

CHRIST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Second Sunday of Lent

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

March 16, 2025

10:30am Worship Service

THE GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Al Naab

PRELUDE

INTROIT

As the Deer

TFWS 2025

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: God of embracing love

People: Gather us now under the wings of your love

Leader: Send your Holy Spirit into worship this day

**People: Strengthen us for the time ahead, as we seek to walk faithfully with
Jesus all the way to the cross**

Leader: Be our light and our salvation

**People: Help us live in your presence, and walk in your ways, all the days of our
lives. Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Great is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

CALL TO CONFESSION²

PRAYER OF CONFESSION³

**Mothering God, we often feel scattered and lost, separated from you and from
one another. Gather us in. Comfort us in our loneliness. Dispel our fears.**

**Correct our wayward feet and strengthen our faith, that we might hear your
voice, trust your promises, and stand firm in your ways. In your light and love,
we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF GRACE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

¹ Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019, Copyright © 2018 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission

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³ Prayer of confession and words of grace from Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025: Worship Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (p. 67). (Function). Kindle Edition

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

MINISTRY OF MUSIC	<i>God's Got the Whole World</i>	M.A. Miller
CHILDREN'S HAPPENING		
SCRIPTURE READINGS	Genesis 15:1-12; 17-18	Pew Bible 10
	Psalms 27	UMH 758
	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Pew Bible 955
	*Luke 13:31-35	Pew Bible 849

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

*GLORIA PATRI	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	UMH 71
SERMON	<i>Promises, Promises</i>	Pastor Dianne Tobey Covault

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN OF REFLECTION	<i>It is Well With My Soul</i>	UMH 377
CALL TO THE OFFERING		
OFFERTORY		
*DOXOLOGY	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	UMH 95
*OFFERTORY PRAYER ⁴		
O God, we have beheld your goodness to us. Accept the offering of the work of our hands, and use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. 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	<i>Lord of the Dance</i>	UMH 261
*BENEDICTION		
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	<i>My Life is in You, Lord</i>	TFWS 2032
*POSTLUDE		

CHURCH EVENTS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Non-weekly meetings and activities are in bold print.

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

SUN (03/16): Communion
 Sunday School, 9:00am
 Worship, 10:30am
North Coast Men's Chorus "Beatlemania", 3p/Maltz PAC

TUE (03/18): Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm
 Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm

WED (03/19): Lenten Supper & Study, 5:30p/WPUCC

SUN (03/23): Communion
 Sunday School, 9:00am
 Worship, 10:30am

We Are All God's Children

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

** denotes member*

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

COMMUNITY CONCERT

If you didn't get a chance to view yesterday's performance, come see Jared Gadowski Littleton and the North Coast Men's Chorus on **today** at 3:00 as they present "Beatlemania" at the Maltz Performing Arts Center (1855 Ansel Road, Cleveland). You can find more information at ncmchorus.org.

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: **How can this word help you approach conflict or forgiveness differently?**

IN THE GARDEN

Welcome back gardeners! Yay!

The garden will reopen this year on April 15th for first year gardeners. It is already open for returning gardeners.

The bed fee this year will be \$24. The full fee goes directly to the garden itself. This will allow for the new foundations to continue being worked on!

We are looking forward to seeing you soon!

-Roy

BALDWIN WALLACE CONCERT

The BW Women’s Chorus and SJA Chorale present “Sing Into Spring”. This concert will take place at Baldwin Wallace’s Gamble Auditorium (96 Front Street, Berea) on Friday, April 4 at 8:00pm. There is no cost to attend.

SPRING FLING

Mark your calendars for our **Spring Fling – Soup and Salad Luncheon** for 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.



CHILDREN'S EASTER BAG EVENT

The Education Committee needs your help by requesting candy or snack donations for the Neighborhood Children's Easter Bag giveaway which will be held on Saturday, April 5th. Please no peanut butter or nuts! Rather not give candy? Consider donating fruit snacks, crackers, pretzels, etc. Rather not shop? Consider a cash donation and I will be happy to shop for you. As always, we appreciate your support! Any questions, see Shari Graves or call 216-213-2466.

SERMON NOTES

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION⁵

In Luke 13:35 Jesus says, “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.’” To what sort of “seeing” does Jesus refer? Is Jesus calling for more than a verbal declaration that he is the Messiah? How might I live so that I become a testimony that Jesus is truly the one who comes in the name of God?

HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: MORNING

Dear God,
I do not know all of the challenges that face me this day,
but still I pray:
if I should be tempted by desire for earthly gain,
remind me of my citizenship in heaven.
If I should be distracted by hunger,
satisfy me with your Holy Spirit until I hunger no more.
Let me walk in the way of Christ
so that my life testifies in deed and word,
“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” Amen.

HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: EVENING

Dear God,
great is your mercy to me,
even when I have not remembered you.
Where I have strayed from your path,
forgive my sins and show me the way to salvation.
Grant me rest this night
that I may rise refreshed in my commitment
to the way of my Lord, Jesus Christ,
in whose name I pray. 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

3625 West 138th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111
216.671.2600 FAX: 216.671.2601 www.christumc.com

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

Cell: 216.509.4229

Email: pastordiannetc@gmail.com

Office Hours this week: Monday-Wednesday by appointment.

LITURGIST: *Al Naab*

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

GREETER: *Nancy Horton*

ACOLYTES: *Ian Eagan, Ben Eagan, Eli Gadowski 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.***