

# *Good Enough:*

Embracing the Imperfections  
of Life and Faith

*Lent 3*

"Lots of things can be medicine."

March 20, 2022

**"Lots of Things Can Be Medicine"**

**Luke 13:1-9**

**THORNDALE  
United Methodist Church**

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***All Are Welcome!***

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*“O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.  
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.  
Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.  
So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.  
My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips  
when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;  
for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.  
My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.”*

Psalm 63:1-8

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+Stand as you are able.

## PRELUDE

Dave Kurtz

## WELCOME & THRESHOLD

Pastor Shauna

As we continue our look at what it means to release oppressive expectations about perfection in our lives and in our faith, this week we turn to a harmful idea that the prescription for our fear of failure is to simply work harder. As the book *Good Enough* reminds us, “We might feel we are climbing an ‘endless staircase’ of achievement, for high grades or success...[in] caregiving, work, or social pressure.” This Lent, we are taking some time to stop climbing ladders and staircases, to tend our souls slowly and lovingly, tilling the soil and fertilizer, and embracing our holy, “good enough,” lives.

## +CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Holly Orr

Leader: What in our lives do we dream about for tomorrow, void of sorrow?  
Time spent regretting decisions of our yesterdays, mistakes we made?  
Sometimes we get what we get, life disappoints us and yet,  
God is still here and somehow, this faith is good enough.  
Let us pray together.

People: **Holy One, Our Balm, Our Feast, we lift our hands and call your name,  
in need of healing—thirsting and hungry.  
Your steadfast love is better than life.  
Open us this day to your nourishment  
in the songs of the land, in the beauty of the sky—  
in the simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.**

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Renay Oberholtzer & David Dwyer

## PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor Shauna

Leader: The joy and peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## +OPENING PRAISE

***Be the Center***

Dave Kurtz

***Truth Be Told***

***King of My Heart***

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Pastor Shauna

## OFFERTORY

***Nearer My God to Thee***

Dave Kurtz

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holly Orr

**Generous God, in light of your extravagant blessings, no matter what the state of the world or our imperfect lives might be, we offer our gifts and ourselves, and know that you transform what we plant into the produce of love. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE—**Luke 13:1-9**

Holly Orr

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord that is still speaking.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE **“Lots of Things Can Be Medicine”** Pastor Shauna

HONEST QUESTIONS

SILENT REFLECTION Pastor Shauna

COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE

Leader: Hear this compassionate word from Isaiah: “Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.”  
Know that already, God is offering us love enough no matter how much we attain or achieve.  
We are invited to release oppressive expectations of ourselves and others so that we might recognize true worth afforded to all.

Leader: And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.  
Glory to God! Amen.**

+CLOSING SONG **Blessed Be the Tie That Binds** (#557) Dave Kurtz

+BENEDICTION Pastor Shauna

POSTLUDE Dave Kurtz

**SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP**

MESSAGE	Rev. Shauna K. Ridge	WORSHIP TEAM SHEPHERDS:	
MUSIC	Dave Kurtz	GREETER	Hannah Smith
LITURGIST	Holly Orr	ATTENDANCE	Hannah Smith
CHILDREN’S MESSAGE	Renay Oberholtzer	USHER 1	Wayne Barrows
	David Dwyer	USHER 2	Cyndy Weiner
TECH TEAM	Josh Dwyer		
	Terry Moore		