

Banning United Methodist Church

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 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

Happy are those who delight in God's ways

and set their hearts and minds on the laws of God's love.

In the presence of the Holy, they are like trees planted by the waters of life.

They are fed by enduring streams with roots that reach into the depths of the soul.

They are nourished in times of drought and bring fruit forth in seasons of famine.

They shall spring forth as they walk each day in the way of peace. Amen.

†OPENING HYMN

"Be Still, My Soul"

UMH #534

†OPENING PRAYER

Marilyn Casey

Holy One, when the road is dusty under our feet, and we find ourselves engulfed, You share the water of life with us. You plant our spirits by the streams of your being. You nourish our bodies and replenish our souls. You challenge our minds and guide our hearts. Lead us again, O God, into Your presence with Your prayers. Be with us as your renewing love overflows from our lives and souls into the world. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Marilyn Casey

Psalms 1 NRSV

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Pastor Doug

Luke 6:17-26 NRSV

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

†SERMONIC HYMN	“A Charge to Keep I have” vs. 1, 3, & 4	UMH #413
SERMON	“Upside Down Kingdom?”	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		Marilyn Casey
Merciful God, You bless us beyond measure or belief. May the gifts You have poured into our lives overflow into the world. May these gifts nourish all who have need. Amen.		
SENDING FORTH		
†CLOSING HYMN	“How Firm A Foundation” vs. 1, 3, & 5	UMH #529
DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING		
†BENEDICTION		Pastor Doug
CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD		
POSTLUDE		Cathy Mauge