

CHRIST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

10:30am Worship Service

THE GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sandy Foster

PRELUDE

Alabaré

Jeffrey Honoré

Bell Choir

Emanuel Mora, Congas

INTROIT

As the Deer

TFWS 2025

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: We come to worship, remembering God's goodness that has carried us and sustained us to this present moment.

People: **We remember the days when God covered us in love and filled us with joy.**

Leader: We come to worship, weary from stress, heavy with grief, and wondering when relief will come.

People: **We long for the days God covered us in love and filled us with joy.**

Leader: We come to worship to remember and remind one another that God's love has never left us, and God's joy cannot be extinguished.

People: **God, restore us that we know your love and your joy once again.**

Leader: We come to worship to remember and become the Body of Christ, a community called to restore the world around us.

All: **God, empower us to be your restoration people who fill the world with love, laughter, and abundant life. Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

UMH 384

CALL TO CONFESSION²

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Purifying God, we grow comfortable with the way things are in our lives, in the

¹ <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/steadfast-love-a-lenten-playlist/fifth-sunday-in-lent-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes/fifth-sunday-in-lent-year-c-liturgical-resources>

² Call to confession and prayer of confession reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2012.

church, and in the world. We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ, for you overturn our notions of power and protocol. Sure of our own righteousness, we are critical of others. Wanting to control our assets, we hoard the gifts you give us. Forgive us, we pray, for seeking our gain at the expense of others. Help us bend our lives toward your own life of self-giving and sacrifice. Fill us, our homes and churches, the whole world, with the abundant love of Christ until all are made new. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE³

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Ubi Caritas

M. Duruflé/J.M. Baker

Purchased in honor of Lisa Miragliotta.

Translation:

Where there is charity and love, God is there.

The love of Christ has gathered us as one.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Let us honor and love the living God.

And from a sincere heart let us love one another.

CHILDREN'S HAPPENING

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 43:16-21

Pew Bible 586

Psalms 126

UMH 847, Response 2

*John 12:1-8

Pew Bible 874

God is still speaking. **And we are still listening. Thanks be to God!**

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

UMH 71

SERMON

Overflowing Love

Pastor Dianne Tobey Covault

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN OF REFLECTION

O Love, That Wilt Not Let Me Go

UMH 480

CALL TO THE OFFERING⁴

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

³ Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025: Worship Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (p. 82). (Function). Kindle Edition.

⁴ Offering sequence reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2013

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Abundant God: You cause water to flow in desert places. You give wine to flow at a wedding feast, and food to feed five thousand on a grassy mountainside. Your generosity astounds and humbles us. We bow before you in gratitude and awe, asking you to receive what we have brought in response. May these gifts be a pleasing and fragrant offering, for the sake of the world you came to save. We pray in your holy name. Amen

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING WITH INTERCESSIONS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

SHARING OF HOLY COMMUNION

***HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP**

There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

UMH 121

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Close to Thee

UMH 407 (Refrain Only)

***POSTLUDE**

CHURCH EVENTS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Non-weekly meetings and activities are in bold print.

SUN (04/06): Easter Plant Orders Due

Communion

Sunday School, 9:00am

Worship, 10:30am

Finance, 11:45am/Emma Lang Lounge

Birthday Club Celebration, 11:45am/Gathering Area

MON (04/07): Loss Group, 6:30pm/Emma Lang Lounge

TUE (04/08): Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm

WED (04/09): Lenten Supper & Study, 5:30p/WPUCC

SUN (04/13): Communion

Sunday School, 9:00am

Worship, 10:30am

Soup & Salad Spring Fling, 11:45am/Jump Fellowship Hall

We Are All God's Children

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

** denotes member*

<i>*Bobby Blankenship</i>	<i>Al Tobey</i>	<i>Erik T.</i>	<i>Lindsey Elswick</i>
<i>*Monta Demchak</i>	<i>Carol De Laat</i>	<i>Frank</i>	<i>Lindsey Parker</i>
<i>*Dave Dickman</i>	<i>Carol</i>	<i>Gail</i>	<i>Mary</i>
<i>*Mitzi Herrick</i>	<i>Caroline</i>	<i>Geof Funk</i>	<i>Mary Ellen</i>
<i>*Cindy Light</i>	<i>Chris M.</i>	<i>J & J</i>	<i>Mary W.H.</i>
<i>*John Motley</i>	<i>Darlene</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Max</i>
<i>*Peter Oesterreich</i>	<i>Darlene</i>	<i>Jim</i>	<i>MJ</i>
<i>*Janis Pongallo</i>	<i>Daryana</i>	<i>Jim</i>	<i>Rosie</i>
<i>*Linda Prudhoe</i>	<i>David R.</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Roy Buser</i>
<i>*DeeDee Rencehausen</i>	<i>Dennis</i>	<i>Joshua C.</i>	<i>Seth Buser</i>
<i>*Nadene & Dennis Smith</i>	<i>Diane</i>	<i>Kathy</i>	<i>Sheri G.</i>
<i>*Joan Thorkelson</i>	<i>Dixie</i>	<i>Laurie</i>	<i>Ted and Marie Nyland</i>
<i>*Galen Younkin</i>	<i>Doug Emery</i>	<i>Lee</i>	<i>Tom Szor</i>
<i>Ukraine, Israel and Gaza</i>	<i>Dotty</i>	<i>Lily Van Scyoc</i>	<i>Viola</i>
<i>Pastor Jason Thompson</i>	<i>Ed Rote</i>		

STAR WORDS

At the beginning of the year, we handed out “Star Words”. I invite you to take the word you chose and use it throughout the year as a way to center your prayer time and to be aware of God’s presence throughout the day. If you have not received a word, please let Pastor Dianne know and she will get one to you! Each week in the bulletin there will be a journal prompt or reflection question that encourages you in your use of the word.

