



March 8, 2026

*The Third Sunday In Lent*

*(†) The congregation is invited to stand or (Sit with Gusto)  
(BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds*

# THE CHURCH GATHERS

*Silent Prayer and Time for Centering*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

Johsua Fit the Battle of Jericho Arr. by *Martha Lynn Thompson*

*Music: African American Spiritual Public Domain; Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson © 1996, Hope Publishing Co.  
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### \*CALL TO WORSHIP \*\*\*

If you need good news,  
**settle into this space.**

**We have good news to share.**

If you need a word of hope,  
**then trust us when we say,**  
***there is hope enough to go around.***

If you need a glimmer of joy,  
**then you're in luck!**

**We have resilient joy abounding.**

If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,  
**then know that this is God's house.**

This is the good news of the gospel.

**God is here.**

**Love is real.**

**Joy is on the move.**

**Let us worship our with-us God!**

# † HYMN OF PRAISE

## All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



1. All who hun - ger, gath - er glad - ly;  
2. All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers,  
3. All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er;



Ho - ly man - na is our bread. Come from wil - der -  
Seek - er, be a wel - come guest. Come from rest - less -  
Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li -



ness and wan - d'ring. Here, in truth, we will be fed.  
ness and roam - ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.  
ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.



You that yearn for days of full - ness,  
We that once were lost and scat - tered  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble



All a - round us is our food. Taste and see the  
In com - mun - ion's love have stood. Taste and see the  
Live their days in grat - i - tude. Taste and see the



grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993, © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Tune: HOLY MANNA, 8 7 8 7 D; William Moore, fl.1830; harm. by Charles Anders, b.1929

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## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

# THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

## INTRODUCTION

Pastor: The sacrament of baptism symbolizes the love by which God reaches out to us even when we are very young. We are here today to declare that God loves Luke and to offer ourselves as the instruments of that love in his life.

Parents: Because of God's love shown to us in Jesus Christ we want to have Luke baptized into the life and faith of this community. We ask God's guidance in helping Luke to grow to respect himself and others. We bring Luke here today with joy, accepting the trust that has blessed us with his life.

Sponsors: Recognizing that there are many persons who touch the lives of children beyond their parents, we covenant to give our time and ourselves to this child, providing him with further opportunities to explore his growing experience of God and self. We will share our faith lifestyle with him.

Lay Leaders: On behalf of the congregation, we say to you, Ethan and Nicole, that Luke has with us here a community that is filled with love for him, our homes are his homes, and our resources are his resources. Our faith will be taught to him. We pray that we might fulfill our vows to you and to God.

**Congregation: We, as a community, promise to care for Luke by our actions and style of life. Luke has with us here a community that is filled with love for him We will teach him the joys of God's world. We will love him. We are by this affirmation inseparably bound with him.**

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith together. Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

### **THANKSGIVING OVER WATER**

Let us pray. God, our Creator, we thank you for your faithfulness promised in this sacrament, and for the hope we have in Jesus Christ. As we baptize Luke with water, baptize us with the Holy Spirit, so that what we say may be your word, and what we do may be your work. By your power, may we be made one with Jesus Christ in common faith and purpose. Amen.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and Luke who receives it, to wash away his sin and clothe him in righteousness throughout his life, that, dying and being raised with Christ, he may share in his final victory.

**All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

### **BAPTISM**

Luke Joel White, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

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## **PRAYER**

Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your child, Luke. Watch over him. Guide him as he grows in faith. Give him understanding, and a quick concern for neighbors. Help him to be a true disciple of Jesus Christ, who was baptized as your child and servant and who is our risen Lord. God of Grace, we pray for Luke's parents, Ethan and Nicole. Help them to know you deeply, to love with your love, to teach your truth, and to tell the story of Jesus to Luke, also to Maya, so that as a family they may hear your word and know of your presence. Amen.

## **HYMN**

**"Jesus Loves Me" (v.1)**

**UMH 191**

## **LIGHTING OF THE BAPTISMAL CANDLE**

### **WELCOME**

Luke is now received into the love and care of FUMC. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God, and we are!

### **SPECIAL REMARK**

As we prepare to leave this church we love, it brings us great joy to witness Luke's baptism today. We have seen the light of Christ shine brightly in this congregation and community, and it has deeply shaped our lives. Our prayer is that you will nurture that same light in Luke and help it shine for years to come. Though we are moving on, we trust that Christ's light will continue to shine here—through your family and through this church.

### **BLESSING**

**Gracious God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray today for your blessing on Luke, that you will watch over him and guide him as he grows in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptism and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

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## **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

# THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson:      *Ephesians 3:20-21*      (Pg. 950) \*\*

Anthem:

## **Christ Is Our Cornerstone**

Text: Eighth Century, trans. John Chandler, 1837

Music: David Ogden

*Choir:*

Christ is our cornerstone,  
on him alone we build;  
with his true saints alone  
the courts of heaven are filled:  
on his great love  
our hopes we place  
of present grace  
and joys above.

