

Banning United Methodist Church
Thirteen Sunday after Pentecost
August 23rd, 2026

GATHERING

Special Music and Fellowship Cathy Mauge

Welcoming Friends and Newcomers Myrle Petty

Announcements Myrle Petty

Centering Words Myrle Petty

“Lord, quiet the distractions within us and around us as we gather in Your presence. Open our hearts to Your Word, fill our minds with Your truth and lead us to worship You with sincerity and joy. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.”

Passing of the Peace Pastor Ode

Gathering Hymn “The Spirit in Me” (Please return to your seat when the hymn begins)

The spirit in me greets the spirit in you, Alleluia! God's in us and we're in God, Alleluia! (Sung twice)

WORSHIP OF GOD

Prelude Cathy Mauge

Lighting of the Altar Candles

†Call to Worship Myrle Petty

L: Life can sometimes be very difficult.

P: We look around and wonder where God is.

L: In the midst of our trials and tribulations, God is with us.

P: God surrounds us with love and courage.

L: Come, let us praise God for God’s abiding presence.

P: Lord, thank You for always being with us, even when we don’t recognize Your loving presence.

AMEN.

†Opening Hymn “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” UMH #127

† Opening Prayer Myrle Petty

We thank You, O Lord, that we are not alone. You watch over us, guide us, and lead us in Your righteous pathways. When we stumble and fall, You lift us up and gently place us on that pathway again. When we doubt, You surround us with Your mercy and peace, reassuring us of Your presence through the love of others and of our savior Jesus Christ. Keep our hearts and minds open and ready to serve You, for we pray these things in Jesus’ name. AMEN.

Old Testament Reading - Psalm 119: 49-56 NSRV Myrle Petty

⁴⁹ Remember your word to your servant, in which you have made me hope. ⁵⁰ This is my comfort in my distress, that your promise gives me life. ⁵¹ The arrogant utterly deride me, but I do not turn away from your law.

⁵² When I think of your ordinances from of old, I take comfort, O LORD. ⁵³ Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked, those who forsake your law. ⁵⁴ Your statutes have been my songs wherever I make my home. ⁵⁵ I remember your name in the night, O LORD, and keep your law. ⁵⁶ This blessing has fallen to me, for I have kept your precepts.

New Testament Reading - Romans 12:3 NRSV Pastor Ode

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

†**Sermon Hymn** “Take My Life, and Let It Be” UMH #399

Sermon “Viewing One Another Through God’s Eyes” Pastor Ode

Prayers Myrle Petty

Children in Prayer (after each slide: In Your mercy, Lord, hear our prayer)

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Ode

The Lord’s Prayer UMH #895

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings Myrle Petty

Offertory Cathy Mauge

†**Doxology** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH #95

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

Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication Myrle Petty

Generous God who always gives to each one of us the best, we thank You for this opportunity to share from our abundance. Bless these gifts, offered through the ministries and mission of this church.

In Jesus’ name, we pray. AMEN.

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn “God Be with You till We Meet Again” UMH #672

Dismissal with Blessing

Benediction Pastor Ode

Carrying the Light of Christ out into the World

Postlude Cathy Mauge