

Today's Scripture Reading



Esther 1¹⁻³, 2^{5-7, 17}, 3^{1-2, 8-9, 15} 4^{1, 13-15}

Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus (this was the Ahasuerus who reigned over one hundred and twenty-seven provinces, from India to Ethiopia), in those days when King Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the citadel, that in the third year of his reign he made a feast for all his officials and servants—the powers of Persia and Media, the nobles, and the princes of the provinces being before him—

In Shushan the citadel there was a certain Jew whose name was Mordecai the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite. Kish had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captives who had been captured with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away. And Mordecai had brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter, for she had neither father nor mother. The young woman was lovely and beautiful. When her father and mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter.

The king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

After these things King Ahasuerus promoted Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him and set his seat above all the princes who were with him. And all the king's servants who were within the king's gate bowed and paid homage to Haman, for so the king had commanded concerning him. But Mordecai would not bow or pay homage.

Then Haman said to King Ahasuerus, "There is a certain people scattered and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of your kingdom; their laws are different from all other people's, and they do not keep the king's laws. Therefore it is not fitting for the king to let them remain. If it pleases the king, let a decree be written that they be destroyed, and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those who do the work, to bring it into the king's treasuries."

The couriers went out, hastened by the king's command; and the decree was proclaimed in Shushan the citadel. So the king and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Shushan was perplexed.

When Mordecai learned all that had happened, he tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the midst of the city. He cried out with a loud and bitter cry.

And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: "Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews. For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai:



Overcomers Series

Esther



Congratulations

Graduates



Order of Worship

Prelude	“Heavenly Sunlight”	Pianist
Welcome & Announcements		Liturgist
✝ Call to Worship		Liturgist
Opening Hymn	“Because He Lives”	UMH #364
✝ Opening Prayer		Liturgist
✝ Lifting Joys & Concerns in Prayer		Pastor Rodgers
Prayer Song	“Take My Life, and Let It Be”	UMH #399
Lifting Prayers		Pastor Rodgers
Lord’s Prayer		UMH #895
✝ Scripture Readings		Liturgist
Children’s Message		Pastor Rodgers
✝ Special Music	“Blessed Are They”	Chancel Choir
Message		Pastor Rodgers
Offering, Doxology & Prayer		#94/Liturgist
Closing Hymn	“Here I Am, Lord”	UMH #593
✝ Closing Prayer & Benediction		Pastor Rodgers
Postlude		Pianist /Organist

Liturgist:	Jo Kraus
Pianist/Organist:	Pat Ziegelmeier
Special Music:	Colby UMC Chancel Choir directed by Dr. Philip Shuman

Call to Worship

In a world that often feels uncertain and unjust, we remember the story of Esther, where God’s name was hidden, but His hand was unmistakably at work.

**We come in faith, trusting that even when we cannot see Him,
God is guiding, positioning, and preparing His people.**

Like Esther, we may feel small or unqualified, but we are reminded that we are placed here: in this moment, in this season, for such a time as this.

**We worship the God who raises up the humble,
who turns the tide of evil,
and who calls us to stand with courage.**

Let us worship the Lord with boldness and trust, for He is at work behind the scenes, and He is calling each of us to be part of His redeeming story!

WEEKLY COLBY UMC ACTIVITIES

SUN @ 9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
SUN @ 9:00 AM	FELLOWSHIP COFFEE HOUR
WED @ 10:15 AM	HELPING PAWS
WED @ 12:00 PM	MEN'S LUNCH (MOKAS)
THURS @ 12:30 PM	BIBLE STUDY
THURS @ 9:00 AM	QUILTING GROUP

LAST WEEK

ATTENDANCE: 88
GENERAL OFFERING: \$5.153

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

DAY OFF: MONDAY
OFFICE HOURS: TUES-FRI: 9-12PM
AFTERNOONS: PASTORAL VISITATION
SATURDAY: REQUESTED VISITATION

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