

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Pam Barrett	Ann Irwin	Kathi Parker	Lucille Thompson
Randy Boyer	Mary Meilcarek-Clark	Robertta Polk	
Johnny & Joy Holder	Mary Neitzke	Harriett Silvey	

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## **ROUTINE FACILITY USAGE:**

<u>Sundays:</u> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<u>Tuesdays (con't)</u> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<u>Thursdays</u> 5:00 pm Soccer Practice 7:30 pm N A
<u>Mondays</u> 6:00 pm Choir Practice	<u>Wednesdays</u> 10:00 am FUEL 11:00 am Ann's Closet (1st & 3rd) 5:30 pm Soccer Practice	<u>Fridays</u> 6:30 pm Sea Scouts
<u>Tuesdays</u> 10:00 am Morning Bible Study 5:00 pm Soccer Practice	6:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm N A	<u>Saturdays</u> 6:00 pm N A

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

March 30: Monday of Holy Week Service, 12 pm at Sango UMC  
March 31: Tuesday of Holy Week Service, 12 pm at Sango UMC  
April 1: Wednesday of Holy Week Service, 12 pm at Sango UMC  
April 2: Maundy Thursday Service, Hilldale UMC at 6:00 pm  
April 3: Good Friday Service, Madison Street UMC at 6:00 pm  
April 4: Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 am; Holy Saturday Prayer Service, 6:00 pm at St. Bethlehem UMC  
April 5: Sunrise Service at 6:15 am, followed by the Annual Easter Breakfast at 8:00 am; and then our Easter Worship Service at 10:00 am

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

Holy Week Services: A signup sheet will be passed around for those who wish to carpool/need a ride to any of the services.

**Ann's Closet needs your help;** we are currently in need of jelly and spaghetti sauce. On behalf of those in need, we are humbly appreciative of your support.

We began collecting for Easter Lilies in Memorials/ Remembrances of our loved ones last week; we will continue to collect until Palm Sunday. White Easter Lily purchase slips can be found at both entrances to the Sanctuary.

Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt, held this year on April 4th at 10:00 am, is fast approaching and we need candy and PRE-FILLED eggs. Your donations of these items are greatly appreciated. Come join us for the hunt; you're sure to enjoy all the smiles and laughter.

Our 2nd Annual Spring Market will be held on May 2nd from 10:00 am-4:00 pm and the vendor application is now live on our Facebook page. Please take a moment to see what's posted then share the flyer, the QR code and link with all of your friends and neighbors. Please contact Margaret Fisher or Tiffany Julian with any questions.

**Upper Room:** Pickup a copy, at either Sanctuary entrance, to guide your daily devotional.

**Attendance:** Please fill out the attendance pad at the end of your pew.



*Growing disciples of Christ for the transformation of our community.*



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Pastor: Rev. Corrie Alexander-Willette



PRELUDE *Give Me a Servant's Heart* Chancel Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO LIVE IN OUR FAITH Liturgist, Doyle Clark

GREETING:

L: Welcome to the weary and the worn.

**P: Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.**

L: Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.

**P: Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.**

L: Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.

**P: Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.**

L: Welcome to the sinners and the saints.

**P: This is God's house.**

L: You can make yourself at home here.

**P: Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!**

\*HYMN *Where Charity and Love Prevail* UMH 549

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Please see insert

\*GLORIA PATRI UMH 70

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, when you speak, we don't want to miss it. When you bend down and write in the dirt, when you move through the trees, when you wake with the dawn, when you tug on our heart, or whisper into our dreams, we don't want to miss it. So today we pray, clear out the cobwebs in our ears. Quiet the steady stream of thoughts marching through our minds. Open up space in our hearts so that we can receive your word for us today. With hope we pray. Amen.

