

# Banning United Methodist Church

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

## GATHERING

**SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP**

Cathy Mauge

**WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS**

Marilyn Casey

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Marilyn Casey

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor Doug

## WORSHIP OF GOD

**PRELUDE**

Cathy Mauge

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Marilyn Casey

L: We hear God's voice.

**P: It thunders through creation.**

L: God's voice is strong.

**P: It shatters the cedars of Lebanon.**

L: God is still speaking.

**P: Calling out our names.**

L: Listen to God.

**P: God calls us beloved.**

†**OPENING HYMN**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

UMH #110

†**OPENING PRAYER**

Marilyn Casey

**God of strength, God of love, surround us with Your love. Gather us in as Your beloved children. Open our ears to hear Your voice. Open our hearts to the power of Your transforming love. May Your waters of grace pour over us, renewing us for Your work in the world. Bless us in this holy time. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Marilyn Casey

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16 NRSV

<sup>1</sup>You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, <sup>2</sup>will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." <sup>9</sup>Because you have made the LORD your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, <sup>10</sup>no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. <sup>11</sup>For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. <sup>12</sup>On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone. <sup>13</sup>You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot. <sup>14</sup>Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. <sup>15</sup>When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them. <sup>16</sup>With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

**GOSPEL LESSON**

Pastor Doug

Luke 4:1-13 NRSV

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" <sup>5</sup>Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup>If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" <sup>9</sup>Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle

of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup>for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' <sup>11</sup>and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" <sup>12</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>13</sup>When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

*One: The Word of God for the people of God.*

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** "Who are you?" Pastor Doug

**PRAYERS** Pastor Doug

CHILDREN IN PRAYER (After each slide: In Your mercy, Lord, hear our prayer)

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS** Marilyn Casey

**OFFERTORY** Cathy Mauge

†**DOXOLOGY** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"  
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** Pastor Doug  
**Loving God, You bless us with Your love. You know each one of us. We live in confidence and trust, knowing Your care for us. We bring these gifts to You, our source of life. Use them; we pray that others may experience Your grace and live free from fear. Amen.**

## SENDING FORTH

†**CLOSING HYMN** "I Want a Principle Within" UMH #410

1. I want a principle within of watchful, godly fear, a sensibility of sin, a pain to feel it near. I want the first approach to feel of pride or wrong desire, to catch the wandering of my will, and quench the kindling fire.

2. From thee that I no more may stray, no more thy goodness grieve, grant me the filial awe, I pray, the tender conscience give. Quick as the apple of an eye, O God, my conscience make; awake my soul when sin is nigh, and keep it still awake.

3. Almighty God of truth and love, to me thy power impart; the mountain from my soul remove, the hardness from my heart. O may the least omission pain my reawakened soul, and drive me to that blood again, which makes the wounded whole.

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

†**BENEDICTION** Pastor Doug

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

**POSTLUDE** Cathy Mauge