

Welcome! We are so glad that you chose
to worship with us this morning!

Visiting with us for the first time?

Please be sure to pick up a welcome brochure and fill out
the Connect Card. We'd love to get to know you!

Prayer Requests

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR: Healing and peace for Howard Axler, Norma Cox, Richard Escobar, Alfie Franco, Martha Hobbs, Rene Kelbjornsen, Ken Murrell, and Mary Whitcomb. For Australia, The Bahamas, the Caribbean, Cuba, Haiti, the Middle East, Puerto Rico. Shooting victims in Milwaukee. Containment of the coronavirus, and healing for all those affected.

LEGACY CHURCH MEMBER PRAYER CONCERNS: Wayne Whittlesey, and Paul Reiner's daughter, Marti, at Epworth Village; Raleigh Johnson at Susana Wesley; Jean Korner and Carol Hanna at The Palace.

SHARE YOUR PRAYER CONCERNS AND/OR ANSWERED PRAYER

Fill out the Connect Card and drop it in the offering plate or designated prayer request boxes found in the foyer by the Welcome Table. Or you can also submit prayer requests at welovecoralgables.org/prayer.

News + Events

CONNECT KIDS (CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL) • 11:00am service

- Birth - 2: Hanger Building Room 105 (Nursery)
- 3s, 4s & 5s: Hanger Building Room 107
- Kindergarten - 5th grade: Hanger Building Room 109

YOUTH MINISTRY • following the 11:00am service

Calling all youth... Come on over to the Youth Lounge for food, games, fun, and conversation today after the service!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR!

An exciting new opportunity for children ages 6-12! Part of the ConnectKids programming during the 11:00am service will now include a time for a children's vocal ensemble rehearsal! Please see Lauren Hartman for any questions and to fill out an interest form.

WEEKLY COMMUNION @ THE 8:30AM SERVICE

For the weeks of Lent (which began on Ash Wednesday), we will offer Communion each Sunday morning at our 8:30am Traditional Service in the Chapel (off Coral Way, to the west of The Growing Place school playground). Communion will also be offered on the first Sunday of each month, as usual, in all three worship services.

***Mondays!* LUNCHTIME CLASS • THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

Mondays, through April 6, 12:30-1:30pm, Room 123

Bring a bag lunch and join us for this study of John's beautiful, poetic rendering of the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Pastor Hedy Collver will guide our discussion together. To reserve your seat, contact Pastor Hedy at hcollver@firstcoralgables.org or 305.445.2578 x101.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP • Thursday, March 12, 7:00pm, Room 209

Any and all are welcome to participate in this emotional support group. If you are experiencing a difficult time and would like to confide in a group of friends, feel free to stop in.

SILVER CLUB • Thursday, March 12, 10:30am, Head Center

Two interest groups here at church come together for this event! The Art Class at First Coral Gables will visit the Silver Club in order to present "Church-Wide Art Show"! Lunch is \$5. Incidentally, ***if creating masterpieces sounds interesting to you, the Art Class meets every Tuesday at 2:00pm in Room 211.*** Just jump in any time!

HAPPY HOUR LATINO! • Friday, March 13, 7:00pm, Youth Lounge

This is your lucky day if you want to be a part of a Spanish-language gathering! Join everyone for fun, food, and felicidad!

***This Saturday!* MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Saturday, March 14, 8:30am, Founders Hall

Help yourself to a heaping plate of hotcakes! The United Methodist Men are having a guys-only get-together. Invite a buddy or two, or make it a father-son weekend starter!

***This Saturday!* THE GROWING PLACE ("TGP") 2020 SPRING CARNIVAL**

Saturday, March 14, 11am-2pm, Church Playground

This is a highlight of the year! Don't miss the TGP Spring Carnival, where there will be rides, games, face-painting, magic, food, prizes and more! A silent auction of fabulous items will help raise funds for classroom resources. Tickets are \$10 per child over 2 years old... adults are free!

***Next Sunday!* UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MEETING**

Sunday, March 15, 12:30am, Head Center

Right after service, drop in at the Head Center and listen in on what's happening among your sisters in the United Methodist Women!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION • deadline Friday, April 3

If you are a member of First Coral Gables and a high school senior planning to attend college in the fall, the church's Educational Assistance Committee is offering scholarship aid! Scholarships are also available to church members who are in college or graduate school and need help with their educational expenses. Grades and activities (especially activities connected to the church) are important. For more information and to download the application, visit www.welovecoralgables.org/scholarships.

SIT TOGETHER SUNDAY • Easter, April 12, 11:00am worship service

Our next Sit-Together Sunday will be on Easter! On April 12th, our community's children will lead us in worship, and all children will be invited to stay in worship with their families to enjoy the service and to take Communion together! This will be a fun, joyful, family-friendly service. Invite a friend... or two or three!

