

Banning United Methodist Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

GATHERING

Special Music and Fellowship Cathy Mauge

Welcoming Friends and Newcomers Dan Mabey

Announcements Dan Mabey

PAUMCS Presentation Ana Maria Fultz

Centering Words Dan Mabey

“When we are overwhelmed by the noise of the day, God is our fortress. When we feel lost in the shadows of uncertainty, God is our lead and our guide.”

Passing of the Peace Pastor Ode

WORSHIP OF GOD

Prelude Cathy Mauge

Lighting of the Altar Candles

†**Call to Worship** Dan Mabey

L: Come to Christ, our cornerstone.

P: Christ has called us here.

L: Trust in God, our firm foundation.

P: God is with us here.

L: Rest in the Spirit, our peace beyond peace.

P: May the Spirit guide our way.

†**Opening Hymn** “” UMH #

†**Opening Prayer** Dan Mabey

Faithful God, You are our refuge and our strength, a mighty fortress in a world of chaos and turmoil.

Protect us, but also encourage us to be brave. Strengthen us to face this world and to make it a better

place. Inspire our worship, that in this time we may deepen our faith and place our trust in You. Amen.

Old Testament Reading - Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 NRSV Dan Mabey

In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me. Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me. You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name’s sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

New Testament Reading - Acts 7:55-60 NRSV Pastor Ode

Did not my hand make all these things?” “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not

persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers.

You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.” When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Hymn “” UMH #

Sermon “My Times are in Your Hand” Pastor Ode

Prayers Dan Mabey

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

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Ode

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings Dan Mabey

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 Dan Mabey

God of steadfast faithfulness and love, bless these gifts, that they may bring Your message of faith and love to the world. Bless us also, that we may be steadfast and true in our giving and in our living. Build our church, build us, and build Your world into a household of love and justice—the household You’ve envisioned since the beginning of time. In faith and trust, we pray. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Service of Word and Table II Hymnal Page 12

Communion Hymn “Let Us Break Bread Together” UMH #620

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn “” UMH #

Dismissal with Blessing

Benediction Pastor Ode

Carrying the Light of Christ out into the World

Postlude Cathy Mauge