



FOURTH SUNDAY  
*In Lent*

MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

(\* Indicates when people are invited to stand)

PRELUDE: *“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”* By Helen H. Lemmel

WORDS OF WELCOME

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come into the light of God.

**Christ’s brightness will guide our way.**

Come into the wisdom of God.

**The Spirit’s insight will reveal new truths.**

Come into the praise of God,

**Worship opens new doors in our hearts.**

OPENING PRAYER

Shepherd of love, guide our steps, open the eyes of our hearts, and fling wide the doors of our minds to perceive as you perceive. Open our lives to love as you love. Open our world to become the world you envision for your creation. In the light of your love, we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN: 381** *“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”* vs 1-4

PRAYER OF YEARNING

**Christ our Healer, we want to see and be seen fully. We long to heal and be healed fully. We yearn to love and be loved fully. Yet, these desires seem beyond our reach when our minds are set on earthly things. Set our minds instead on you. Help us perceive the possibilities of fullness, of shalom, of your realm on this earth. Then guide us to help live into the reality you show us. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Surely goodness and faithful love follow us all the days of our lives. For these gifts are already ours through the grace and the power of Christ Jesus.

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

As Christ’s light has guided us here, may Christ’s light shine in and through us that we may love and guide one another. Let’s share signs of light with one another as we pass the peace of Christ.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *JOYFUL BELLS*

### **OLD TESTAMENT: I Samuel 16:1-13 (NIV)**

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king." But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."

The Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate." Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"

Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord."

But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The Lord has not chosen this one either." Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The Lord has not chosen these." So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"

"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives." So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one." So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

### **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: 23 (NIV)**

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures,**

he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul.

**He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.**

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil,

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

**You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,

**and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

### **EPISTLE: Ephesians 5:8-14 (NIV)**

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light

becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

## **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **\*GOSPEL: John 9:1-41 (NIV)**

The gospel according to John.

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. “Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?” Some claimed that he was.

Others said, “No, he only looks like him.”

But he himself insisted, “I am the man.”

“How then were your eyes opened?” they asked.

He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.”

“Where is this man?” they asked him. “I don’t know,” he said.

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man’s eyes was a Sabbath. Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. “He put mud on my eyes,” the man replied, “and I washed, and now I see.”

Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others asked, “How can a sinner perform such signs?” So they were divided. Then they turned again to the blind man, “What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.”

The man replied, “He is a prophet.”

They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man’s parents. “Is this your son?” they asked. “Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?”

“We know he is our son,” the parents answered, “and we know he was born blind. But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. That was why his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God by telling the truth," they said. "We know this man is a sinner."

He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?"

Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from."

The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

"Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?"

Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."

## **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **REFLECTIONS ON GOD'S WORD**

*Pastor Rob Odum*

**HYMN: 454**

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

*vs 1-3*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

All-seeing God, you see the gifts we have given and the offering we are giving: our treasure and our time, our service and our lives. Help us perceive the value of your gifts you, and the ways our generous sharing brings your realm more closely to this earth. Bless our lives and our gifts, that they might become points of light to bring all of creation closer to you and to your love.

**Amen.**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC:**            *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”*

*By Thomas A. Dorsey*

**\*DOXOLOGY: 95**            *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~ The Apostle’s Creed**

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

**And 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.**

**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. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

**\*CLOSING HYMN: 128**            *“He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought”*

*vs 1-4*

**\*BENEDICTION**

As Christ’s light has led us here,  
**so now Christ’s light leads us into the world.**  
Go with the light, go to be light.  
**We will brighten the world with God’s love.**

**\*POSTLUDE:**                    *“Shine, Jesus, Shine”*

*By Graham Kendrick*





March	Liturgists	Ushers
15th	John Hurley	Cyndi Eickstaedt & Philip Gruntzel
22nd	Carolyn Ettlle	Cyndi Eickstaedt & Philip Gruntzel
29th	Linda Brumm	Cyndi Eickstaedt & Philip Gruntzel



**PALM SUNDAY: March 29th**

8:55 AM at Blessed Hope UMC

10:30 AM at Memorial UMC

**MAUNDY THURSDAY: April 2nd 6pm**

Combined Worship Service at Blessed Hope UMC

**GOOD FRIDAY: April 3rd 6pm**

Combined Worship Service at Memorial UMC

**EASTER SUNDAY: April 5th**

Traditional Resurrection Day Worship & Celebration

8:55 AM at Blessed Hope UMC

10:30 AM at Memorial UMC

**Memorial UMC**

**General Information & Staff**

3450 South 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Greenfield, WI 53219

**Church Phone:** 414-545-2440

**Church Email:** [mumcgreenfield@gmail.com](mailto:mumcgreenfield@gmail.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Rob Odum, 414-238-8367

**Pastor's Email:** [robdodum@gmail.com](mailto:robdodum@gmail.com)

**Director of Music:** Sarah Brumm

**Hymn Leaders:** Sarah Brumm,  
Summer Ketchell, Emily Bergeron

**Pianist & Organist:** Karen Fetzer

**Live Stream Production Team:**  
Brad Weller, Xylia-Sophia Conn,  
John Stoekl, Tom Rowe, Greg Ettlle

**Office Administrator:** Peggy Leonhardt

**Hours:** Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-1pm



**Pop-Up Event: Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**from 12pm – 6pm**

United Methodist Committee on Relief is supporting folks who were affected by the floods in August. They are coming to MUMC to do a pop-up event, giving out mold kits to the community.



**Donations Requested**

Glenwood School is requesting Arts & Craft Supply Donations. Please consider giving. Thank you.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** Sunday, 9:15am

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:**  
Sunday, 10:30am

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES:**  
Saturday 2/14 – Saturday 5/16  
Confirmation classes will be held each Saturday from 9-10:30am

**CERAMICS:** Mondays, 1-9pm

**CHANCEL CHOIR:** Thursday, 6:30-7:25pm

**JOYFUL BELLS:** Thursday, 7:30-8:30pm

**SASSY SOWERS:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday & 3<sup>rd</sup>, Thursday, 10am-1pm

**UMCOR Pop-up Event:** Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 12pm-6pm

**WOMEN'S BREAKFAST:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 9am at Pallas Restaurant, 1657 S. 108<sup>th</sup> St, West Allis, WI

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 8:30am at Meyers, 4260 S 76th St, Greenfield, WI

**PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH:** March 29th, 11:30am-1pm after church, in the fellowship hall. \$5 donation per person.

