of the month, immediately following our fellowship. All are cordially invited.
5. Lenten Offering Jar: As part of our Lenten fast, we invite you to give the cost of a fasting meal. This year's offerings will help build a children's library for Haitian refugees in the Dominican Republic.
6. There will be an all-church meeting on 3/30 after the fellowship.
7. Please continue to keep Rich Lo, his family, and Larry Edward's family in your prayers as they grieve the loss of their loved ones. May they find comfort and strength during this difficult time.
8. We extend our deepest condolences to the family of Dr. Richard S. Rhee. Please keep them in your prayers as they navigate this time of grief and loss. A memorial service will be held at our church on Friday, March 28, 2025 at 7:30pm
9. Today's fellowship meal is provided by Dr. Richard S. Rhee, honoring one of his last requests. We honor his generosity and love for our church community and family.

**Praise and Prayer**

**\*Opening Praise:        Only There**  
**Arise, My Soul, Arise**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Children of God, what has God done for you?

**People: God saves, provides, and holds us in God's steadfast love.**

Leader: Consider and remember: in the joyful times and in the sorrowful times, what has God done for you?

**People: God covers us and lifts us up, protecting and empowering us with steadfast love.**

Leader: When you have been like the fig tree in Jesus' story that seems unable to produce and that everyone has given up on, what has God done for you?

**People: God tends the soil and waters the ground, nurturing us into life with steadfast love.**

Leader: Children of God, come, let us worship God who never gives up on us!

**People: We come to worship and cling to God, for God's steadfast love never fails, Amen!**

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2024.

**Hymn:**                "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!"

**UMH 369**

**Worship Prayer: Loving and merciful God,**

**We come before You—wounded, weary, and searching. We have chased after the things of this world, hoping to fill the emptiness within us, yet we are still thirsty. But You, O Lord, offer us living water—water that restores, heals, and satisfies our deepest needs.**

**Forgive us for the times we have sought fulfillment apart from You. Thank You for Your grace, for new mercies each morning, and for always calling us back into Your presence. As we gather here today, fill our hearts, open our minds, and renew our spirits. May Your Word quench our thirst, and may we leave this place refreshed and transformed. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.**

**Proclamation, Response, and Thanksgiving**

**Scripture Reading**

Luke 13:1-9

13:1 At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

13:2 He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?"

13:3 No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

13:4 Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem?"

13:5 No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did."

13:6 Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.

13:7 So he said to the man working the vineyard, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?'

13:8 He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.

13:9 If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.

*This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!***

**Children’s Corner**

**Labenyimoh Patrick**

**Praise**

“Jesus Loves Me This I know”

**Sermon**

“*The parable of the fig tree*”

**Labenyimoh Patrick**

**\*Presentation of Offering**

**Sending Forth**

**\*Closing Hymn**

“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior”

**UMH 351**

**\*Benediction**