

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 22 March 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements *(To help us connect, please sign the attendance pad in your pew)*

*Greeting**:
It is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit
that we are children of God,
and if children, then heirs,
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ ---
If, in fact, we suffer with him
so that we may also be glorified with him.
(Romans 8:16-17)

*Opening Prayer**:

O Lord our God, teach us temperance and self-control,
that we may live in the Spirit
and be mindful of all that Jesus endured and sacrificed
for our sakes,
and how he was made perfect through sufferings.

Help us so to keep the fast that you have chosen,
that we may loose the bonds of wickedness,
undo the heavy burdens,
and let the oppressed go free;
through the grace of Christ Jesus
our crucified and risen Savior. Amen.

(Henry van Dyke, U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt.)

*Opening Hymn: 368 "My Hope Is Built"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: Page 6 UMH

First Lesson: Ezekiel 38:1-14

Psalter: 848 Psalm 130

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Second Lesson: Romans 8:6-11

*Hymn of Preparation: 500 "Spirit of God, Descend
Upon My Heart"

*Gospel Lesson: John 11:1-45

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: 887 "Affirmation from Romans 8:35, 37-39"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

Children's Time

*The Peace: Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation
and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people, let us offer
ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology: 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving**:

O God, source of all that makes life possible,
giver of all that makes life good:

We gather to give you our thanks,
yet we confess that we have often failed
to live our thankfulness.

Forgive us, O God.

In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving;
and teach us to make gratitude and sharing
our way of life;
through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(3)

(Paul J. Flucke, U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt.)

*The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 422 "Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love"

*Closing Prayer**:

Eternal God, you raised from the dead our Lord Jesus,
and by your Holy Spirit brought to life your Church.

**Breathe upon us again with your spirit
and give new life to your people,
through the same Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude

*Going Forth

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

** THE UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF WORSHIP

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