

# CHRIST

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

**March 30, 2025**

10:30am Worship Service

### THE GATHERING

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Debbie Motley

**PRELUDE**

**INTROIT**

*As the Deer*

TFWS 2025

**CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

Leader: Praise God, who has taught us to sing.

**People: Praise God, who has gathered us together.**

Leader: We come before God to begin again,

**People: to renew our hearts and our spirits.**

Leader: Be assured that God's steadfast love surrounds us and upholds us.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

*They'll know we are Christians by our love*

TFWS 2223

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>**

God of love and grace, we come to you with our hearts wide open. There are times when our hearts reject your love; times when we go against your ways; times when we display an unfaithful attitude. Forgive us. Remind us of your steadfast love and put a new spirit within us. In your holy name, we pray.

Amen.

**WORDS OF GRACE**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

### PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

*This is My Father's World*

Arr. J. Purifoy

---

<sup>1</sup> Scifres, Mary; Beu, B. J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022 (p. 58). Kindle Edition.

<sup>2</sup> Confession sequence from Scifres, Mary; Beu, B. J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022 (pp. 58-59). Kindle Edition.

## CHILDREN'S HAPPENING

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 51:1-11

Pew Bible 452

Psalm 145: 1-21

Pew Bible 506

\*Luke 1:46-55

Pew Bible 832

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

### \*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory Be to the Father*

UMH 71

### SERMON

*What Does God Want From Us?*

Sandy Foster

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

### HYMN OF REFLECTION

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

UMH 560

### CALL TO THE OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

### \*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 95

### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER<sup>3</sup>

Abundant God, we bring these gifts to you in thanksgiving and praise. Bless these gifts, that they may help your children everywhere. As we offer you our hearts, fill us with the treasure of your love and grace. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

### SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: To you, O Lord, we pray.

People: Answer us with mercy.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

### PRAYER RESPONSE

*Kyrie*

TFWS 2275

Translation: Lord, Have Mercy; Christ Have Mercy

### \*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP

*Jesus, United By thy Grace*

UMH 561

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Close to Thee*

UMH 407 (Refrain Only)

### \*POSTLUDE

---

<sup>3</sup> Scifres, Mary; Beu, B. J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022 (p. 60). (Function). Kindle Edition.

# CHURCH EVENTS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

*Non-weekly meetings and activities are in **bold print**.*

- SUN (03/30):** Sunday School, 9:00am  
Worship, 10:30am
- TUE (04/01):** Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm  
Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm
- WED (04/02):** Lenten Supper & Study, 5:30p/WPUCC
- FRI (04/04):** **BW Women's Chorus Spring Concert, 8pm/Gamble Auditorium**
- SUN (04/06):** 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>Mary</i>
<i>*Dave Dickman</i>	<i>Chris M.</i>	<i>Geof Funk</i>	<i>Mary Ellen</i>
<i>*Cindy Light</i>	<i>Darlene</i>	<i>J &amp; 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>Daryana</i>	<i>Jim</i>	<i>MJ</i>
<i>*Janis Pongallo</i>	<i>David R.</i>	<i>Jim</i>	<i>Rosie</i>
<i>*DeeDee Rencehausen</i>	<i>Dennis</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Roy Buser</i>
<i>*Nadene &amp; Dennis Smith</i>	<i>Diane</i>	<i>Joshua C.</i>	<i>Seth Buser</i>
<i>*Joan Thorkelson</i>	<i>Dixie</i>	<i>Kathy</i>	<i>Sheri G.</i>
<i>*Galen Younkin</i>	<i>Dotty</i>	<i>Laurie</i>	<i>Ted and Marie Nyland</i>
<i>Ukraine, Israel and Gaza</i>	<i>Doug Emery</i>	<i>Lee</i>	<i>Tom Szor</i>
<i>Al Tobey</i>	<i>Ed Rote</i>	<i>Lily Van Scyoc</i>	<i>Viola</i>
<i>Carol De Laat</i>	<i>Erik T.</i>	<i>Lindsey Elswick</i>	
<i>Pastor Jason Thompson</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: **How does your word change the way you speak about others?**

## 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 5<sup>th</sup>. 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.

## 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.

## 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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>.

## BIRTHDAY CLUB CELEBRATION

The Birthday Club will have its first quarter celebration on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> after the service. This is to celebrate those who have had birthdays in the last three months. All Birthday Club members are invited.

## SERMON NOTES

# SERMON NOTES

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION<sup>4</sup>

In what ways am I like the Prodigal Son? In what ways am I like the elder son?

### HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: MORNING

Loving God, in all I do this day,  
use me as a sign of your reconciling love.  
Let me not view anyone from a human point of view,  
but let me see all whom I will encounter with the eyes of Christ,  
through whom I pray. Amen.

### HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: EVENING

Merciful God, if like the Prodigal Son  
I have strayed from you this day,  
call me back to your loving embrace.  
If like the elder son,  
I have harbored resentment for the grace you give to others,  
reprove me.  
Help me claim in thought and deed the inheritance of the saints  
who share with Jesus compassion and forgiveness to all who lose  
their way. Amen.

---

<sup>4</sup> 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](http://www.christumc.com)

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

Cell: 216.509.4229

Email: [pastordiannetc@gmail.com](mailto:pastordiannetc@gmail.com)

Office Hours this week: Wednesday by appointment

LITURGIST: *Debbie Motley*

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](mailto: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

COPYRIGHT LICENSES: CCLI 1446526, CSPL 112047, OneLicense  
A-727707

## *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.***