



Third Sunday in Lent

# Divisions

Matthew 16:1-20

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**Sharing God's Love Since 1878**  
**United Church of Christ Congregational**  
**Spearfish, South Dakota**

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**Spearfish United Church of Christ Congregational**  
Third Sunday in Lent  
March 8, 2026  
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

WELCOME to our service today. We hope you find this time of worship meaningful and uplifting, and will join us again soon. We invite you to join us for refreshments in Fellowship Hall after the service.

**\*All who are able may stand.**

**Please wear your nametags & turn off your cell phones.**

**Prelude** Emma McKirdy-Wilsey

(Please use this time to prepare your heart for worship.)

**\*Choral Call to Worship** *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
there are sweet expressions on each face,  
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.**

**\*Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Come, let us sing a new song to our God.  
Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation

**Congregation: Let us enter God's presence with  
Thanksgiving. Make a joyful noise with songs of praise!**

Liturgist: Open our hearts to the gentle power of your love.

**Congregation: Open our lips to share stories of faith.**

Liturgist: God is a great ruler, above all other gods.  
The depths of the earth are in God's hands.

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**CHURCH OFFICE: 920 Main Street, Spearfish, SD**

**E-mail:** [ucc1@rushmore.com](mailto:ucc1@rushmore.com)

**Phone:** 605-642-8253

**Join us online** for worship on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/864852954071879>

**Website:** <https://uccspearfish.org/>

**Office Hours:**

M-F 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

PULPIT SUPPLY.....Ben McKirdy-Wilsey  
OFFICE MANAGER .....Shirley Brost  
MODERATOR.....Shirley Jenssen  
ORGANIST.....Emma McKirdy-Wilsey  
LITURGIST.....Rosalie Aslesen



**Call to Prayer**

FWS No. 2193

*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

**Prayer of Our Savior (unison)**

**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 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.**

**Choir Response** *Hear Our Prayer*

**Hear our prayer, O Lord,  
Hear our prayer, O Lord.  
Incline thy ear to us  
And grant us thy peace. Amen.**

**Giving Our Tithes and Offerings**

Liturgist: When we stop to consider the amazing riches God has provided on this planet, how thankful we should be. Good soil and water give us food in the abundance. Gifts of the Spirit grant life with eternity in it. Let us express our wonder and gratitude through our offering of tithes and lives.

**Offertory**

Emma McKirdy-Wilsey

**~ MARCH 2026 CALENDAR ~**

<b>Sun</b>	<b>3/8</b>	<b>Daylight Savings Time Starts 9:30 am</b>	<b>Worship/Fellowship Deacons Meeting</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>3/9</b>	<b>2:00 pm</b>	<b>Dakota Youth Orchestra</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>3/10</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Coffee Time/Bible Study at Edgewood</b>
		<b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study Fireside Rm</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>3/11</b>	<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Lenten Luncheon UMC</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>3/12</b>	<b>2:30 pm 5:00 pm</b>	<b>Dakota Youth Orchestra Grief Support Group</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>3/15</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Worship/Fellowship One Great Hour of Sharing special collection Missions Meeting</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>3/16</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Dakota Youth Orchestra</b>
		<b>8:45 am - 12:15 pm</b>	<b>UCC at Food Pantry</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>3/17</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Coffee Time/Bible Study at Edgewood</b>
		<b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study Fireside Rm</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>3/18</b>	<b>8:45 am - 12:15 pm</b>	<b>UCC at Food Pantry</b>
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Women's Fellowship</b>

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**Food Pantry:** Volunteers from our church will be at the Spearfish Food Pantry from 8:45 am to 12:15 pm on March 16, 18, 20, 23, 25, 27, and 30, helping people from our community get much needed food. There's still time to volunteer! If you would like to help out, there is a sign up sheet on the glass counter. You can contact Shirley Aman for more information.

**Dakota Youth Orchestra:** The Dakota Youth Orchestra began practicing at our church last Monday, March 3. They will be practicing here on Monday evenings (and a few other days) through April 13, and will then have a concert at BHSU. We'll post the place and time of the concert as we get closer to it.

**Interim Pastor:** Todd Jones will begin as our Interim Pastor in April, and will be preaching on Easter Sunday, which is April 5.



**\*A Doxology**                      *Praise God*                      No.780  
**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. Amen.**

**\*Unison Prayer of Dedication (unison)**  
**Thank you, God, for all the ways we have benefited from the labor of others. We here offer our best for the sake of brothers and sisters who need the love and encouragement you are eager to share through us. Keep us from being ungrateful as we continue to receive so much more than we stop to realize. When life is difficult, help us to endure and to hope because your love is sure and certain, ours to receive and to give, in Christ's name. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**                      *Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?*                      No. 539  
Verses 1-4

**Prayer for Illumination (unison)**  
**God of all worlds, whose care for us also includes concern for neighbors who differ from us, and whose love embraces all of humanity without distinction, we reach out for the water of life that you offer. Fill us with your Spirit that we may live your truth, share the story of Jesus, and lead others into discipleship, that your realm may be realized among us. Amen.**

**Scripture**                      Matthew 16:1-20

**Sermon**                      *"Divisions"*                      Ben McKirdy-Wilsey

**\*Closing**

**Hymn**

*God, We Thank You for Our People*

No. 376

**\*Benediction**

**\*Choral Benediction**     *Benediction*  
C. Barrows

**May God's blessing surround you today,  
as you trust Him and walk in His way;  
May His presence within guard and keep you from sin,  
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.**

**Postlude**

Emma McKirdy-Wilsey



**Prayer List:** World, National, and Local leaders. Paula Cotrill; Rodger, Michele (parents), and Dylan Slott (spinal cord injury); Mel Cooper (for successful surgeries – Rich and Sharon's daughter, friend of Dana Eberhard); Grayson Chapeau; Pat Patterson (cancer); Rhian Elmid (sponsored child); Elsie Hanson; Angie Riggs (friend of Lorie Umphrey – 3<sup>rd</sup> round of cancer battle); Les Turgeon; June Klinkel; Lorrie Loobey (Jo Hansen's sister) and Martina Loobey (Jo Hansen's niece) for health concerns; Marna Bergstrom for recovery; Jo Hansen; Elaine Jongeling; John Daum; Hilda Locke; Joyce Collins.

*Please let Shirley B. know if you have any updates or additions..*

**Lenten Luncheons:** The Spearfish United Methodist Church, at 845 N 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Spearfish, will host the second of two Lenten Luncheons on **Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**. Pastor Paul Lint will share a message and there will be soup, sandwiches, and cookies. A suggested donation of \$10 will help cover meal costs, with the balance going towards community needs. Everyone is welcome to attend! Please contact the UMC office with questions, 605.642.3457.

**Bible Study:** The Bible Study on the Sermon on the Mount continues this **Tuesday March 10 at 1:30** in the Fireside Room. Please join us for this short but interesting study. You don't need to attend every session – each one stands on its own.

**Brought Together Through Jesus:** A Special booklet from Our Daily Bread titled "*Brought Together Through Jesus*" is available on the glass counter. It contains seven Easter reflections on reconciliation with God and one another. Feel free to help yourselves to one of these booklets!