



Spring Creek United Church of Christ

**First Sunday in Lent
March 9, 2025**

*We are an Open and Affirming, God-is still-speaking Congregation.
We embrace our diversity to make a divine difference together.
Wherever you are on life's journey, there is a place of welcome for you here.*

First Sunday in Lent (Girl Scout Sunday), March 9, 2025
*(Please stand as you are comfortable, at the places marked *)*

Meditation: "No Shade So Rare" -Handel

Musician

Welcome

Pastor David

*Hymn: NCH 425, *For the Fruits of All Creation*, verses 1, 2, and 3

***Call to Worship:** (adapted from Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16)

Worship Leader/People

Come, let us praise the Lord

Who is our refuge, our God, in whom we trust.

Who protects us from evil,
Guarding us in all our ways,

Who answers when we call
In times of trouble,

Who rescues and honors us
All our life long.

Prelude: "For the Fruit of All Creation" -Green

Musician

***Gathering Prayer**

Worship Leader/People

**O God, may our time together in worship
Warm our hearts, comfort our souls, strengthen our faith, and
Inspire us to greater love. Amen.**

***Confession**

Worship Leader/People

**O God, we confess
We sometimes are trapped
In a wilderness of our own making.
We succumb to the temptation
To place self above all others.**

**Forgive us, O God.
Lead us to the wilderness
Of your creation.
Fill us with gratitude.
Move us toward faithfulness.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pastor David

Lord's Prayer

Congregation

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***Hymn: 283, *Spirit of the Living God*, (sing twice).**

Reading: Luke 4:1-13

Worship Leader

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone

to become a loaf of bread.”⁴ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵ Then the devil^[a] led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil^[b] said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

⁹ Then the devil^[c] led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written,
‘He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,’

¹¹ and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

¹² Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Sermon: “Make the World a Better Place”

Pastor David

*Hymn: NCH 205, *Forty Days and Forty Nights*, verses 1, 2, and 3

Offering: Today’s loose offering will be for Pantry Sunday.

Offertory: "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" -Bayly

Musician

Offertory Response

(tune of Old Hundredth)

Congregation

**To God, all glorious heavenly Light,
To Christ revealed in earthly night,
To God the Spirit now we raise
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.**

Prayer of Dedication

Pastor David

Announcements Worship Leader
*Easter Flower Garden order sheets are due back by March 24.

Lighting Candles for Peace and Justice Pastor David

*Hymn: NCH 563, *We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky*, verses 1, 2, and 3.

Benediction Pastor David

Postlude: "To God in the Highest, be Glory" -Vetter Musician

***New Century Hymnal**

Pastor: David Sheridan
Musician: Thomas Stein
Worship Leader: Larry Hartzell
Hymn Leader: Deb Floor

Production: Bob Tissot & Josh Hill
Ushers: Jerry Brickey & Mike Grace
Greeter: Jerry Brickey

Please pray for these members and friends:

- We pray for **Lynn Rehnberg** who is experiencing some difficulties and awaiting a doctor's appointment.
- We give thanks that **Mike Carr** and his home were not touched by the recent fires in South Carolina.
- We give thanks for **Christy**, daughter-in-law of Becky and Mike Grace, who had surgery on Monday. We pray for her full recovery as she recovers at home.
- We give thanks for **Bob Tissot's great grandson, Leon Robert Tissot**, born on 2/17, to **parents Peter and Erin Tissot**, in Dallas, Texas. 8 pounds, 8 ounces. Baby and parents are doing well!
- We pray for **Ron Mertz and his wife Nancie**. **Ron** has been diagnosed with the most acute form of leukemia. He is now being evaluated for a possible clinical trial for his aggressive leukemia at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. No trial could be started until Ron is stable but he has experienced numerous related medical challenges. He has now commenced a chemo treatment, but his condition has deteriorated, and we renew our prayers for a miracle.
- We pray for **Sarah**, daughter of **Carol Gerrond's brother, Bob**. **Sarah** has been treated for breast cancer and is now cancer free.

- We pray for **John Gerrond's nephew, Todd**, who has been diagnosed with cancer. His mother, **Susan**, earlier this year had open heart surgery and has recovered.
- We pray for **Brent Schultz** and his wife **Liz**. Brent has been suffering from complications of his Parkinson's disease and cardiac issues.
- We pray for **Carol Gerrond's** brother, **Bob Miller**, who had surgery for an aneurism on the brain and is recovering.
- We pray for **Phil Adkins**, who continues to suffer with cardiovascular problems, with episodes of severe pain.
- We pray for **Terry White's brother, Ron**, who is being treated for cancer.
- We pray for **Liz & Brent Schultz's friend** & long-time neighbor with ALS, **Shawn**, who entered hospice care, and for his wife and six kids and their families.
- We pray for **Todd**, brother-in-law of Pastor David and Leslie, who continues cancer treatment.



No Anniversaries

Birthdays: Shawn Ostgarden – 3/3

David Koltz – 3/4

Attendance
2/16-50
2/23-39
3/02 - 50

Pastor David's Office Hours -- Wednesdays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 or call the office for an appointment.
 Emergency: 815/299-8263
Church Office hours
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 815/877-2576