



Sunday Worship

March 3, 2024
10:30 am Worship

Pastor: Duane Coates

Ministers: All God's People

This Week at Epworth

Sunday, March 3

- 9:00am Sunday School
- 10:00am Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30am Worship

Monday, March 4

- Pastor's Day Off
- 2:00pm Prayer Vigil
- 7:00pm Troubadours

Tuesday, March 5

- 9:00am Ministerial Association
- 1:30pm Bible Study

Wednesday, March 6

- 4:30pm Confirmation
- 5:30pm Lenten Meal
- 6:30pm Lenten Service
- 7:00pm Youth

Thursday, March 7

- 10:00am Pastor's Bible Study
- 1:00pm Great Plains Food Bank
- 7:00pm Cub Scouts

Sunday, March 10

- Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 9:00am Sunday School
- 10:00am Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30am Worship

Welcome! If you're a guest, know that we're glad you're here, and that we'd love to get to know you better. If this is your first visit, welcome. If you are returning, welcome back!

Coffee Fellowship time is at 10:00 a.m. Enjoy coffee, lemonade, water, and a treat.

We welcome our visitors to join us!

This service is livestreamed at epworthvalleycity.com



THIRD SUNDAY
in
LENT



Sermon Series

Previous Sundays—

A New Reality

What Do We Do in the Meantime?

At the Well

For the Sake of the Gospel

Today—

Having a Heart for God

By Pastor Duane Coates

Our Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

Living, sharing and growing in God's love by bringing the world to Christ and Christ to the world through open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

Our Strategy

Radical Hospitality

Spiritual Growth

Signature Ministries

Collaborative Leadership

Where + is indicated, standing or sitting, we praise God.

*You are invited to read aloud the **bold text**.*

*Large print hymnals and bulletins are available upon request to an usher
On the screen—Leader=white text, People=yellow text*

The Church Gathers to Worship

+ Call to Worship –

Leader: Come to worship, for we stand in the need of God's presence.

All: Our lives can so easily become corrupted by our own greed.

Leader: But the Lord has heard the cries of our hearts and calls us forward on this journey.

All: Lord, guide our steps.

Leader: Come, let us worship God, who is always with us.

All: Let us open our hearts to the healing, restoring love of God.

Amen.

By Nancy C. Townley

+ Opening Hymn – No. 2025 *As the Deer* (sing twice)

The Church Lifts Prayers to God

Prayer of Confession –

With hearts of sorrow, we come before you, O God, to confess what you already know — we have failed to keep your laws. Again and again, we have followed our own selfish will, rather than your holy and life-giving will for our lives.

We have twisted your decrees and institutions to suit our preconceptions and interests rather than your own. Forgive us, O God, and cleanse us from hidden faults, that the words of our mouths, and the meditations of all our hearts, may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer.

*Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009, © 2008 Abingdon Press
Posted on the Ministry Matters website. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog
<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/02/act-of-confession-lent-3-b.html>*

Lifting our Joys and Concerns

Leader: Lord, in your mercy / in our joy

People: Hear our Prayer

Announcements —

Call for Children — No. 2233 *Where Children Belong*

The Church Hears God's Word

Old Testament Reading – 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
(Greatness of spiritual wisdom)

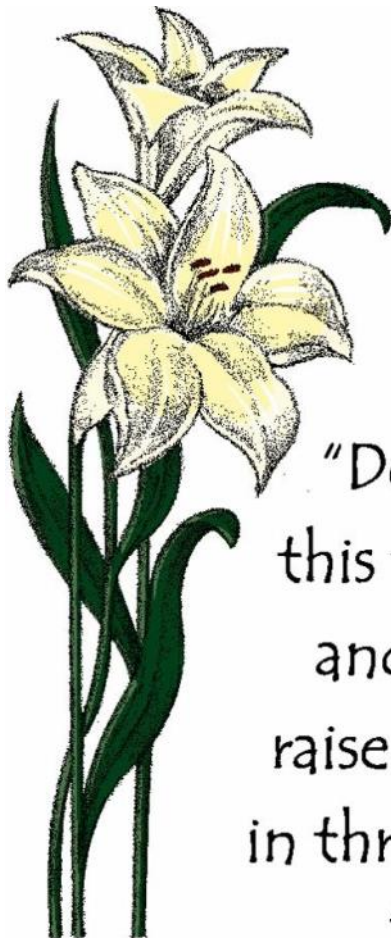
Response—Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