O then with hymns of praise  
these hallowed courts shall ring;  
our voices we will raise  
the Three in One to sing;  
and thus proclaim  
in joyful song  
both loud and long  
that glorious Name.

*Choir and Congregation.*

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - -  
ia, De - o gra - ti - as! Al - le -  
lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Thanks be to God!

Here, gracious God, do thou  
for evermore draw nigh;  
accept each faithful vow,  
and mark each suppliant sigh:  
in copious shower  
on all who pray,  
each holy day  
thy blessings pour.

Here may we gain from heaven  
the grace which we implore;  
and may that grace, once given,  
be with us evermore,  
until that day  
when all the blest  
to endless rest  
are called away.

*Choir and Congregation.*

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - -  
ia, De - o gra - ti - as! Al - le -  
lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Thanks be to God!

*repeat*

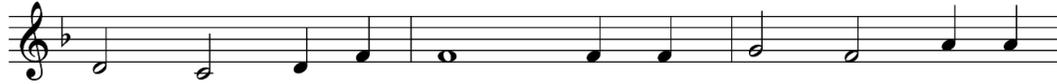
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† HYMN OF PREPARATION

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1. Lord, whose love in hum - ble serv - ice Bore the  
 2. Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the  
 3. As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till your  
 4. Called from wor - ship in - to serv - ice Forth in



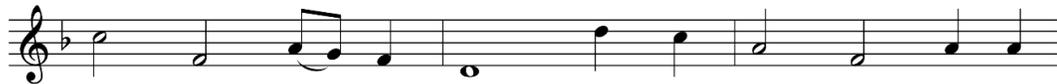
weight of hu - man need, Who did on the Cross for -  
 hun - gry cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for  
 love's re - veal - ing light, Till the height and depth and  
 your great name we go, To the child, the youth, the



sak - en, Show us mer - cy's per - fect deed;  
 free - dom; Still in grief we mourn our dead.  
 great - ness Dawns up - on our hu - man sight:  
 a - ged, Love in liv - ing deeds to show;



We, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship Not of  
 As, O Lord, your deep com - pas - sion Healed the  
 Mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens Your com -  
 Hope and health, good - will and com - fort, Coun - sel,



voice a - lone, but heart: Con - se - crat - ing to your  
 sick and freed the soul, Use the love your Spir - it  
 pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring us to faith - ful  
 aid, and peace we give That your chil - dren, Lord, in



pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.  
 kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.  
 serv - ice, Your a - bun - dant life to share.  
 free - dom, May your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, © Oxford University Press  
 Tune: BEACH SPRING, 8 7 8 7 D; *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. by Marty Haugen, b.1950

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PRESIDER: For the word of God in Scripture,  
For the word of God among us,  
For the word of God within us,

ALL: Thanks be to God!

† GLORIA PATRI

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the  
Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is  
now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.  
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

GREATOREX  
Irr.

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SERMON: Ho-Soon Han

*“The Good News Is:  
TOGETHER THE IMPOSSIBLE IS POSSIBLE ”*

# THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

## † HYMN

### Human Minds Just Can't Imagine

AUSTRIAN HYMN 8.7.8.7 D ("God Whose Giving Knows No Ending")

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: Joseph Haydn (1797)



Hu - man minds just can't i - ma - gine all that God can bring  
God, ex - pand our dreams and vi - sion when we think our gifts  
Like the grains of wheat are ga - thered from the vast and roll -



to bear Through our small and sep - arate be - ings, e - ven  
too small Help us trust your great pro - vis - ion and to  
-ing fields Like the grapes from vi - ny bran - ches whose small



when we join to share Still we fol - low where Christ leads us,  
an - swer when you call You who gave us time and ta - lents  
fruit the wine will yield We re - mem - ber as one bo - dy,



ma - ny pie - ces of one whole That we might al - low  
will up - hold and see us through As we join to - geth -  
each of us a cru - cial part In the glo - bal church



our dream - ing to trans - form our bro - ken world  
-er in the work you've gi - ven us to do  
pro - fess - ing: we be - long to God's own heart

Words: Anna Strickland © 2025 Commissioned by A Sanctified Art LLC, Free for Congregational Use

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Sharing of Joys and Concerns*

## PRAYER SONG

### Be Still, and Know That I Am God

Canon

1. Be still and know that I am God.

2. Be still and know that I am God.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Canon' and has two first endings. The first ending is a half note G, followed by quarter notes A, B, C, D, E, F, G. The second ending is a half note G, followed by quarter notes A, B, C, D, E, F, G. The second staff is a second ending, starting with a half note G, followed by quarter notes A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and ending with a double bar line and repeat sign.

