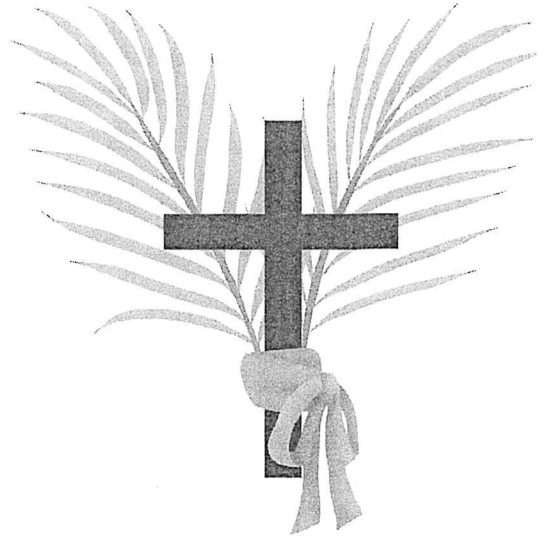


# ***Second Sunday in Lent/ Holy Communion March 1, 2026***



## **OUR LORD'S**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*There's a Place for You Here*

*As you view and participate in this worship please note that **bolded text** invites ALL to voice.*

### Gathering Music

### Graceful Engagement

#### **Think on This for Today**

*We move forward in our life's journey, guided by this promise—the promise of presence, acceptance, and grace. Even when God's own Son shows us the way to salvation, like Nicodemus before us, we have trouble choosing to accept the blessing offered. What choice will we make today?*

#### **GATHERING TOGETHER**

### Settling In

### Prelude

One voice: Good morning, Church! I see you!

**ALL voices: I am here!**

### \*Praise Sentences

God loved the world so much!

**God gave the world Jesus, God's only Son.**

God loved the world so much!

**God gave the world eternal life.**

God loved the world so much!

**God gave the world salvation through Jesus Christ.**

\*Call to Worship

Children of God, in Lent we remember that our salvation is an unearned gift, that new life is a matter of faith, not of works.

**We gather to lay down the burden of trying to earn our salvation.**

Like Nicodemus, who met Jesus in the dark of night, we struggle to accept that new life is not just possible; it is given as a free gift of grace.

**We gather to bring our struggles into the light and embrace God's grace with open arms.**

Like Paul writing to the Romans, we remember God's promise of new life has always rested on grace.

**We gather to receive the promise of salvation by grace through faith.**

Like the many who have followed, questioned, and grown in the faith, we submit ourselves to be formed by grace as we work out our salvation day by day.

**We gather as people guided by the promise of new life, a promise fulfilled by Christ, whose path we follow.**

\*Opening Hymn "To God Be the Glory" vs. 1, 3

UMH 98

\*Opening Prayer

**Gracious and glorious Lord, we come, as did Nicodemus, with questions on our hearts and in our lives. We come hoping someone can help us find answers and healing. But we are also hardened with doubts about self, others, and even You. Grant us healing and openness to Your spirit that we may be better servants of Your Word, Your Will, and Your Way. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.**

## LEARNING TOGETHER

Children's Message

One: And Jesus said...      **ALL: Let the children come!**

\*Reading of the Gospel    John 3:1-17 CEB

\*Response to the Gospel

The word of God for ALL of us, God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon    "Reorienting to Salvation"

## RESPONDING TOGETHER

*(please text prayers to 414-378-4012 and Pastor Kelly will receive them)*

Caring for Community Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

## Invitation to Giving Action

### \*Doxology

TUNE: REDHEAD 77.77.77 (ref. UMH 290)

**Praise the Source who gives us life.  
Praise to Christ, who shares our strife.  
Praise the Spirit, who sustains,  
bearing us through grief and pain.  
To the holy Trinity glory, praise, and honor be.**

### \*Blessing Prayer

**Faithful God of New Beginnings, You call us—as You called Abraham—to trust in what we cannot yet see, to follow where You lead, even when the road is unclear. In the shadows of our questions and the uncertainty of our understanding, You meet us with grace, not condemnation. As Nicodemus discovered, Your love is not earned but freely given. Receive now these gifts we offer—not as payment or proof, but as signs of our belief, our hope, and our gratitude. Use them to share Your transforming love with a world still searching in the dark. In the name of Your Son, we pray, let it be so.**

## **CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*(liturgy for ALL on screen)*

Invitation *ALL are welcome to this Table!*

### Preparing Our Hearts

### \*Reconciling Action

\*Celebration Song “Blessed Assurance” vs. 1, 3

UMH 369

The Great Thanksgiving

FWS 2257 a-d

### Shared Prayer of Thanksgiving

### \*Responsive Sending Forth

Go now in the mercy of God, whose promises never fail.

**We go to live as people who have generously received and thus generously share God’s gracious gift of new life with ALL we encounter.**

### \*Charge and Final Blessing

*Respond “Yes!” after each blessing phrase and join in ALL together for the final phrase: “This day and in every day to come!”*

\*Closing Hymn "He Came Down" *all verses*  
(*please hum on the word that is 'buried' until Easter!*)

FWS 2085

\*Postlude

**Need hearing assistance? Hearing assist devices are available.  
Visit our tech room and someone will help you.**

Lectionary readings: Genesis 12:1-4a "*The blessing of God upon Abram*"; Psalm 121 "*The Lord watches over you*"; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 "*The promise to those of Abraham's faith*"; John 3:1-17 "*The mission of Christ: saving the world*"

**Thank you for worshipping with us at Our Lord's!**



Scan this QR code to contribute a gift to support our church and its ministries. Explore more of our website by clicking the "Our Lord's" header at the top of the page. There you'll find past worship services, information regarding our various ministries, and much more!

**Highlighting, with gratitude, these servant leaders for today...**

Wendi Haubert, Izzy Veit, Rebecca Landgraf, Dave Smith, Kathy Depies, Decker Henninger, Judie Liebenstein, Kathy Depies, Karen Haubert, Don Mains. Linda Suminski, Rachel Kaufman

CBA: Wendi Haubert/finance@ourlordsumc.org  
Office Administrator: Tabitha Manning/office@ourlordsumc.org  
Pastor: Kelly Liebenstein/pastorkelly@ourlordsumc.org

\*Find us on Facebook and watch our live-streamed Sunday services at [www.facebook.com/OurLordsUMC/](http://www.facebook.com/OurLordsUMC/) \*Visit us on our website at [www.ourlordsumc.org](http://www.ourlordsumc.org)

Worship resource: Ministry Matters, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/>, Discipleship Ministries, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/>, Doxology from "Praising God" by Ruth C. Duck/Patricia Wilson-Kastner, Great Thanksgiving for Lent from "Reformed Worship" by Ron Rienstra

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*Our Lord's United Methodist Church is located on the ancestral homelands of the Potawatomi, Sioux (Ochethi Sakowin), Kickapoo, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, and Peoria people's.*

*"Love boldly, serve joyfully, lead courageously"*