+ Responsive Psalm Reading – No. 750-1 *Psalm 19:1-10*

Gospel Reading – John 2:13-22 (Jesus cleanses the temple)

Response—Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Message — *Having a Heart for God* by Rev. Duane Coates



"Destroy
this temple,
and I will
raise it again
in three days."

John 2:19

In Our Prayers This Week

Fighting Cancer

Jan Barlow
Jo Thorson
Jill Olson
Arin Lutiker
Dale Neuberger
Don Baasch

Prayer Requests

Our 4GoG Ministries
mental health concerns
Lori Glaser
World Leaders
Military
Jaxon Horsager
Kathy Mah
Mark Ziebert
Vivian Ziebert
LeRoy Magnuson
Wayne McKirdy
Ashley Enright
Jerry & LaWanna Hieb
Macy Raven
Jackie Owen
Mike Watterson
Lint Family
Dakotas Camping
Appointive Cabinet
Chuck Jacobson Family
Jeanie Cink Family

In Joy

Warmer weather
Hi-Liner Girls Basketball
Team
Special Olympics

If you or a member of your family is going into the hospital or moving from one care center to another and you would like the church to know about this, please call the church office at 701-845-0340 or email office@epworthvalleycity.com. This helps our church family care for one another.

Ministers of the Gospel

All members of the congregation.

Appointed Clergy

Rev. Duane Coates
pastor@epworthvalleycity.com
Phone: 701-845-0156
Cell: 605-695-5561

Program Staff

Cassidy Fraedrich
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Paul & Brenda Lint
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Cell: 701-840-0410

VirLyn Hoff
Congregational Care Coordinator
virlynhoff@yahoo.com
Cell: 701-840-9285

Northwest District Superintendent

Rev. Joel Winckler

Dakotas Bishop

Bishop Lanette Plambeck

You can use your smartphone to give electronically today. Just scan the QR code below.



epworthvalleycity.com/giving

Guest wifi: Epworth Guest
Password: epworth@guest

The Church Responds to God's Word

Sacrament of Holy Communion –

+Closing Song — No. 614 *For the Bread Which You Have Broken* vs. 1, 2 & 4

+Dismissal with Blessing —

Leader: Beloved, may Jesus Christ go ahead of you this week.

All: We look for Jesus to clear out the distractions and raise us up so that we may experience the Triune God, whose love binds us together as the Body of Christ. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2023



We Care For Our Community

Please share with the church office if you, a family member, or another in our church family are experiencing illness, hospitalization, or need of pastoral care.

Pastor Duane Coates, Office: 845-0340 Cell: 605-695-5561

MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Dwayne Richter
 Justin Horsager
 Steve Myers
 Calleigh Rangeloff
 Derek Woehl
 Craig Ranum
 Dick Hanson
 Joel Owen
 Bill Noeske
 Marie Leadbetter
 Jon Jury
 Don Baasch
 Nikki Grebel
 Wyatt Tulp
 Jack Bruns
 Margie Jansen
 Wade Hesch
 Melissa Cook
 Kailee Nielson
 Sheryl Hanson
 Gideon Lint
 Aimee Zachrison
 Gabrielle (Cummings)
 Wavra
 Journey Cruff
 Pearl Pritchert
 Liam Bruns
 Jenny Mueller
 Neil Pederson
 Tonya (Van Dyke)
 Hovland

