



Photo by James Gardner

Sunday, April 16, 2023

Culmore
United Methodist Church

Welcome and
Good Morning!



Photo by Rose Lucas



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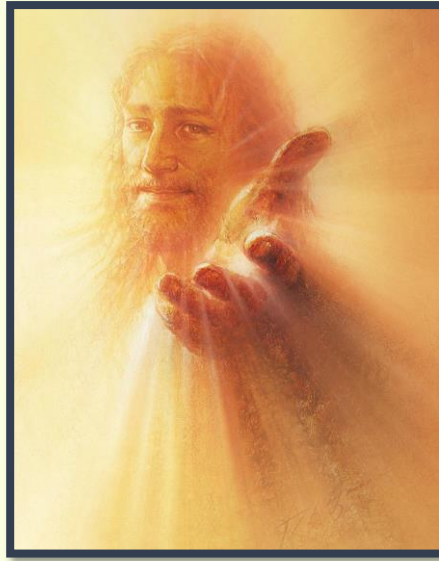
HAPPY
BIRTHDAY





The Sul Plus Choir
In the Garden ~ UMH 314

Freely, Freely



God forgave my sin in Jesus' name
I've been born again in Jesus' name
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to.

All power is given in Jesus' name,
In earth and Heaven in Jesus' name
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His power as He told me to.

He said, "Freely, freely you have received
Freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe
Others will know that I live."

Responsive Reading: Psalm 32

I will teach you and guide you in the way you should go.

I will keep you under my eye and instruct you.



Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding, but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.



When I kept silent, my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer.

**Then I acknowledged my sin to you;
my guilt I did not hide.**

I said, *I will confess my transgressions
to the Lord*, and you forgave the guilt
of my sin.



Art by Sue Carroll

**You are my hiding place. You will protect me
from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.**



John 13: 36-38

Peter: Lord, where are you going?

Jesus: Where I am going, you cannot follow now,
but you will follow later.



Peter: Lord, why can't I follow you now?
I will lay down my life for you.



Jesus: Will you really lay down your life for me?
Very truly I tell you, before the rooster
crows, you will disown me three times!

Opening Prayer

Loving and Forgiving God,

Why is it so hard for me to follow You? I KNOW Your Good News, I KNOW what you expect of me, and yet, I just can't seem to do it. You know how I am, really wanting to do things Your way, but choosing my way instead.

Father, **I want to be all in**, just like Peter. I want to *feed Your sheep*, just like Peter. Father, help me find the strength, the conviction, the faith ...just like Peter...to get back up each time I fall, and live out Your Good News. Father, **I want to be all in. Amen.**

Romans 7: 21-25

I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out... For what I do is not the good I want to do. No, the evil I do **NOT** want to do--this I keep on doing....

What a wretched man am I!



taemen.co.kr
by Yongsung Kim

John 21: 15-17, 19

When they had finished eating, Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "**Feed my lambs.**"





Again Jesus said, "Simon, son of John, do you truly love me?"

He answered, "*Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.*"

