

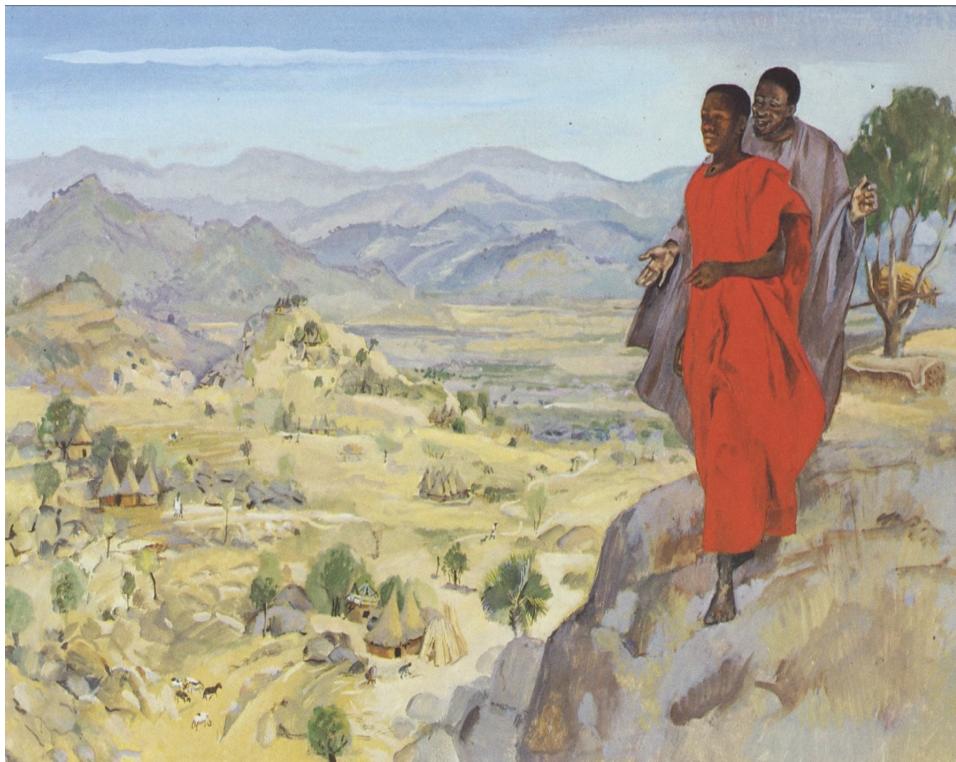
CHURCH ON THE CAPE

United Methodist Church

The First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

Rev. Greg Smith



JESUS MAFA. Jesus is tempted - Matthew 4:1-11, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48312> [retrieved February 16, 2026].

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UNISON PRAYER

Most Holy Lord, we humble ourselves in prayer before you on this first Sunday of Lent. Lead us on a spiritual journey of forty days, remembering the forty days that our Lord fasted in the wilderness.

As you spoke to Jesus in the midst of his fasting, now speak to us in this holy season.

As you strengthened Jesus in his time of need, be with us whenever we face challenges or struggles.

As you gave Jesus the ability to resist temptation and follow in your ways, give us the resolve to resist temptation and seek your holiness. Every day, lead us ever closer to your heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

This lesson tells the story of how the first people lived in a garden with God...

STORY TIME

SECOND LESSON Romans 5:12-19

In this lesson from Romans, Paul reflects on the nature of sin and the work of Christ in bringing salvation.

CHOIR ANTHEM "Jesus in the Wilderness" COTC CHOIR
Tyler Mabry

Jesus spends time in the wilderness and faces temptation...

MESSAGE "Walking with Jesus"

OFFERTORY MUSIC “Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

—Johann Gottfried Walther: Steven Scott, arr.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN "We'll Understand It Better By and By" UMH #525

BLESSING

POSTLUDE: "Acclamation"
Lyndell Leatherman

PARISH NOTES

BIBLE STUDY FOR LENT

Our group will read and discuss "**An Unlikely Lent**" by Rachel Billups. This study introduces us to the overlooked characters in the Passion narrative, from Mary of Bethany to the servant girl, Barabbas, and Simon of Cyrene. Billups helps us see how these unlikely voices reveal God's surprising grace. If there is enough interest we will offer the same times we did during Advent: Tuesdays 12-1 p.m. and Thursdays 6-7 p.m. The first date of Study is Feb. 24. The book will cost \$18.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The newsletter deadline for the March newsletter is Tuesday, February 24. Please send your Newsletter Submissions to Charlie Benore at sailchess@gmail.com.

LADIES LUNCHEON AT THE BULL AND CLAW

There will be a ladies luncheon at The Bull and Claw on Friday, February 27 at 11:30 am. Please RSVP to Pastor Sue Ellery at 978-270-7428 / susanbellery@gmail.com or Diana Smith at 802-495-6724 / 2nddsmith@gmail.com

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION SUNDAY

During worship on March 8, we will be receiving and recognizing new members of the church. If you would like to be part of the group who are joining the church, please speak to Rev. Smith soon!

