



April 6, 2025  
Fifth Sunday in Lent

## WE GATHER

### CENTERING

Kris Neale, Ministry Intern

ONE:	God meets us in the light—
Other Adults and People Worshipping Online:	where joy is effervescent, where laughter is contagious,
Children, Youth and their Parents:	where flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk, where people gather around tables.
ONE:	God meets us in between—
Other Adults and People Worshipping Online:	at the edge of the water, at the beginning of the wilderness,
Children, Youth and their Parents:	at the start of something new, on the edge of faith.
ONE:	And if God meets us in all those places,
Other Adults and People Worshipping Online:	then surely God meets us everywhere— at the water's edge, at the start of something new,

<b>Children, Youth and their Parents:</b>	<b>after the baptism, and before the call.</b>
<b>ONE:</b>	We are not alone. God is all around.
<b>ALL:</b>	<b>Let us worship the God of everything.</b>

## PRELUDE

### *Be Thou My Vision*

Composer: Larry Shackley, b. 1956

Ann Bartlow, Piano

## WELCOME

Bill Maas, Leadership Board, Chair

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Jane Rall, Liturgist

<b>ONE:</b>	We come to worship because we long for mercy.
<b>ALL:</b>	<b>We long for community. We long for God.</b>
<b>ONE:</b>	We come to worship because we need a good word.
<b>ALL:</b>	<b>We need connection. We need moral reminders.</b>
<b>ONE:</b>	We come to worship because we are in between:
<b>ALL:</b>	<p>hope and grief,</p> <p>faith and doubt,</p> <p>joy and longing,</p>

	<b>curiosity and conviction.</b>
<b>ONE:</b>	So we come to worship and God meets us here.
<b>ALL:</b>	<b>Surely, we are not alone. Thanks be to God for meeting us in the middle! Amen.</b>

## WORD

### ANTHEM

*How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place*

(from A German Requiem, Op. 45, IV, 1865-1868)

Composer: Johannes Brahms, 1833-1897

Text: Psalm 84:1, 2, 4

Chancel Choir: Dr. Michael Wu, Director

Ann Bartlow, Piano

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jane Rall, Liturgist

### SCRIPTURE READING

**Luke 19:1-10**

Jane Rall, Liturgist

### MESSAGE

**"Righteousness and Mercy"**

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Kris Neale, Ministry Intern

<b>ALL:</b>	<p>In a world that loves to cast blame and point fingers, Jesus loved by different rules. He offered mercy. He invited people to dinner. He told stories of love. He chose to see the best in others. We believe that small acts of mercy and compassion have ripple effects in our lives. We believe that small acts of righteousness and justice are integral to a life of faith. So like Christ, we believe in offering mercy, inviting people to dinner, telling stories of love, and choosing to see the best in others. With God's help, may it be so. Amen.</p>
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**\*HYMN: #60**

*I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath*

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.: John Wesley, 1737, alt.: 1989 (Psalm 146)

Music: Attrib.: Matthäus Greiter, 1525; harm.: V. Earle Copes, 1963

Congregation and Choir Chancel

Ann Bartlow, Organ

## WONDER

### HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Kris Neale, Ministry Intern and Stewards

### INVITATION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray:

**Merciful God, we confess that often we have failed to be**

an obedient Church.

We have not done your will; we have broken your law;

We have rebelled against your love;

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: "Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
that proves God's Love toward us."

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, *you* are forgiven.**

**GLORY TO GOD. AMEN.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

##### THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name;**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

#### BREAKING THE BREAD

## MISSION MOMENT

### Youth Mission Trip 2025

Suzanne Smedberg, Youth Coordinator

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Jane Rall, Liturgist

## WHAT NOW

### PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

### \*HYMN #454

#### *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

Words and Music: Clara H. Scott, 1895

Congregation and Chancel Choir

Ann Bartlow, Organ

## SENDING FORTH

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

## POSTLUDE

### *When Jesus Wept*

Composer: David Schelat, living

Ann Bartlow, Organ

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## SERVING US TODAY

Acolyte: Grace Basford and Alice Hedrick

Altar Guild for April: Ann Coppersmith and Dawn Adair Johnson

Audio Visual Volunteers: Andy Basford and Jason Spriggs

Chat Room Host: Linda Pickle

Communion Stewards: Hannah Coppersmith Aurelia, Cora and Ryan Miller; Emily Sama-Miller

Congregational Welcome: Bill Maas  
Fellowship Hosts: James and Rachel Hedrick  
Liturgist: Jane Rall  
Nursery Staff: Tessa Rickets and Emily Sama-Miller  
Offering Counters: Tim Evans and Glenn Simpson  
Sunday School Teachers - Elementary Grades: Nancy Hart and Susan Jones  
Sunday School Teachers – Middle School: Dave Cope and Chuck Spencer  
Sunday School Teachers – High School: James Hedrick, Ryan Miller and Kristen Wayne  
Welcome Team: Bill and Lloydie Zaiser

### LEADERSHIP BOARD

Bill Maas, Chair  
Mike Coppersmith  
Rachel Hedrick  
Brian Jones  
Mike Kitzman  
Nancy Kneisly  
Pastor Laura Norvell  
Jane Rall  
Janelle Veazey  
Jennifer Young

### FAITH UMC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor  
Ann Bartlow, Organist  
André Coleman, Tenor Section Leader  
Valerie Kunsman, Office Administrator  
Kris Neale, Ministry Intern  
Curtis Osborne, Coordinator of Intergenerational Nurture  
Tessa Ricketts, Nursery Staff  
Suzanne Smedberg, Youth Coordinator  
Kim Webster, Finance Manager  
Dr. Michael Wu, Music Director

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