

# Banning United Methodist Church

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

## GATHERING

**Special Music and Fellowship** ..... Cathy Mauge

**Welcoming Friends and Newcomers** ..... Kathy Bainter

**Announcements** ..... Kathy Bainter

**Centering Words** ..... Kathy Bainter

“Give us courageous and righteous hearts, O God, so that our thoughts and actions may be pure and pleasing to you.”

**Passing of the Peace**..... Pastor Ode

## WORSHIP OF GOD

**Prelude** ..... Cathy Mauge

Lighting of the Altar Candles

†**Call to Worship** ..... Kathy Bainter

L: Even if we feel abandoned and alone,

**P: Christ meets us here.**

L: Even when we become lost and disoriented,

**P: Christ rescues us in our need.**

L: Even when our hearts are touched by the frost,

**P: Christ warms our spirits.**

L: Even when all light has faded to black,

**P: Christ illumines our Way.**

L: Here in this house of worship enter, rejoice, and come home. **Amen.**

†**Opening Hymn** “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” ..... UMH #474

†**Opening Prayer** ..... Kathy Bainter

**Holy God, As we come before You, remind us that we are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ.**

**Purify our hearts and teach us to live with reverence, loving one another sincerely. Let Your living Word shape us today. Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading** - Psalm 116: 1-4 NRSV ..... Kathy Bainter

I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray, save my life!”

**New Testament Reading** - 1 Peter 1:17-23 NRSV ..... Pastor Ode

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb

without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon Hymn** “Amazing Grace” ..... UMH #378

**Sermon** “Lord, Save Me!” ..... Pastor Ode

**Prayers** ..... Kathy Bainter

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: **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** ..... Kathy Bainter

**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** ..... Kathy Bainter

**What shall we return to the Lord for God’s many gifts? What praises shall we sing to honor God’s manifold blessings? In the presence of God’s people, let us pay our vows to the Lord with heartfelt gratitude.**

## SENDING FORTH

**Closing Hymn** “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine” ..... UMH #369

**Dismissal with Blessing**

Benediction ..... Pastor Ode

Carrying the Light of Christ out into the World

**Postlude** ..... Cathy Mauge