

*And the Lord said to Abram, "Go forth from your land and from your birthplace and from your father's house, to the land that I will show you." (Genesis 12:1)*



The journey of the Jewish people begins with Abraham, whose own story begins with a physical and spiritual journey. In the painting, his figure is moving forward into an unknown future. He peers into the surrounding darkness, without knowing where he is headed. A guiding light hangs behind him as he wanders forward, staff in hand, from one situation to another, searching for the place that has yet to be revealed.

**March 12, 2017 11:15 a.m.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

*Gathering Songs #48*  
*#627*

“Rain Down”  
“I Love You, Lord”

*Welcome and Living Our Faith*

*Call to Worship*

In days of old God called Abraham and Sarah:

**“Come – begin your journey of faith.”**

God speaks still, claiming people of every land and race:

**“Come – I will bless you, that you may bless others.”**

Children of God, let us continue the journey:

**Come – Let us worship the Lord!**

*Song #664*

“Morning Has Broken”

*Call to Confession*

In baptism we are claimed as God’s own  
and set apart for service –

**blessed to be a blessing to others.**

We are not always faithful to this calling;  
but God is faithful to us.

**Trusting in the one who makes us whole,  
we offer our whole selves to God.**

## *Time of Confession*

*Each of us makes mistakes; each of us makes excuses. Each of us falls short living into our call. What in your life prevents you from living a life of compassionate service? What burdens do you carry, and how do they inhibit you from serving God with gifts of time and talent? Each of you has received a stone – a tangible reminder of the burdens we carry. During this time, we invite you to come to the font and to let go of this stone, and – with it – that which you need to confess to God. Please also take a shell – a reminder of your baptism –and reflect upon the ways God is calling you to participate in Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice.*

*Song #698*                    *“Take, O Take Me as I Am”*

## *Assurance of God's Forgiveness*

*Response #447*                    *“We Are Forgiven”*

## *Passing of the Peace*

*Scripture*                                    *Genesis 12:1-4*  
*Christine Schiltz, Lay Reader*

*Message*                                    *“New Territory”*                                    *Greg Jones*

*Song #51*                                    *“To Abraham and Sarah”*

## *Offering*

*Please sign the blue friendship notebook and pass it to the person next to you.*

## *Prayers of the People*

## The Lord's Prayer

Song #691 "Lord, When I Came into This Life"  
Verses 1-3

Sending

Response #691 "Lord, When I Came into This Life"  
Verse 4

*Following worship, please join us in the Meeting Room  
for coffee, tea, and fellowship.*

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**We are thankful for your presence and participation this morning.** Westminster has two worship options each Sunday. Our other Sunday morning worship service is held at 9:00 a.m., and includes a choir, organ music and a brief Children's Message. Both services include prayers, singing, scripture and sermon.

**Following worship, feel free to make a bouquet to brighten someone's day.** Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the Baptism of Scarlett Rae Ferry with love from her family.

**Please remember in your prayers:** Wes Bowman, Reade Tompson, and Dottie Heldt, all at Cokesbury.

**Children are welcome in worship.** You will find yellow worship bags for all children at the chapel entrance.

**Image:** "Abraham Journeys Forth into the Unknown", <http://www.yoramraanan.com/single-post/2015/10/25/Abraham-Journeys-Forth-into-the-Unknown>

Pastors: Gregory Knox Jones and Sudie Niesen Thompson

Pianist: Paul Fleckenstein

Song Leader: David Price

Digital Artist: Bob Cox



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