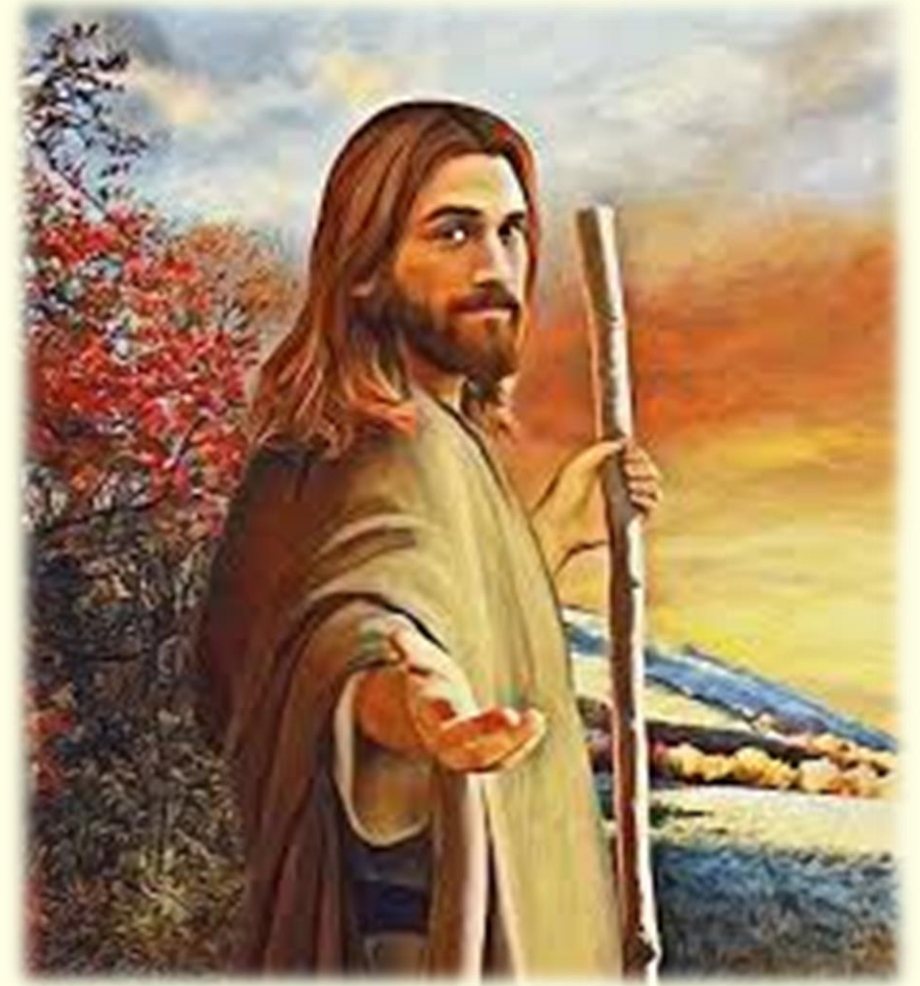
Jesus said, "*Take care of my sheep.*"

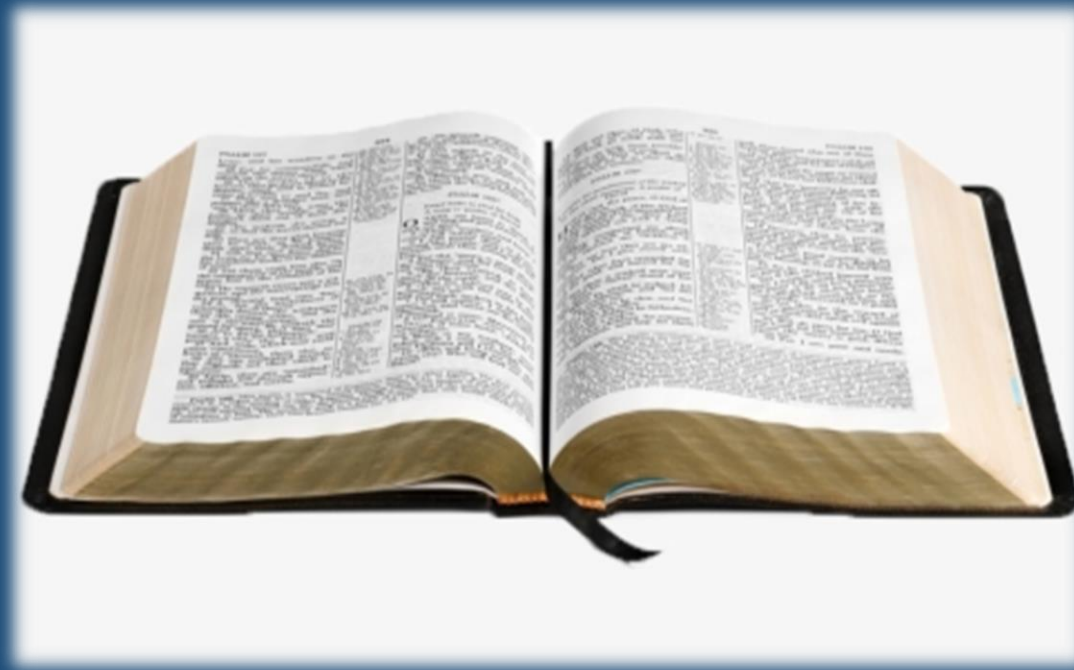
The third time he said to him,
"Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him
the third time, "Do you love me?"

He said, "Lord, you know all things;
you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep...
Come and follow me."





