

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT  
JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM



REFLECTION - PREPARATION OF OUR MINDS  
*(Entering worship, let us prepare our hearts.)*

“We should never lose the awareness of what (our) sin cost God on Calvary. Nor should we ever lose sight of our need for atonement (the reconciliation of God and humankind through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ) for our subtle sins. The subtle nature of our nature is that often the more we grow in moral strength and character development, the farther we are liable to go from the Source...Gratitude will always be measured in our vulnerability, our need for grace and our viability to receive fresh grace every day – on some days, every hour! -- Lloyd John Ogilvie

*“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*  
(Romans 5:8)

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

February Scripture: (Acts 2: 46-47)

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts.  
They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.  
And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

PRAISE TO AN AWESOME GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

\*INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison) *debts*

\*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

\*THE PEACE

\*HYMN: “Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him”

Hymnal #805

Hymnal #17

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Gracious Lord, You have placed within each of us a conscience as the voice of our inner deep self, hearing the prodding of a Holy God. Over the years our conscience has been shaped by what we have learned to be true and right. How thankful we are when our conscience is rooted in the Ten Commandments and guided by Your Spirit. Too often that is not the case. How often I hear Your voice, but my desires speak louder, and my priorities and values fall short of Your call. Alarm me with a divinely inspired discomfort when I drift from You. Disturb me with discontent when I settle for less than truth and honesty. Hear me as I pour out to You the confessions of my heart (silent prayer). Give me a clean conscience that will keep me sensitive to You, through Christ our liberating Lord and Savior. Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

\*OLD TESTAMENT: Joshua 24:14-22

Bible p. 231

PRAYER TO A LISTENING SAVIOR

MISSION MOMENT (Second Offering Today)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING SENTENCE AND PRAYER (Romans 14:12)

So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

OFFERTORY: The Sherman Church Choir

*(Children are dismissed for Sunday School)*

\*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Hymnal #808

\*HYMN: “Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak”

Hymnal #574

PREACHING THE WORD

\*GOSPEL: Luke 9:51-62

Bible p. 1027

SERMON: “The Choices We Make Mold Us”

PROCLAIMING THE GLORY OF CHRIST

\*HYMN: “You Are My All In All”

Hymnal Insert

\*BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE

*(\*Congregation, please stand if able.)*



FOLLOWING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE  
JOIN US FOR OUR LENTEN LUNCHEON

We will begin a time of learning and discussion around the series  
“The Journey: The Story of the Bible from Creation to New Creation.”

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- Eliza Capehart, serving in the United States Air Force.
- John Langworthy, back injury.
- Brian Barnier, health.
- Jim Beddows, health.
- Nicole Thorp, health.
- Amos Munch, health.
- Jim and Christine Munch, health.
- Roberta Judd, health.
- Willis Stephens, (Jon Stephens' father), health.
- Christopher Siebert, healing of foot.
- Jill Finch, health
- Betty Beatty, health
- Rev. Daniel Morton, health

OUR MISSIONARIES:

Nic & Christy Brenner; Robert & Nina Bruneau; 4C Church Planting; Lion of Judah Academy.

UPCOMING:

**Women's Bible Study**  
Every Wednesday. 10:00 a.m.  
**Lenten Luncheon (Sunday)**  
Feb. 18, 25 Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24  
**Hearts and Crafts**  
Mar. 11th, 9:00 am

DONATIONS FOR THE VETERANS HOSPITAL

The church continues collecting items for the Veterans Hospital in West Haven. There is a list of needed items in the Fellowship Hall.

**HOPELINE** is in need of several items. Please bring them to church and place them in the basket in the narthex.

(List of needed items is in the Narthex)

