

Repent or  
Perish:  
The Parable  
of the  
Barren Fig  
Tree  
Word  
Search

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Time	Galileans	Sacrifices	Perish	Fruit	Year
Present	Pilate	Suffered	Fig	Wasting	Bears
Jesus	Mingled	Repent	Vineyard	Alone	Cut

**Ministers: The people of the Choptank United Methodist Charge**

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*The Mission of Choptank United Methodist Charge is  
to worship, welcome, nurture, and serve in the name of Jesus.*

Spedden UMC

Antioch UMC

Beckwith UMC

881 Hudson Road

1742 Town Point Road

1328 Hudson Road

Cambridge, MD 21613

Cambridge, MD 21613

Cambridge, MD 21613

Worship: 8:45 am

Worship: 10:00 am

Worship: 11:15 am

**Mailing Address for All:**

**204 Johnson Street**

**Cambridge, MD 21613**



The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree



**Choptank  
Charge**

# JOURNEYING WITH JESUS THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TO GATHER

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP:

God is our salvation, guiding us out of the darkness of the world.

**Redeeming God, as trees stretch towards the sun, we seek your healing light.**

God is our salvation, when we hunger for direction and meaning.

**Sustaining God, as branches bear fruit, your word feeds our souls.**

Come now, put down the burdens of your days.

**God is our salvation. We rest in the garden of God's reconciling love.**

#### SING A HYMN: {Church Choice}

#### \*\*PRAY: (After hearing requests, offer silent prayer for those on our list and in your heart.)

Gracious God, this is the season of turning. We are called on this journey to turn our lives to the Lord, to turn away from all those things which have harmed us and others; to separate ourselves from actions and attitudes that demean and destroy. It is far too easy for us to sink into the mire of self-pity and self-serving attitudes, wondering why everything isn't coming our way. We want comfort, contentment, no stress, no struggle. Yet our lives are filled with stress and discontent. We hurt, Lord. We hurt in our bodies and our souls. We hurt in our relationships with others. How we must try your patience! We don't want to be like this - we want to feel the warmth of your love, the freedom of your spirit, the joy of serving you. Forgive us for our selfishness and stupidity. Heal us. For we ask these things in of Jesus, who taught us to pray, **Our Father...**"

#### SING A HYMN: "Just as I Am, Without One Plea" \*1, 5, 6 (UMH #357) (CCLI 20203297)

1. Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidst me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come.

5. Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6. Just as I am, thy love unknown hath broken every barrier down;  
now, to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

#### READ SCRIPTURE: Luke 13:1-9

#### SING A HYMN: {Church Choice}

**READ OR LISTEN:** Repent or Perish: The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree.....Pastor Nan

**RECITE THE APOSTLES' CREED:**..... (UMH #881) Pastor Nan

#### \*\*\*OFFERING PRAYER...PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS...DOXOLOGY (#95)

Patient and merciful God, we bring our offerings humbly on this day, hoping they will bring fruit to the ministry of your church on earth. We ourselves have not always set our priorities on bearing good fruit, and yet you are a patient gardener. You have sent saints into our midst to make the soil richer, yet like the stubborn fig tree, good fruit has been scarce. May our journey this Lenten season feed our spirits to bring forth the fruit you desire. We pray in the name of our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus the Christ. Amen

#### INSTRUMENTAL OR VOCAL MUSIC

#### \*\*BENEDICTION: (Please remain quietly in your pew until the candles are extinguished.)

God has called you to bear witness to hope and goodness. Know that you have been healed of all that prevents you from serving God. Go forth with God's love and blessing to bring Good News to this hurting world. **Amen.**

#### REFLECT AT HOME ON TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

Consider your own life as a fig tree. If Jesus has come to inspect it, what would he say about the fruit your tree is bearing? What do you need to do?

#### OFFER YOURSELF DURING THE WEEK:

Commend someone for the fruit that you see blossoming in their life.

Thanks for your continuing support. Your help is needed to keep our bills paid in full and on time.

#### Please mail your check to your financial secretary, OR place your gift in the plate.

*Antioch:* Becky Wilson 5215 Wilson Road Cambridge 21613

*Beckwith:* Eleanor Wheatley 9 Shawnee Road Cambridge 21613

*Spedden:* Mary Benjamin 779 Cook Point Road Cambridge 21613

#### You may wish to make a missions gift to any of these organizations:

Cold Weather Shelter. Valerie Davis, Delmarva Community Services, 2450 Cambridge Beltway, Cambridge, MD 21613

Everstand (United Methodist Board of Child Care) 27993 Substation Road, Denton, MD 21629

MidShore Meals til Monday PO Box 1193 Cambridge, MD 21613

Overflow Café Ministries, 400 Muir Street, Cambridge, MD 21613

Pastor's Discretionary Fund—for use by all Choptank Charge members and friends; mail to

Spedden UMC Treasurer: Diane Wagner, 5710 Green Cove Drive, Cambridge, MD 21613

#### To start a prayer chain, please call one of the following:

●Pastor Nan—443-225-6720—Spedden

●Susan Long:— 410-228-5586—Beckwith

Shelly Willey—410-330-0209

\*<https://gill-lefevre.medium.com/sunday-prayers-lent-3-8d2d3b3a2ed4>

\*\*<https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/3603/worship-connection-march-23-2025>

\*\*\*<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/gathered-up-in-jesus/third-sunday-in-lent-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes/third-sunday-in-lent-year-c-offertory-prayer>