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

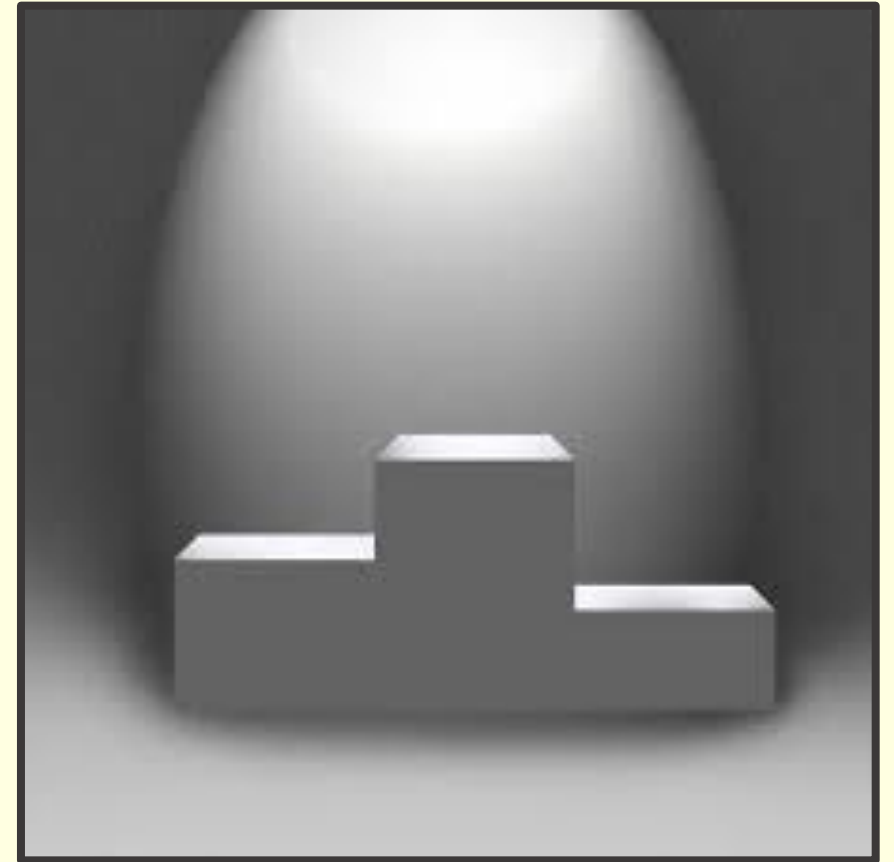


*Grace means we always have
a second chance with God.*

At the Olympic Games the competitive spirit is intense. Everyone there wants to be the absolute best. But there is only one Gold Medalist.



Imagine if everyone who
failed to qualify or didn't win
decided to just quit.
What would happen then?
Would there even be people
wanting to try out?
Would the podiums be empty?




Some sports people join
“old-timer's leagues” and
compete way beyond their
peak. They're far from
perfect, but keep at it for
the sheer joy of doing it.



We may feel we've fallen short. We can sense the same frustration and disappointment that athletes do when they think they haven't performed up to their potential.





Never, never,
never give up.

Winston Churchill

Romans 8:38

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.





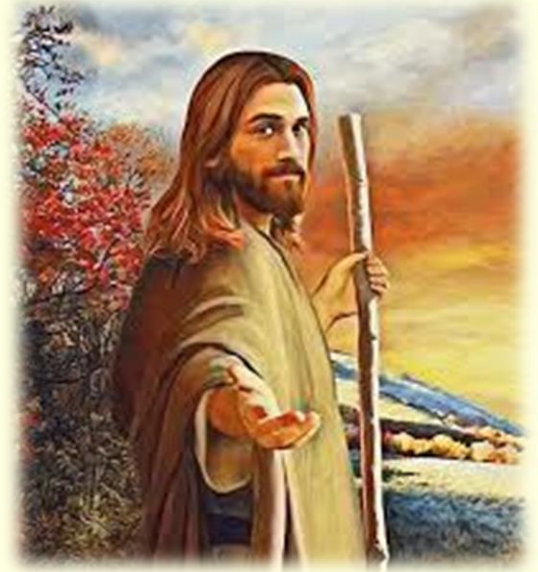
Will you come and follow me? The Faith We Sing 2130

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.



Community Prayer

LORD Jesus, sometimes we wonder if we have gone so far astray that we can't be forgiven. We know better because You have told us and showed us. You sacrificed Your own life so that we can be forgiven—of everything!

We give thanks that you have called us to *come and follow You*. Guide us as we share Your good news with everyone: that Your love and grace are freely given to all. We know it for ourselves, so we can be Your witnesses! *Amen*

Offering and Doxology

UM Hymnal 95



We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.

Benediction



Photo by James Gardner