**DEACONS** of the church are always available to meet with you, pray with you, and hear your concerns.

PRAYER TEAM

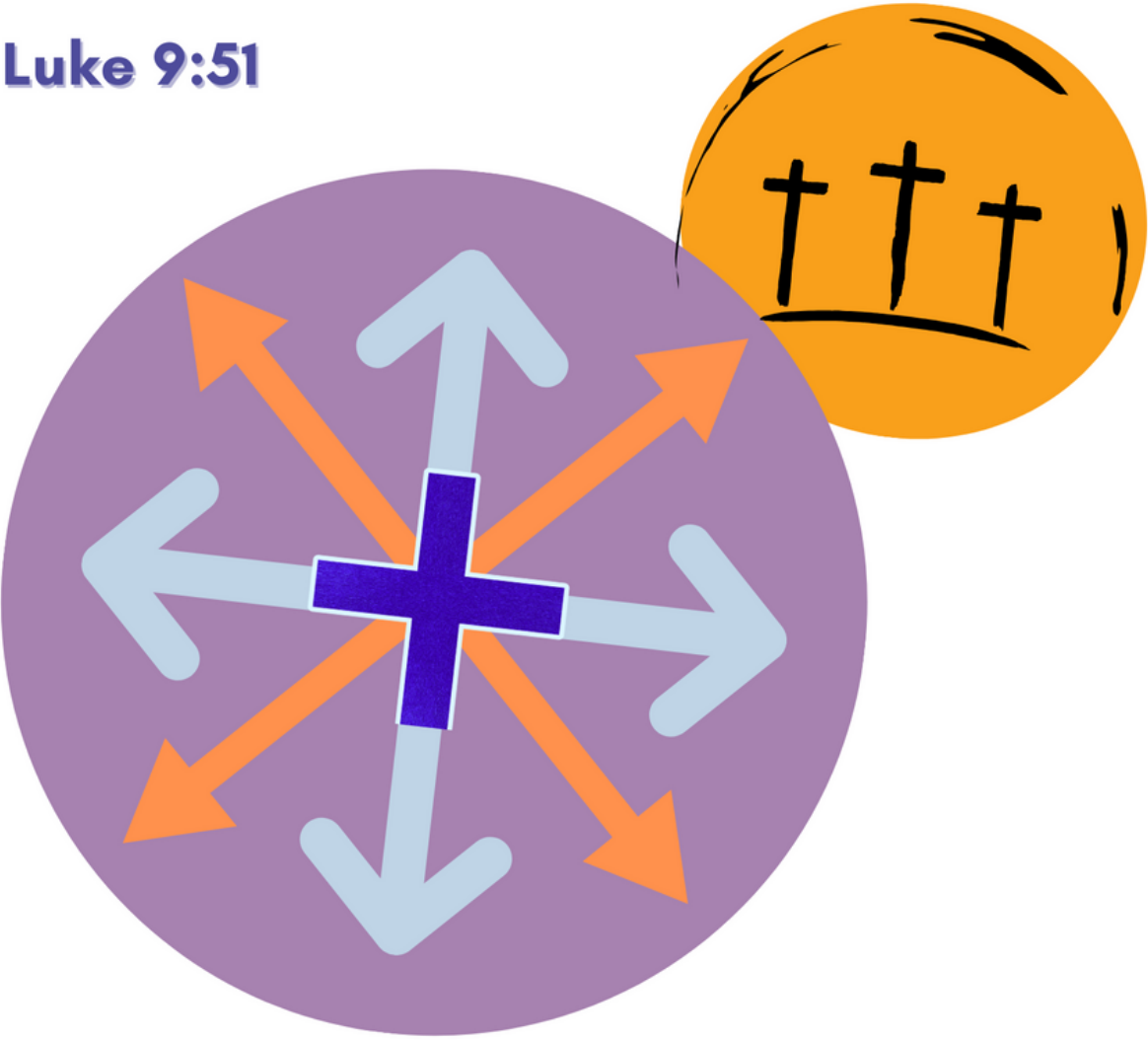
Prayer is a vital part of our ministry at the Sherman Church.  
A Prayer Team meets every Thursday to pray for our Church Family.  
If you have an immediate prayer concern, please call or email the church office or the Pastor. We will share the need with the Prayer Team.

**FIRE EXITS** are located at the rear of the sanctuary through the double doors and at the front through the doors on both sides of the altar.

SETTING YOUR PRIORITIES

Jesus resolutely determined to go to Jerusalem.

Luke 9:51



**THE SHERMAN CHURCH**  
A MEMBER CHURCH OF  
THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE  
6 Church Road | Sherman, CT 06784  
860-354-6114  
info@shermanchurch.org | Shermanchurch.org

THE SHERMAN CHURCH  
February 18, 2024

# MISSION MOMENT



The Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) is a missionary organization that serves persecuted Christians in the world’s most difficult and dangerous places to be a Christian. Richard and Sabina Wurmbbrand founded VOM after being imprisoned for their Christian witness in Communist Romania. For more than 50 years, VOM has been dedicated to inspiring all believers to a biblical faith by encouraging their commitment to Christ and the fulfillment of his Great Commission no matter the cost.

## THE VOICE OF THE MARTYRS CONTINUES THIS MISSION AROUND THE WORLD TODAY THROUGH THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

-  To encourage and empower Christians to fulfill the Great Commission in areas of the world where they are persecuted for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ.
-  To provide practical relief and spiritual support to the families of Christian martyrs.
-  To equip persecuted Christians to love and win to Christ those who are opposed to the gospel in their part of the world.
-  To undertake projects of encouragement, helping believers rebuild their lives and Christian witness in countries where they have formerly suffered oppression.
-  To promote the fellowship of all believers by informing the world of the faith and courage of persecuted Christians, thereby inspiring believers to a deeper level of commitment to Christ and involvement in His Great Commission.

