

Good Enough:

**Embracing the Imperfections
of Life and Faith**

Lent 2

"So much is out of our control."



March 13, 2022

“So Much is Out of Our Control”

Luke 13:31-35

**THORNDALE
United Methodist Church**

3503 Lincoln Highway, Thorndale, PA 19372

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All Are Welcome!

*"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, LORD, do I seek.
Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!
If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up.
Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.
Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.
I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!*

Psalm 27:8-14

+Stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

Day By Day

Esther Mino

WELCOME & THRESHOLD

Pastor Shauna

We continue our movement through the Lent season this week with another kind of "letting go." This week we lament that so much in life is out of our control. This is frustrating to us and so sometimes we have been tempted to believe the sayings that tell us if we just "think positively," we can turn it all around. Yet our experience tells us that this doesn't always work. Let us turn ladder-climbing toward the expectation of a perfect life into garden-tending, nurturing "what is" and embracing our holy, good enough, lives.

+OPENING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty (#64) Esther Mino & Audrey Walls

+CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Cheryl Faust

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 Light and Salvation, we call out to you,
sometimes afraid of the adversaries in life.
Shelter us in days of trouble, lead us on level paths.
Open us this day to your grace and peace, transform our frustrations
into simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Renay Oberholtzer

PASSING THE PEACE

Renay Oberholtzer

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

People: **And also with you.**

+HYMN

Take Time to Be Holy (#395)

Esther Mino & Audrey Walls

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Pastor Shauna

OFFERTORY **Softly & Tenderly, Jesus is Calling** (#348) Esther Mino & Audrey Walls

+DOXOLOGY **Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow** (#95)

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Cheryl Faust

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 13:31-35**

Cheryl Faust

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, [a] ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

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

MESSAGE

“So Much is Out of Our Control”

Pastor Shauna

HONEST QUESTIONS

SILENT REFLECTION

Pastor Shauna

COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE

Leader: Hear this compassionate word from the Psalmist: “I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!”
Know that already, God is offering us freedom from feeling alone in fixing what feels oh so wrong with this world, inviting us to let go of the need to be God, so that we might recognize that God is with us, offering courage in difficulty.

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 HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness (#140)

Esther Mino & Audrey Walls

+BENEDICTION

Pastor Shauna

POSTLUDE

Esther Mino

SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP

MESSAGE

Rev. Shauna K. Ridge

MUSIC

Esther Mino

Audrey Walls

LITURGIST

Cheryl Faust

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Renay Oberholtzer

TECH TEAM

Josh Dwyer

Terry Moore

WORSHIP TEAM SHEPHERDS:

GREETER

Hannah Smith

ATTENDANCE

Hannah Smith

USHER 1

Wayne Barrows

USHER 2

Cyndy Weiner