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

MAUNDY THURSDAY

There will be a worship service on Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, at 7:00 pm.

GOOD FRIDAY

Our Good Friday worship service will feature a dramatic reading with seven different readers. Pastor Greg would like to identify these readers soon. We need 3 more people (2 men and 1 either) who are not in the choir to volunteer for these parts. This service will also be at 7:00 pm

COMMITTEE HELP NEEDED

We have several committees in the church that could use more members to help with their important work! One of those is the Staff Parish Committee, which is our personnel committee. This is a required committee and has a defined size of nine members. At present we have three vacancies that need to be filled. If you would like to know more, or would like to volunteer, please speak to Pastor Greg.

VIDEO STREAMING ANNOUNCEMENT

In the past few weeks we have been experiencing erratic internet speeds which can cause streaming problems. In most cases the problem will disappear after a few minutes and the video will resume without the viewer needing to do anything except wait a few minutes. In other cases we can not stream. If that happens, we will post the full service video that same Sunday afternoon after about 2 pm. Note these videos will appear in the "Videos" section rather than the usual "Live" section on our YouTube channel.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

HELP SHAPE UNITED WAY'S WORK IN SOUTHERN MAINE

Real change starts with listening. United Way of Southern Maine is hosting Community Conversations across Cumberland and York counties to hear directly from people who live or work in Southern Maine. We want to understand your experiences, challenges, and hopes for the future.

WHY ATTEND?

This is your opportunity to be heard. By sharing your thoughts, you help identify the strengths, challenges, and opportunities in our community. Your voice can highlight areas where United Way of Southern Maine—and you—can take action. Be part of the solution and help shape the future of Southern Maine.

JOIN US!

Use this link to sign up:

<https://southcckport.breezechms.com/form/051c71>

DATE: Tuesday, February 24th

TIME: 12-1:30pm (lunch included)

LOCATION: South Church Community House
8 Temple Street, Kennebunkport



UNITED WAY
Southern Maine

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Judy Cadieux	Patty Hutchins	Ann Nelson
Julie Chase	Bethany Hessel	Mary Parker
Fran Celnar	Micki Kinney	Desmond Parker
Mary Heather Cookson	Lesa Kraft Angelos	Luverne Preble
Micke Cooper	Brett LaCour	Steve Russell
Risha Deary	Nicholas LaCour	Nancy Russo
Beth Dudley	Janet Lennon	Lettie Samuel
Henry & Diane Dynia	Charity Perry Liutai	Eric Schoener
Jean Earley	Chloe McLaughlin	Jane Smith
Sally Ewton	Jean Moulton	Chuck Wildes
Harold Falcone	Marybeth Munroe	

February Birthdays

February 2	Pat Linscott
February 5	Gwen Purushotham
February 8	Jacksen Phillips
February 10	Bobby MacIver
February 11	Gary Schoener
February 12	Elissa Boulier
February 14	Kaitlyn Schoener
February 20	Diane Connelly
February 24	Linda Brock
February 25	Barbara Fuller
February 26	Nikki Evans

If you would like to add someone to our birthday announcements,
please let the office know. 207-967-5787

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

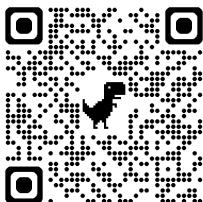
Sun., Feb. 15	9:45 am	Hymn Sing
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
Mon., Feb. 16	10:00 am	Chimes
Tue., Feb. 17	10:30 am	Knitters
	11:30 am	Picnic Lunch
	2-4 pm	Cargo Shop Open
Wed., Feb. 18	2:00 pm	Senior Moments Rehearsal
	4:30 pm	Bon Appetit
	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship
Thu., Feb. 19	2-4 pm	Cargo Shop Open
	5:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sat., Feb. 21	10am-12pm	Cargo Shop Open

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun., Feb. 22	9:45 am	Hymn Sing
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
Mon., Feb. 23	10:00 am	Chimes
Tue., Feb. 24		Newsletter Deadline
	10:30 am	Knitters
	11:30 am	Picnic Lunch
	2-4 pm	Cargo Shop Open
Wed., Feb. 25	2:00 pm	Senior Moments Rehearsal
Thu., Feb. 26	2-4 pm	Cargo Shop Open
	5:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Fri., Feb. 27	11:30 am	Ladies Luncheon
Sat., Feb. 28	10 am– 12 pm	Cargo Shop Open



Everyone is welcome at Church on the Cape, UMC, without exception. What matters most to us and what unites us as a vibrant, compassionate community of faith, is the assurance that we are all beloved children of God and of sacred worth to our Creator. Come as you are and join us on our faith journeys as we seek to make followers of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



*Join us from wherever you call home:
If you like what you see here, we post our worship, music, children's messages and sermons online - you can find them via our website :
www.churchonthecape.org*

Church on the Cape Staff

Rev. Greg Smith	Pastor
Paul N. Stephan	Music Director
Ivan Collazo	Custodian
Jen Murray	Office Administrator
Mike Kelly	Streaming Coordinator
Jean Baracco	Head Usher
Adrien Baracco	Assistant Usher