\*SCRIPTURE READING John 8:2-11  
Word of God for the People of God  
**Thanks be to God**

HYMN *Let Us Remember* Please see insert

\*SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 23:23  
Word of God for the People of God  
**Thanks be to God**

SERMON Rev. Corrie Alexander-Willette

OFFERTORY *Open My Eyes That I May See* UMH 454

\*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Please see insert

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

\*HYMN *He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought* UMH 128

\*SENDING FORTH  
As you leave this place, when you meet anger, speak with love. When you meet fear, speak with hope. When you meet pain, speak with gentleness. But no matter what, speak this good news. For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all. It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms. The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speaking. For if you won't, then who will? Thanks be to God for this good, good news. Amen.

\*POSTLUDE *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* TFWS 2158

Arrangements: Prelude by Lura Foster; 2nd Hymn by Anna Strickland  
Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org  
**\*Please stand as you're able in body or spirit**

If we can do that, then maybe there will be a day when there is less stone throwing, less mob building, less violence toward our neighbor. Maybe there will be a day when all can gather at the table. Maybe there will be a day when we can all break bread together. Maybe there will be a day when justice, mercy, and righteousness feel like a mighty flowing stream.

Until that day, we will continue to look for your words in the dirt. We will continue to listen for your deep truth. Until that promised day, we will continue to bring you our unfiltered honesty. Until that promised day, we will continue to pray for our neighbor. Today, we pray for. . .

Loving God, set a fire in our hearts for justice, mercy, and righteousness. And as you do, we will join our voices together to pray the words your son taught us to pray, saying. . .



## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. It sounds like welcome and feels like home. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table, so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. I have seen it alive in the world.

And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage, even when mercy feels out of reach, I remember the one who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence. I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable and inspired those around him. I remember that the good news really is good news, for I have seen it alive in the world.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

# Let Us Remember

ADELAIDE 5.4.5.4 D (“Have Thine Own Way”)

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: George C. Stebbins (1907)



What is im - por - tant?      What mat - ters more?  
We've been shown mer - cy      all of our lives  
Fol - low - ing Je - sus,      liv - ing in truth  
What does the Lord re - qui - re of us?



Hu - man con - nec - tion      or keep - ing score?  
By the cre - a - tor      of hu - man - kind  
We re - main faith - ful      to our roots  
To re - main hum - ble,      lov - ing, and just



In our pur - suit of      jus - tice and truth  
So when we're in a po - si - tion to judge  
When those roots lead us      out - side the lines  
Keep - ing the heart of the gos - pel in mind



Let us re - mem - ber:      we fall short, too  
Let us re - mem - ber:      they're just like us  
Let us re - mem - ber:      faith is a - live  
Let us re - mem - ber:      do what is right

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving God, you know all of us. You know our fears and our dreams, our hopes and our longings, our grief and our joy. You know the words that are on our tongue before we can even say them, so today we come to you unfiltered. Today, we bring you our full honesty, trusting that you meet us here with grace and love.

Holy God, we admit that mercy, justice, and faithfulness often get tangled up in our minds. We want to do the right thing, which feels like justice. However, sometimes we go about justice with a blunt sword, failing to practice mercy. We want to be merciful, but our anger and hurt can get in the way. Too often, we find ourselves casting stones. We want to be righteous, but we often forget that righteousness must impact our relationships, not only our words or our actions.

God, we admit that mercy, justice, and faithfulness often get tangled up in our minds. So like Jesus did with the crowds that day, help us to root ourselves in the best of these practices. Untangle these threads of our faith and show us how to hold them all.

Spark a fire in our hearts for justice—  
justice for the oppressed,  
justice for the overlooked,  
justice for our neighbors,  
justice for those not given a voice.

Spark a fire in our hearts for mercy—  
mercy for the sinful, which is all of us,  
mercy for the hurt,  
mercy for the ones who are doing their best with what they have.

And spark a fire in our hearts for righteousness.

Call us up to a higher moral ground. Remind us that our faith invites us to love as you love, and to forgive as you forgive. Show us how to put down our stones. Show us how to forgive ourselves for our own wrong. Show us how to empathize with the other, putting ourselves in their shoes.