

# encounters on the road to the cross

March 1, 2026

## GATHER...TO WORSHIP AND PRAISE

Sharing of the Peace and Welcome Dr. Leonard Ezell

Invitation to Worship Dr. Ezell

Prelude *If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee* arr. Matthew Compton  
Broadmoor Belles et Beaux

\*Call to Worship Dr. Alissa Rowe

Leader: When we hunger

**Congregation: We cry to the Lord, "Help us, O Lord."**

Leader: When we thirst

**Congregation: We cry to the Lord, "Help us, O Lord."**

Leader: God who created the heavens and the earth hears our cries.

**Congregation: Lord, come and quench our thirst and heal our hunger. AMEN.**

\*Hymn #415 *Lift High the Cross* CRUCIFER

\*Invocation Dr. Rowe

## GATHER...TO WELCOME THE CHILDREN

*The children are invited forward for the children's sermon.*

Hymn #603 *Jesus Loves Me* CHINA

Children's Sermon Bobby Rayburn

Choral Praise *Lenten Song* Mark Hayes  
Evan Schmuck, oboe and Melvin Hale, piano

All ye that pass by, to Jesus draw nigh, to you is it nothing that Jesus should die? Your ransom and peace, your surety He is, come, see if there was ever sorrow like His. He dies to atone for sins not His own. Your debt He hath paid, and your work He hath done. Ye all may receive the peace He did leave, who made intercession, "My Father, forgive." For you and for me He prayed on the tree; the prayer is accepted the sinner is free! The sinner am I, who on Jesus rely, and come for the pardon God cannot deny. His death is my plea; my advocate see, and hear the blood speak that hath answered for me: He purchased the grace which I now embrace; O Father, Thou knowest He died in my place! Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy. (Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison)

## GATHER...TO OFFER OUR GIFTS WITH THANKSGIVING

Offertory Prayer David Mullen

Offertory *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* French Folk tune, 17th Century  
Evan Schmuck, oboe and Melvin Hale, piano arr. Peter Hilliard

\*Response Doxology #704

MEINEKE

**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.**

## GATHER...TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

Scripture John 4:7-15,19-26 Dr. Leonard Ezell

When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." The woman said, "I know that Messiah (called Christ) is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Hymn of Reflection #573 *It Is Well With My Soul (vss. 1 & 4)* VILLE DU HAVRE

Sermon *Jesus Encounters a Samaritan Woman* Dr. Ezell

## DEPART...TO SERVE

\*Hymn of Response #349 *To God Be the Glory* TO GOD BE THE GLORY

\*Announcements Bobby Rayburn

\*Benediction

\*Postlude *Toccata in E Minor* Johann Pachelbel  
Melvin Hale, organ

\*The congregation is invited to stand.

# ministry opportunities

## Sunday, March 1

- 8:30 A Common Grounds Café Opens
- 9:15 A Sunday School
- 10:30 A Worship Service
- 3:30 P Church Council Meeting, Common Grounds Cafe
- 5:00 P Youth

## Tuesday, March 3

- 9:30 A Yoga
- 10:00 A Quilting
- 10:00 A Church Fellowship Committee Meeting
- 6:30 P Choir Rehearsal

## Wednesday, March 4

- 10:00 A *God Said What?* Bible Study

## Thursday, March 5

- 10:00 A *God Said What?* Bible Study

## Friday, March 6

- 9:30 A Yoga

## Sunday, March 8

### Daylight Saving Time

- 8:30 A Common Grounds Café Opens
- 9:15 A Sunday School
- 10:30 A Worship Service
- 4:00 P Belles et Beaux
- 5:00 P Youth

**Church Council Meeting...**March 1, 3:30 P for committee chairpeople and church staff.

**LLL Outing...**Thursday, March 19. LLL going to St. Francisville to eat at THE FRANCIS. Leaving church at 11a.m. Lunch on your own. Sign up to ensure we have sufficient transportation. If you are willing to drive, let the office know.

**LSU Concert...**March 20, 7:30 P: LSU A Capella Choir and Symphony present Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*

**Affinity Groups...**Our Affinity Groups are Cooking with Bobby, our Average Church Band (David Mullen), cyber security (Jeff Patton), basic sign language (Janelle Teekel), genealogy (Jim Findley), Basic German and French (Aiden Buyuk) and embroidery (Katie Gilley). If any of these interest you, sign up on sheets outside the sanctuary or in the church office.

**Southeast Ministries...**Our neighborhood food bank needs tuna.

**Bible Studies...**"*God Said What?! Wrestling with Cruelty, Violence, and Vengeance in the Old Testament*"  
An honest approach to negative images of God.  
Thursdays 10-11 AM in Church Conference Room  
And Wednesdays 10-11 A, in Common Grounds Cafe

**OMG Breakfast...**Last Wednesdays of the Month at 10:15 AM at La Madeleine's on Jefferson. Gathering for men of the church.

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**EMBRACE LOVE. EMBRACE GRACE.  
EMBRACE THE WORLD.**

### STAFF

Dr. Leonard Ezell, *Senior Pastor*  
Bobby Rayburn, *Associate Pastor of Young Families*  
Dr. Alissa Rowe, *Director of Music and Worship*  
Felicia Mullen, *Business Manager*  
Katie Gilley, *Administrative Assistant*  
Melvin Hale, *Organist*

To give online with [tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly)