The Voice of the Martyrs serves Christians who are persecuted for their faith in Christ **in more than 70 hostile or restricted nations around the world.** More than 4 million persecuted Christians receive help from VOM each year. Through this fellowship, our brothers and sisters are reminded that they are part of the wider body of Christ, encouraged to remain steadfast in their faith and challenged to continue to advance the gospel where they live. <https://www.persecution.com/>



## OUR CHURCH:

|                               |                                            |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>Pastor:</b>                | Rev. John Loring Carpenter, Interim Pastor |
| <b>Ministers:</b>             | The Congregation                           |
| <b>Minister of Music:</b>     | Carolyn Kopsick                            |
| <b>Moderator:</b>             | Edna Coons                                 |
| <b>Chair of Deacons:</b>      | Charles Mastroni                           |
| <b>Co-Chair of Trustees:</b>  | Don Coons and Lynn Paulovicks              |
| <b>Flowers:</b>               | Lynne Gomez                                |
| <b>Announcements:</b>         |                                            |
| <b>Prayers of the People:</b> | Tara Alemany                               |
| <b>Reader:</b>                | Maryanne Carpenter                         |
| <b>Greeter:</b>               | Debbie Thorp                               |
| <b>Coffee Hour Host:</b>      | Jon and Kristin Stephens                   |
| <b>Nursery:</b>               | Kristin Stephens                           |
| <b>Usher:</b>                 | Don Coons                                  |

## CALENDAR

**February 18 - February 24, 2024**

(Links for online meetings may be found at [shermanchurch.org](http://shermanchurch.org))

### SUNDAY:

**WORSHIP SERVICES** at 10:00 A.M. (Also Live Streamed)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Lenten Luncheon - First Sunday in Lent** (After Worship)

### WEDNESDAY:

**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY** at 10:00 AM - Fellowship Hall

**INVESTMENTS** at 7:00 P.M. Online

**AA** at 7:00 P.M - Fellowship Hall

### THURSDAY:

**PRAYER IN THE PARLOR** at 6:45 P.M

**Dial-in Number: 667-770-1484; when prompted access code 357664#.**

**AA** at 7:00 P.M - Fellowship Hall

**NEXT WEEK:** We continue the series “Journey to Jerusalem” – our theme for Lent. May this be a season of prayer and repentance as we seek God’s loving care through this Lenten series. Prepare each week by reflecting on the Word of God through the devotional material inserted in this bulletin. Come to worship having read the scripture for the day, which on Feb 25 will be **Luke 12:41-48; 20:9-16.**

---

## WHAT IS A SOLEMN ASSEMBLY?

It is a specific, significant, solemn gathering of God’s people to pray, repent, affirm His call, and embrace His covenant relationship. In the Book of Joel, God’s people had experienced great destruction from swarms of locusts. As spiritual leader, Joel knew the only remedy was to turn to God, calling His people to return to Him in a sacred time of prayer and worship – a sacred or solemn assembly. When the people responded, God heard, forgave, and restored their land.

God’s people periodically are faced with difficult circumstances: external persecution, natural calamities, and disenchanted society. The Church also experiences internal struggles: dissension, disinterest, and loss of the mission to which Christ had called them. Often in a transition between leaders there is a need to repent in the personal and corporate ways we have fallen short of the call of the Lord, while also to renew our call to fulfill the covenantal relationship offered through Jesus Christ. Now is such a time in the life of this church.

## PUT MARCH 23, 10:00 AM ON YOUR CALENDAR TODAY!

Plan to not only join in a Solemn Assembly at the church, but also prepare your hearts and minds through a devotional available the week before. Be part of our coming together to seek God in a special and significant time of prayer.



# EASTER FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

The flower committee is making plans to decorate the church sanctuary and the outside of the church for the Easter season.

Memorials will again be done by free-will donations to the Flower Fund in place of individual plant ordering.

Flower donation envelopes are available in each pew as of **March 3, 2024.** Simply place your donation in an envelope, with “In Memorial or In Honor of...” and place it in the offering plate.

The amount of your donation will only be known to the Financial Secretary of the church. If you do not live in the local area and wish to donate to the Flower Fund, please mail it, clearly marked, to the church office and your gift will be entered into the memorial folder. To be included in the memorial folder your donation should be received by **March 24th.** Donations to the Flower Fund will go to all decorations unless otherwise noted.

If you have any questions, please call the church office or speak with Penny LeMasurier, Edna Coons or Anna Galasso on Sunday morning! Keep an eye out for the next Flower Committee meeting. Anyone interested in this ministry is welcome to join us.



