



POLK CITY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Find [adult small groups & devotions](#)

See what's happening in [Youth](#) and [Children's Ministries](#)

Check our website for opportunities to [Serve](#) by providing a meal or making care calls

[Give](#) to our church's mission and ministries

Find out more about our Lent worship series & opportunities for in-person worship on our [website](#)

**Contact us:**

**Children/Youth Ministry:**

Lauren Wilken

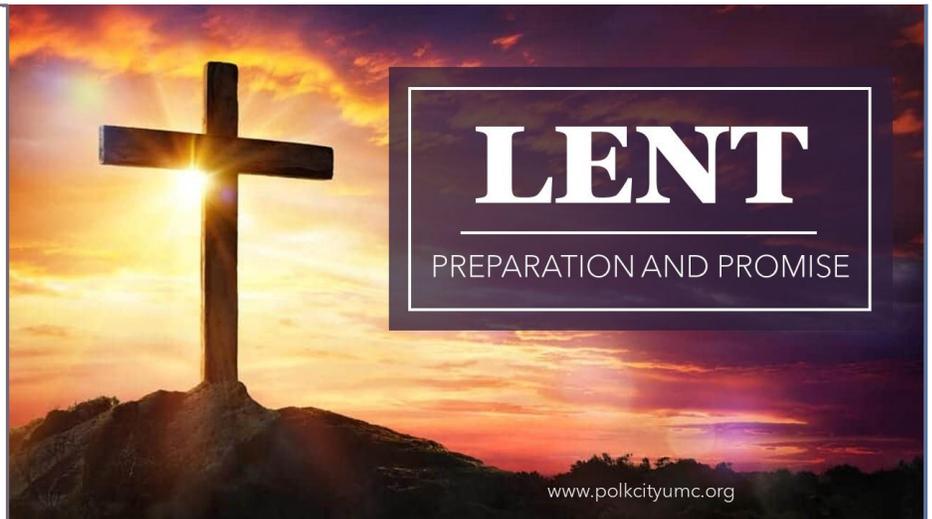
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Melody Webb

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LENT

PREPARATION AND PROMISE

[www.polkcityumc.org](http://www.polkcityumc.org)

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Worship online: [Facebook Live](#) or on our [Website](#)

*All words for communal speaking are included below. You are encouraged to either speak the words in bold aloud as you worship, and to sing out your praise, or to attend to these words for worship and meditate on their meaning.*

*You are also invited to greet one another and post prayer requests in the [Facebook](#) comments or to fill out the [website](#) connect card.*

### CENTERING MOMENT

Abraham and Sarah are chosen by God so that the world might be blessed through them. God partners with these two who are already partners of each other, and together they walk faithfully into a future God has promised to give them "descendants beyond number, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore." From this partnership came the promise that "once you were not a people, now you are God's people." As we light the candles for worship, give thanks for the promise of your place among God's people, and invite the light of Christ to fill you with grace and peace. Let us worship.

## SONG OF PRAISE

“You Are My Vision”

## OPENING PRAYER

Mighty God, you come to us with ancient truths and new insights. May the ageless message of faith be our foundation. May the ever-changing experience of grace be our strength. Guide us to live as your covenant people, that we may be a blessing to all the nations and a light of love for all to see. Amen.

## CHILDREN’S MOMENT

## SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Mark 8:27-38

Emily Young

## SONG OF PREPARATION

“We Believe”

## SERMON

“Promise of Participation”

Rev. Melody Webb

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Heather Hucka

*Post prayer requests in the [Facebook](#) comments or fill out the [website](#) connect card.*

## LORD’S PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS

*Make your offering [online](#) or mail checks to 1421 W. Broadway St., Polk City, IA 50226 (Attn: Finance Secretary)*

## DOXOLOGY

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

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of all, you love us and have claimed us. As you blessed Sarah and Abraham, you have invited us into the blessing of connection within the family of humanity whom you continue to bless. We give our tithes and offerings in celebration of the depths of our blessing and pray that they will strengthen the church across the world to bless all your children. In the holy name of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray in gratitude. Amen.

## WORDS OF BLESSING

God’s promises endure from generation to generation. May the God of Abraham and Sarah, the God who sent Jesus to redeem us, the God whose covenant is eternal, bless you and give you peace. Amen.

## SONG OF SENDING

“You Never Let Go”