

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in a God of second chances,
a God who sees through my stubbornness and holds my fear with tenderness.

I believe that this God of second chances uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world.

Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too.

I believe that from time to time, God invites us to imagine the impossible.
I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds.

**This change is holy and important work, although challenging.
When fear and scarcity plague me, or when the impossible feels out of reach, I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow.**

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Amen.

Current Prayer list:

Philomena Carle (Katherine Cooper's grandmother), Kenny Welsh (friend of Stan's; heart issue), Family of Bob Coffman on his passing (Brent's father)

Continue to pray for: (Please let me know of any updates/additions/deletions)

Chuck Arens (health), Cynthia Hansen (Pastor Bryce's mom, thyroid cancer), Bob Diehl (LeAnn's brother; hospice), Bonnie and Jan (friends of LeAnn), David Clark (Chuck Buechman's nephew; cancer), Paul Hart (friend of Ray Novak; medical issues), Kennedy (from Raelene Kite; health), Robert Kinsley (Marge Hamilton's brother; improving but still needs prayer), Lee (Pam Arens' brother; health), Marilyn (Pam Arens' sister; cancer), Tom McClain (Buck & Helen's son; health), Thomas/Trail family (friend of Keather's; serious health issues), Celia Venable (chronic headaches)

Welcome to Hesston United Methodist Church! We are glad you are here.

www.hesstonumc.org
606 N. Ridge Road
Hesston, KS 67062
620-327-4305

Worship: 10:00A
Sunday School 9:00A and 11:15A
Youth Group Wednesdays 7:00-8:30P

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Order of Worship

Prelude	"Return To You" (FAPC Chapel Church Music)	
Call to Worship		
Song	Come Thou Fount*	UMH 400
Unison Prayer		
Scripture Reading	Matthew 16:21-23	Melinda Jantz
Young Disciples	Michelle Coffman	
Announcements and Safe Hope Presentation	Kim Ratzlaff	
Song	Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross	UMH 301
Sermon	Fixed Upon It	Rev. Bryce Hansen
An Affirmation of Faith		
Pastoral Prayer with Lord's Prayer		
Lenten Poetry Reading	Open Hands	Celia Venable
Offertory Prayer with Doxology		
Song	Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days	UMH 269
Benediction		
Postlude		

Accompaniment: A/V

*Come Thou Fount Fun Fact #4 -What is a fetter? Fetters are shackles that are placed upon a prisoner's ankles. While the image of fetters centuries ago surely carries with it the supremely negative connotations of slavery, Robert Robison prays that God's goodness will be attached to his own "Wandering Heart," like a fetter, so that he will always remain close to God's saving love.

Call to Worship—Inspired by Psalm 19

L: On our worst days,
P: God is good.
L: On our best days,
P: God is good.
L: When life is consistent,
P: God is good.
L: And when life turns on its head,
P: God is good.
L: Day and night, Monday through Sunday,
P: God is good. God is here. God is love.
L: Hold tight to that good news. Let us worship God!

Unison Prayer

Listening God, If we could attach ourselves to you, we would. We would scribble your scripture onto our hearts. We would weave your good news into the fiber of our being. We would bind ourselves to you, but instead, we wander. Instead of attaching ourselves to you, we find ourselves swept up in the business of the day. Like a seesaw of faithfulness, we move back and forth, up and down, constantly trying to find you in the midst of it all. So speak clearly to us now. Quiet the distractions long enough for us to affix ourselves to your good news. We are listening. We are hungry. We are hopeful. Amen.

Matthew 16:21-23 Common English Bible

²¹ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and legal experts, and that he had to be killed and raised on the third day. ²² Then Peter took hold of Jesus and, scolding him, began to correct him: "God forbid, Lord! This won't happen to you." ²³ But he turned to Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are a stone that could make me stumble, for you are not thinking God's thoughts but human thoughts."



Beseeking | Hannah Garrity
Ink on paper

THE FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

Wandering Heart: *"I'm fixed upon it"*

Open Hands

We are born with the ability
to wrap our fingers around another,
to hold tight to what we know.
Maybe that's where the instinct comes from—
this clinging,
this sinking,
this holding on.
Maybe that's why Peter cries, "Never!"
when Jesus must leave.
From the very beginning
we've known how to hold tight.
So I pray:
open up my hands.
Uncurl my fingers
one by one.
Loosen the grip
that I hold unyielding.
Remind me that birds must fly
and children must grow
and leaves must fall.
And even though
we are born with the ability
to hold tight,
we can learn how to love
with open hands.

*Poem by
Rev. Sarah Speed*