NEW ELEMENTARY PROGRAM @ THE GROWING PLACE!

We're launching a new elementary (K-5) program! Starting in the fall with 1st grade, the Lamar Louise Curry Elementary Program will build on our award-winning early childhood education. Small classroom sizes, strong parent involvement, social emotional learning, limited homework, and diverse learning strategies to enhance education for older children. Registration is open now for Kindergarten and 1st grade! Contact the school at 305.446.0846 for more information!



Hillside overlooking the Sea of Galilee

Sunday, March 8, 2020
8:30 & 11:00am

Lent 2020
Week 2 • Blessed



First United Methodist Church of Coral Gables
March 8, 2020 • 8:30am & 11:00am
welovecoralgables.org • 305.445.2578
facebook.com/firstcoralgables

What is Lent? Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means “spring.” These days represent Jesus’ time in the wilderness, enduring temptation and preparing to begin his ministry. Lent is a time to open the doors of our hearts a little wider and to understand our Lord a little deeper, so that when Good Friday and Easter come, it is not just another day at church, but an opportunity to receive the overflowing of grace God offers each of us!

We Gather in God’s Name

An * below indicates to stand, as you are able.

INVOCATION • *What Wondrous Love Is This* • verse 2 Eric Firestone, tenor

PRELUDE Seth Carlson, organ

WELCOME Hedy Collver, Senior Pastor

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

* **PROCESSIONAL HYMN** • *Lift High the Cross* • Hymnal No. 159

* **LENTEN LITURGY** Hedy Collver
Teach Us the Wisdom of God • Arr. Raney Choir sings, congregation joins in for refrain

Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has
 read-y for those who love him; Spir - it of
 love, come, give us the mind of Je - sus,
 teach us the wis-dom of God.

* **RESPONSIVE LITANY** Margaret Cox
 Leader: During Lent, we reflect on the meaning of suffering.
All: Through suffering, we become aware of God’s presence.
 Leader: All around us we see sorrow, brokenness, and pain.
All: Through suffering, we become aware of God’s power.
 Leader: We struggle with our own trials and search in vain for answers.

All: Through suffering, we learn to trust God’s promises.
 Leader: We think of the magnitude of Christ’s suffering on the cross.
All: Through suffering, we deepen our faith.
 Leader: We cry out helplessly when our burdens seem unbearable.
All: Through suffering, we learn to comfort others.

* **REFRAIN** • *Teach Us the Wisdom of God* Sanctuary Choir & congregation

* **PRAYER OF SUFFERING**
Merciful God, grant us strength and courage to face the trials in our lives, and keep us grateful for all the joys. Cheer us in our sorrow and sustain us through our suffering. Keep us aware of our weakness and dependent upon your strength. Remind us of Christ’s suffering on the cross, and renew us by your Holy Spirit that we may follow your commands and proclaim your love to a suffering world. Amen.

CONNECT CARDS Hedy Collver

PASSING OF THE PEACE Roberto Perez, Assistant Pastor

CHILDREN’S MOMENT (11:00 service) Hedy Collver
Parents, if you haven’t yet checked your child in for ConnectKids, this is a great time to head back to the Sanctuary lobby. One of our volunteers will be there to help you sign your child in!

We Offer Ourselves to God

OFFERING Hedy Collver

OFFERTORY Sanctuary Choir

* **DOXOLOGY** • *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* • verse 4
Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

OFFERING & PASTORAL PRAYER Hedy Collver

THE LORD’S PRAYER
 Our Father, which 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.

ANTHEM (11:00 service only)
If My People Will Pray • Owens Sanctuary Choir

We Listen for God’s Word

SCRIPTURE • Matthew 5:1-12 (NRSV) Roberto Perez

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Leader: The word of God, for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

MESSAGE • *On the Way* • Blessed Hedy Collver; Kyle Elgarten, piano

We Respond to God’s Promises

HOLY COMMUNION • (8:30 service only)

* **HYMN OF DEDICATION** • *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* • Hymnal No. 301

* **BENEDICTION** Hedy Collver

* **MUSICAL BENEDICTION** Sanctuary Choir

POSTLUDE Seth Carlson, organ

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Altar Flowers are given in memory of Virginia Woolley on her birthday, March 8, by Tom, Virginia, and the “Woodpile.”

Words and lyrics printed by permission, CCLI #1158993.
 Words & Music for Lenten Liturgy by Marty Haugen & Joel Raney.

Please discard any unwanted worship bulletins in the blue recycle bins. This helps our environment and keeps our church clean. Thank you!