LENT INSERT – WEEK 2  
February 19-25, 2024

“BEING RESPONSIBLE”

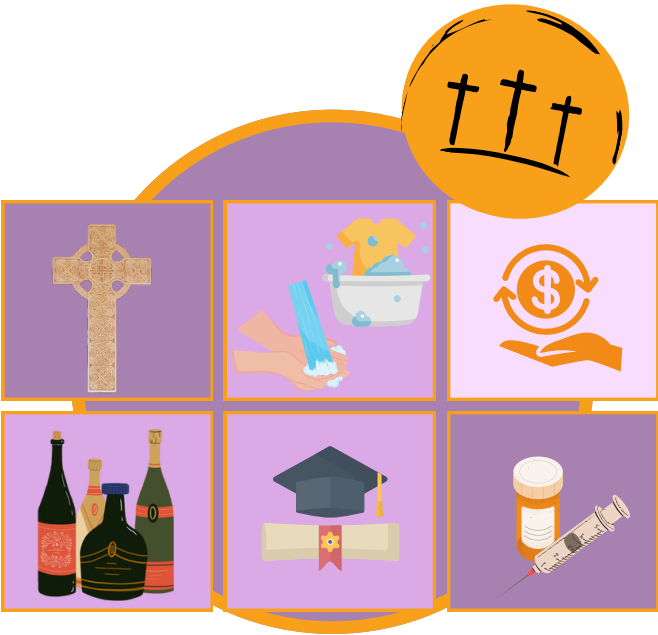
Responsibility and accountability are the twin ordinances under the cross. Disciples have been given a rich estate of bountiful blessings, and thus are responsible for bringing dividends to God’s investment in you. That’s the task of stewards.

The ledger s in your hands, and you will either fill that ledger with increased profits or the red of bankruptcy, in your life and in your community of faith. When you are called in by the board of directors to give your report, you must give an account of what you have done with what you have been given.

Those first pilgrims under the cross were becoming the church that you are seeking to be as you continue the journey. All the cutting criticism, all the premature post-mortems on the church have not done her in, for she is the bride of Christ and there will be no divorce. The church is an anvil that has worn out many hammers; she stands to live another day and to call pilgrims to refine and enable her until she and the gospel kingdom are one and the same.

You are the church, responsible for changing attitudes, healing brokenness, converting systems of cruelty, through faithful witness to the One Lord, Jesus Christ. You are called to receive Him and be led by His Spirit. You are the church, accountable to the One who has chosen the remnant and written the covenant. God’s Word is the truth over which you have trust; in God’s time you are tested for your faithfulness and stewardship. There is a truth, a trust, a test, a time.

As you journey to Jerusalem, the time of testing is at hand. How are you doing?



READINGS FOR THE WEEK  
*(After each day is space for reflection)*

MONDAY  
February 19th

Matthew 6:19-24

TUESDAY  
February 20th

Deuteronomy 30:11-20

WEDNESDAY  
February 21st

James 4:14-24

THURSDAY  
February 22nd

Proverbs 9:1-12

FRIDAY  
February 23rd

1 Peter 4:7-11

SATURDAY  
February 24th

Luke 20:9-16

SUNDAY  
February 25th

Luke 12:41-48

# You Are My All In All

Words and Music by  
Dennis Jernigan

$\text{♩} = 80$

## VERSE

1. You are my strength when I am weak. You are the treas - ure that I  
2. Tak - ing my sin, my cross, my shame, Ris - ing a - gain I bless Your

seek. You are my all in all. Seek-ing You as a pre - cious  
name; You are my all in all. When I fall down, You pick me

## CHORUS

jew'l, Lord, to give up I'd be a fool. You are my all in all. Je - sus,  
up; When I am dry, You fill my cup; You are my all in all.

You Are My All In All - 2

10 Dm Dm<sup>7</sup> Am Gm<sup>7</sup> F/C C<sup>7</sup> F C<sup>7</sup>  
Lamb of God, wor - thy is Your name!

13 F C Dm Dm<sup>7</sup> Am Gm<sup>7</sup> F/C C<sup>7</sup> B $\flat$ /F F  
Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is Your name!

You are my strength when I am weak  
You are the treasure that I seek  
You are my all in all.

Seeking You as a precious jewel  
Lord to give up I'd be a fool  
You are my all in all.

Jesus Lamb of God worthy is Your name  
Jesus Lamb of God worthy is Your name

Taking my sin, my cross my shame  
Rising again I bless your name  
You are my all in all.

When I fall down you pick me up  
When I am dry, you fill my cup  
You are my all in all.

Jesus Lamb of God worthy is Your name  
Jesus Lamb of God worthy is Your name