

We are happy to have you here!

We are glad you chose to come to Rutland United Methodist Church to worship this morning. Please join us after the service for a time of fellowship.

The Lectionary is a group of four verses that Christians all over the world read each week. Here are this week's Lectionary readings: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 ~ Psalm 23 ~ Ephesians 5:8-14 ~ John 9:1-41

Mark your calendar for Holy Week Services:

- Maundy Thursday – 6 pm – soup dinner; communion and devotional at RUMC
- Good Friday – 7 pm - service at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
- Easter Sunday – 11:15 am – worship at RUMC

Donations made payable to Rutland Neighbors are greatly appreciated and can be put in the collection plate. Volunteers are always welcome at the day shelter.

Bible Study. Bible Study on Wednesdays at 7 pm via Zoom. Contact the office or Pastor Tom for the Zoom link.

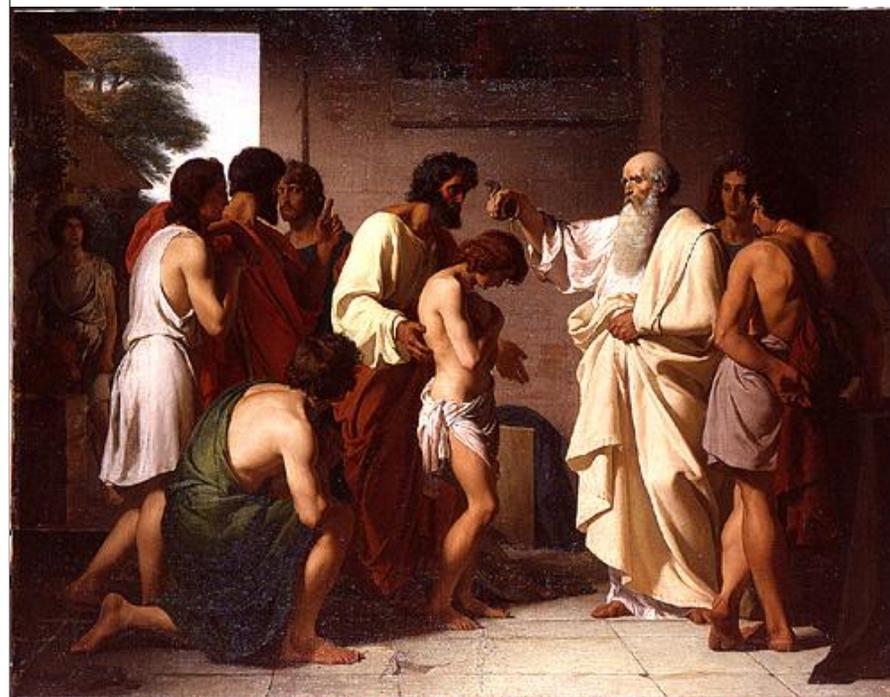
Tithes and offerings on March 1 and March 8: **\$2,950**

To donate to RUMC online, scan this code with your phone:



RUTLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 15, 2026
Fourth Sunday in Lent



Pastor: Rev. Dr. Tom Atkins

60 Strongs Avenue ~ Rutland, Vermont 05701
Office: 802.773.2460 ~ Email: rutlandumc@aol.com
Website: rutlandumc.com
Pastor Atkins ~ 802.645.0499 ~ tom@quarryhouse.us

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Lord, Reign in Me

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Beloved, our journey of grace leads us to still waters, the valley of death, to tables surrounded by our enemies.

All: We gather to worship our shepherd, who guides us on our journey.

Leader: Beloved the journey of grace urges us to live beyond what is obvious. To look past the surface to the heart. To see as God sees.

All: We gather this morning to look deep into the heart, beginning with our own.

Leader: Beloved, the journey of grace urges us to pay attention, to discern what is pleasing to God.

All: We gather to listen to the spirit and see God in all we encounter.

SPECIAL MUSIC

What a Friend

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Calm us now, O Lord, into a quietness that heals and listens. Open wounded hearts to the balm of your Word. Speak to us in clear tones so that we might feel our spirits leap for joy and skip with hope as your resurrection witnesses. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

HYMN *Humble Thyself in the Sight of the Lord* **TFWS 2131**

SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 16:1-13

SERMON

Beyond the obvious

HYMN *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

UMH 474

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Radiant Shepherd, in a world clouded by shadows, your light shines through - inviting us to live as children of the day. Receive these gifts, O God, as signs of our desire to walk in your ways, to live as your people, and to shine with the goodness, justice, and truth that reflect your image. Let our giving be more than ritual; let it be an act of trust, a response to your faithfulness, and a testimony of your light at work in us. In Christ's holy name, we pray, Amen.

OFFERTORY

Lord of My Heart

DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN *He Leadeth Me*

UMH 128

BENEDICTION

O How He Loves You and Me



Music Director: **Ann Reed**
Joy Choir Accompanist: **Ellen Wener**
Handbell: **Karen James**
Sunday School Coordinator: **Judy Blair**
Videographer: **Carol Wright**
Ushers: **Craig Cota, Carl Wener,**
Paul Dunbar, Jim Flint