Text: Psalm 46:10; John L. Bell, b.1949  
Tune: John L. Bell, b.1949  
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## SILENT PRAYER

**The Lord's Prayer**

(UMH p. 895)

**PRAYER SONG**

*(See Above)*

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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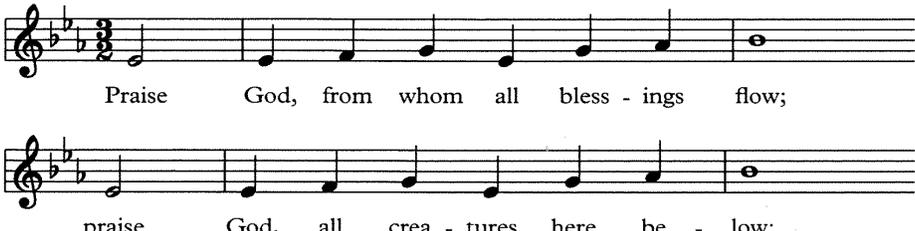
**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

# † DOXOLOGY

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

## 94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Unison*



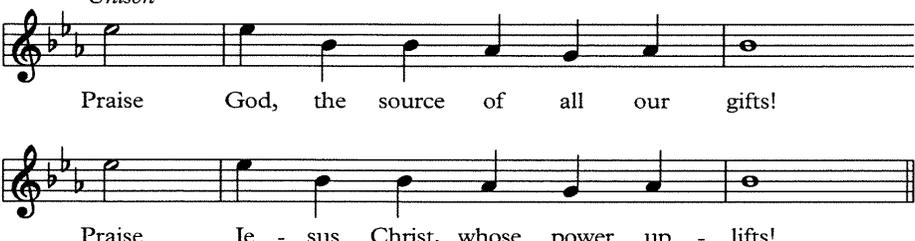
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:

*Harmony*



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Unison*



Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts!

*Refrain (Harmony)*



Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Unison*



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978  
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906  
Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
88.44.88 with Refrain

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Offertory Prayer:

## THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

# † HYMN OF DEDICATION

## We've a Story to Tell to the Nations 458

WORDS: H. Ernest Nichol, 1896

MESSAGE

MUSIC: H. Ernest Nichol, 1896

Irregular with Refrain

1. We've a sto - ry to tell to the na - tions that shall turn their hearts  
2. We've a song to be sung to the na - tions that shall lift their hearts  
3. We've a mes - sage to give to the na - tions - that the Lord who reign -  
4. We've a Sav - ior to show to the na - tions who the path of sor -

to the right, a sto - ry of truth and mer - cy, a sto - ry of  
to the Lord, a song that shall con - quer e - vil and shat - ter the  
eth a - bove hath sent us His Son to save us and show us that  
row hath trod, that all of the world's great peo - ples might come to the

Refrain  
peace and light, a sto - ry of peace and light.  
spear and sword, and shat - ter the spear and sword. For the  
God is love, and show us that God is love.  
truth of God, might come to the truth of God.

dark - ness shall turn to dawn - ing, and the dawn - ing to noon - day bright, and

Christ's great king - dom shall come to earth - the king - dom of love and light.

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# † COMMISSIONING AND SENDING FORTH FOR THE DEVITO FAMILY

The church is a family.

United by the common recognition  
of Jesus Christ as our savior,  
We are all brothers and sisters.

And, for a time, FUMC is our home.

Like every human family,  
our church family is formed and reformed over time:  
as members are born, as they die,  
as members are adopted into our family,  
and as they leave our congregation for a new home,  
in a different place.

For a time, Charlie, Anni, Sophia and Anthony, have lived with us.  
We have shared with each other good times and bad,  
we have shared each other's joys and sorrows,  
we have lifted each other's heavy loads.

Together we have laughed and cried,  
together we have worshipped and praised god,  
together we have lived.

**We feel sorrow in your leaving, yet we rejoice with you  
in anticipation of this new phase of your life.**

**We will miss your love and support,  
yet we know you will add much to the lives  
of those who will be your new church family,  
as you have added much to our lives.**

**We will pray for you and for the whole family of God.**

Let us pray; O God, you are the strength  
and the protector of your people.

We humbly place in your hands, Charlie, Anni, Sophia, and Anthony  
of this congregation who are about to leave us.

Keep and preserve them, O Lord, in all health and safety,  
both of body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Our prayers go with you. **Amen**

Assisting with Worship today:

Liturgist: Ariane Ludwig

Video and Sound Engineer: Sam Tweedy

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\*\*\*\*\*

Looking Ahead

Readings for March 15, 2026  
 The Fourth Sunday in Lent  
[1 Samuel 16:1-13 / Psalm 23](#)  
[Ephesians 5:8-14 / John 9:1-41](#)



*First United Methodist Church*

*"Feed the Need"*

*Putting Our Faith into Motion*

*By Feeding the Body, Mind, and Soul*

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