

*The United Methodist Church  
12 Commerce Street  
Clinton, CT*



March 8, 2026

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*Please stand in body, and/or spirit

Welcome, Acknowledgements of first-time visitors and announcements

*Words to Ponder:*

*Water gushes from a rock. Living waters well up to eternal life. Come and drink deeply. Taste and see that our God is good.*

Introit

“Surely the Presence”

Chancel Choir

\*Call to Worship (Responsively)

Worship God with joy and thanksgiving.

**Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.**

We are the sheep of God's pasture.

**We are the lambs of God's flock.**

Come! Let us worship the Lord.

\*Opening Hymn

“I Love to Tell the Story”

No. 156

Opening Prayer (Unison)

**Living water, flow through our hearts today.**

**Quench our thirst in our desert wanderings,  
and strengthen us for the road ahead.**

**Bathe us in your fountain of eternal life,  
that our spirits may flow with faith and love,  
through the power of your eternal Spirit. Amen.**

Prayer of Yearning (Unison)

**Wellspring of salvation, quench our thirst this day.**

**When our souls are parched, we long to taste the healing waters  
of your grace. When our spirits are as dry as desert sands, we  
yearn to find renewal in the well of your mercy and your love.**

**Shower us in your living water that we may be washed clean in the  
river of your forgiveness and your grace. Amen.**

*Brief moment of silent reflection*

Words of Assurance

Those whose souls drink of Christ's living water will never thirst again. Those who refresh themselves in Christ will have a spring of water welling up to eternal life. **Amen.**

1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Readings

(Old Testament) Exodus 17:1-7  
(New Testament) Romans 5:1-11

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "Going Home" by Mary McDonald Chancel Choir

Children's Moment Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

\*2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading (Gospel) John 4:5-42

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

\*Hymn "Fill My Cup, Lord" No. 3093 (Insert)

Sermon "Getting To That Place" Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

Offertory

\*Doxology #95

\*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**Holy Spirit, source of healing and wholeness, receive our grateful hearts for your many blessings. Transform the gifts we bring this day into Christ's promise of living water for the world. Bathe those who are touched by today's offering in your goodness and grace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn                    “*And Can It Be that I Should Gain*”    No. 363 vss. 1,3, 5

Benediction/Going Forth

Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

Bathe in the river of God's love.  
Swim in the waters of Christ's baptism.  
Ride the ocean currents of the Holy Spirit.  
Be renewed in the warm springs of our God

\*Response

“*Bless Us Now*”

Frank Milnes

Bless us now as we depart, watch o'er us, God, while we're apart; Give strength to conquer daily strain, and bring us to Thy house again. Amen

Postlude

*Flowers are from Deb Anderson. Israel, the Lord who created you says “do not be afraid-I will save you. Isaiah 43:1 Good News Bible.*

**SUNDAY, MAR 8**

9:00 Sunday School

10:00 Worship

11:00 Fellowship

**TUESDAY, MAR 10**

10:00 Clever Crafters

7:00 Lenten Study Online

**WEDNESDAY, MAR 11**

9:30 TOPS

5:00 Community Supper

7:00 Church Council 7 pm Online

**THURSDAY, MAR 12**

10:00 Lenten Study

7:30 Choir

**FRIDAY, MAR 13**

5:30 AA meeting

**March 8h**

Ushers: Lyle Cubberly, Lynn Sellers, David Moore, Brian Pieczko

Camera Operator: Val Gilcher

Video Coordinator: Dan Attanasio

Worship Leader: Dennis Dollahite

Lectionary scriptures: Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 (UM810), Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13

Sermon: Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

Fellowship Hosts: Babjak's

Counters: Roger Templeton and Bob Hawes

Music/Choir Director: Bob Hale

Organist: Patty Hurlburt

***Office Staff***

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**Worship Resources**

Call to Worship, Prayer of Yearning, Words of Assurance & Dedication, Benediction

[https://ministrymatters.com/2025-11-04\\_march\\_8\\_2026\\_third\\_sunday\\_in\\_lent/](https://ministrymatters.com/2025-11-04_march_8_2026_third_sunday_in_lent/)