For this week: **What habits or routines can you develop to align more with your word?**

BIRTHDAY CLUB CELEBRATION

The Birthday Club will have its first quarter celebration today after the service. This is to celebrate those who have had birthdays in the last three months. All Birthday Club members are invited.

SPRING FLING

Mark your calendars for our **Spring Fling – Soup and Salad Luncheon** for next Sunday, April 13 after our Palm Sunday worship service. We will have a variety of soups and lots of salad toppings. We will also have some special entertainment. This was always a popular event for our congregation so please plan to join us and invite your friends and neighbors. Proceeds will go to GROW which helps fund our community meals.



MEDINA CHORUS SPRING CONCERT

Excitement is in the air! Get ready to be part of something extraordinary at **Medina Chorus Inc's** Spring 2025 Concert, "**A Trip to Broadway**". It's an afternoon with something for every Broadway lover, including musical selections from West Side Story to Wicked. Don't miss out, come join us! Sunday, April 27th at 3PM at Medina United Methodist Church located at 4747 Foote Rd in Medina. For more information, visit their website at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/a-trip-to-broadway-medina-chorus-spring-concert>.

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION⁵

John 12:1–8 draws our attention to three people: Mary, Judas, and Jesus. It is easy enough to identify Mary as “the good disciple” and Judas as “the bad disciple” not only in this story but also in the larger story of Jesus’ life and death. We can (and do) make this judgment: Mary is accepted and affirmed, while Judas is rejected. But is this the judgment that the other person in the story would make? As one commentator puts it, “. . . if Jesus came to save the lost, surely there is no one in the gospel story who is more lost than the one who betrays Jesus. . . . If the Good Shepherd can and does go to any length to save a lost sheep, is Judas beyond the saving grasp of the Good Shepherd?” This is not a question with an easy answer. As this story ushers you into Holy Week, consider how the cross, the grace of Christ, speaks to this story and to your own life story, which like most life stories may not be a simple “either/or” example of faithfulness, but a “both/and” mix of faithfulness and unfaithfulness.

HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: MORNING

Merciful God, as I begin this day, place in me a spirit of generosity so that I may freely share love, joy, and encouragement with those I encounter. Keep me from quick judgments so that I leave room for your grace in my life and in the lives of others. Make me your faithful disciple in my words and in my actions, as well as in the thoughts of my heart; in Jesus’ name. Amen.

HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: EVENING

All through the day, Lord Jesus, you have been present. As I settle into the routines of home and evening, I long to be at home in my relationship with you. Help me to put aside the cares of the day and the worries of tomorrow in order to fully enjoy the peace of your presence now. I pray that your peace will also be with those I know who have special need of your care tonight, and I pray for those who lie down this night without the safety of home or bed, without enough food or resources. Bring your light into the surrounding darkness so that all of us may sleep in the security of your love. Amen.

⁵ These questions for reflection and prayers are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word®* Worship Companion. Copyright 2012.



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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PASTOR: *The Rev. Dianne Tobey Covault, OSL*

Cell: 216.509.4229

Email: pastordiannetc@gmail.com

Office Hours this week: Monday-Wednesday by appointment

LITURGIST: *Sandy Foster*

USHERS: *Al Naab, Phil Jennings, John Murphy*

GREETER: *Nancy Horton*

ACOLYTES: *Ian Eagan, Ben Eagan, Eli Gadomski Littleton, TJ Wood, Grace Horton*

AUDIO and VIDEO TECHNICIANS: *John Motley, Rob Pongallo*

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: *Susan Balesky*

ORGANIST/PIANIST: *Roy Buser*

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: *Desiree Tarpeo*

Email: office@christumc.com

Office Hours: *Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-2:00pm*

GOAL - FOCUS - STRATEGIES

GOAL: Grow in relationship with Jesus Christ in order to change the world around us, starting with our own community.

FOCUS: To achieve this goal, we will prioritize reaching out to our community as essential to our personal and congregational growth as Christians.

STRATEGIES:

1. We will build meaningful relationships with the people in our community.
2. We will strive to listen and understand the needs of our community.
3. We will use our building and resources to meet those needs in a tangible way.



QR CODE

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Christ UMC Welcomes All

We welcome all persons to our church without regard to race, ethnic or cultural background, social status, gender, sexual orientation, age, theological perspective, political affiliation, or other means people use to categorize or discriminate against others. For our full statement, go to our website.

***Ask an usher if you would like a LARGE PRINT HYMNAL,
Braille hymnal or hearing device.***