



“Even now,” declares the LORD,  
“return to me with all your heart.”

Joel 2:12, NIV

## *Lenten Service*

*February 25, 2026*

*St. John's United Church of Christ*

300 N. Huntersville Road | Batesville, IN 47006  
stjohnsuccbatesville@etczone.com

Worship Service: 9:00am  
Sunday School: 10:15am

Words of Welcome: “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”

Psalm 27:1

Organ Prelude:     *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*     –arr. Mansfield

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship:

L: We come seeking after God, seeking presence, Word,  
and guidance.

**P: May we find you, O God, in all the ways you may be found.**

L: We come asking God to guide us, to empower us, to transform  
us. We ask God to enable us to walk ever more closely as  
disciples.

**P: Holy One, grant us our desires and requests. Move us to journey  
with you. And by your very presence, inspire us.**

L: We come, knocking on the door to the throne of grace,  
yearning to feel the love of our Creator.

**P: O God, open yourself to us,  
that we may be transformed by this worship.**

\*Opening Hymn:     *Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*     #442

Evening Prayer:

**Emmanuel, give us the perseverance and courage to seek out and approach  
you wherever you are to be found. Grant us the vision and understanding  
to see and recognize you in all the places we might meet you. Gift us the  
grace and generosity to respond freely and fully to all you ask of us. And  
then empower us to keep seeking and asking after you all the days of our  
lives. For we pray in your holy name, Amen.**



# Scriptures:



**Jeremiah 29:4-14:** Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to your dreams that you dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord.

For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.



**Matthew 7:7-11:** [Jesus said,] "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for bread, would give a stone? Or if the child asked for a fish, would give a snake? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!"

# Hymns:

## TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS #442

1 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,  
just to take him at his word,  
just to rest upon his promise,  
just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

### Refrain:

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!  
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!  
O for grace to trust him more!

2 O how sweet to trust in Jesus,  
just to trust his cleansing blood,  
just in simple faith to plunge me  
'neath the healing, cleansing flood! [Refrain]

3 Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,  
just from sin and self to cease,  
just from Jesus simply taking  
life and rest, and joy and peace. [Refrain]

4 I'm so glad I learned to trust you,  
precious Jesus, Savior, Friend,  
and I know that you are with me,  
will be with me to the end. [Refrain]

## O MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THEE #589

1 O Master, let me walk with thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
tell me thy secret: help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.

3 Teach me thy patience--still with thee  
in closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong;

4 In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
in peace that only thou canst give,  
with thee, O Master, let me live.



FEBRUARY 25

LENTEN SERVICE:

Ask, Seek, Knock

MARCH 4

LENTEN SERVICE WITH SKIT:

Anger and Revenge

MARCH 11

BIBLE STUDY WITH FELLOWSHIP MEAL:

Judging Other and Golden Rule

MARCH 18

PRAYER STATIONS:

Lord's Prayer and Other Prayer Topics

MARCH 25

LENTEN SERVICE:

Do Not Worry