4th Jerry & Amy Noeske
 24th Jordon & Allison
 Ranum

Epworth Ministry Review

Attendance: Sun. February 25

In-person— 74 Online—21

Attendance: Wed. February 28

Lenten Service— 25

Youth— 17

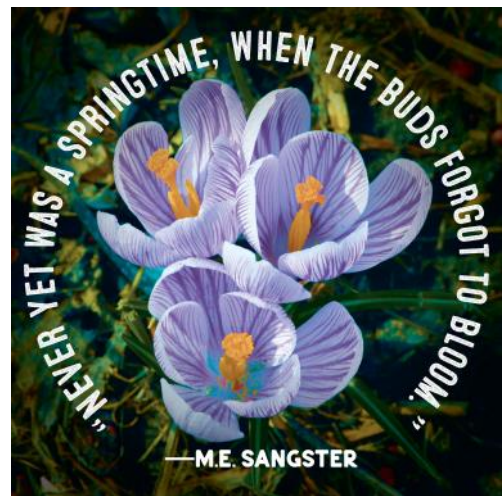
Stewardship: February 25—March 2, 2024

General Fund Giving— \$1,944.00

Glory of God's House— \$175.00

Study Books— \$35.00

Youth— \$25.00



In Ministry Today

Organist— Cyndi Hill

Tech Team—

Lector— Jackie Owen

Ushers—

Address Change?

If your address has changed, please notify the church office @ 845-0340 or e-mail: office@epworthvalleycity.com

Please help us keep our postage costs down by notifying the church of your address change.



Great Plains Food Bank Coming March 7— Great Plains Food Bank (GPFB) will be distributing food in Epworth's parking lot on Thursday, March 7 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. We need volunteers to direct traffic and to line up cars in the stadium parking lot. If you are interested in serving in this way, please contact the office or Pastor Duane. This mobile food pantry provides fresh vegetables, fruits, shelf-stable items, boxed goods, and more. Items are distributed out of crates and delivered directly to people in need. Distributions are set up as a drive-through where clients are able to stay in their cars and items are placed directly inside their vehicles. All in need of food assistance are welcome to come and receive food at no cost! A short intake form is filled out on-site; no pre-registration or referrals required. Started 40 years ago, GPFB is North Dakota's only food bank that recovers food that otherwise would go to waste from a range of food-industry partners. Through its programs and services, GPFB distributes food to those in need throughout North Dakota and Clay County, Minn.

2024 Purse Drive— We will collect personal care items for the FM Purse Lady in March. Marcie Pfeifer grew up in Valley City (Hank Middlestad's granddaughter) and because of her own circumstances, started collecting and giving purses to organizations and individuals. She has donated more than 2,000 purses regionally. Lightly used purses are welcomed, as are feminine hygiene products, travel-sized toiletries and socks. Look for her Amazon wish list page 2024 Purse Drive, which has mostly bulk items, but it can give you ideas: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/1JKJ93FEBV853?ref_=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR1V0GPiKvOmZTAJjObUrsblgEGXjCTn3KvoujP_wgigx9700-UlIUtMifk

UMCOR Sunday Offering Set for March 10 (*With help from United Methodist News Service*)— When disaster strikes around the globe, so many outside the disaster zone feel helpless as they watch the drama unfold on television. How could any one person make a difference in the wake of such widespread devastation? As responders around the globe scramble to help survivors, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is prepared to act, and they multiply the efforts of each person who contributes. So, don't be fooled by the word "committee." This isn't just a group that talks. It's an agency that acts. Since 1940, when UMCOR's forerunner was established to meet the needs of those suffering overseas at the onset of World War II, UMCOR has continued to respond to those in desperate need – today in more than 80 countries around the world.

We will take a special offering on March 10 to help support the administration of the work that is so vital in restoring hope for people and their communities all around the world. In 2023, United Methodists gave \$1.5 million, which provided hope and safety for communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by storms, wars, fires, displacement, and climate change. The special offering underwrites UMCOR's "cost of doing business" making it possible for UMCOR to focus on responding to communities and individuals when they need immediate assistance. It allows UMCOR to preserve the promise that 100 percent of any donation to a specific UMCOR project or missionary will go towards that project and not administrative costs.

So, to grease the skids of our work throughout the year, we will take this special offering, one of the eight we take during the year set by the United Methodist connectional system. Because you give, the United Methodist Church's compassionate response to human suffering continues today. So, please come to worship March 10 prepared to give generously.