

**Banning United Methodist Church**  
Second Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 18, 2026

**GATHERING**

**SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP**

Cathy Mauge

**WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS**

Kathy Bainter

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Kathy Bainter

**PRESENTATION: HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS AREA**

Amy Minjares, President

**CENTERING WORDS**

Kathy Bainter

*Even the smallest person can change the world. Even the least among us can be a light that banishes the darkness.*

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor Ode

**WORSHIP OF GOD**

**PRELUDE**

Cathy Mauge

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

**†CALL TO WORSHIP**

Kathy Bainter

L: Can you hear God's call?

**P: Christ's voice is heard far and near.**

L: Can you discern God's Word?

**P: Christ calls one and all.**

L: God speaks of light and life.

**P: Christ loves the mighty and the small.**

L: The Spirit breathes joy and compassion.

**P: We are called into fellowship together. Amen.**

**†OPENING HYMN**

"This Little Light of Mine"

UMH #585

**†OPENING PRAYER**

Kathy Bainter

**Holy One, may our spirits be polished arrows in the quiver of Your searching love. May our words ring true with shouts of praise. Use us, Gracious God, as instruments of Your mercy and compassion. Fashion us into vessels of Your abiding Spirit, that a world torn by brokenness and pain might touch Your healing love through our fellowship with You and with one another. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Kathy Bainter

Isaiah 49:1-7 NRSV

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

<sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God." <sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—

<sup>6</sup> he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." <sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

## GOSPEL READING

Pastor Ode

John 1:29-42 NRSV

<sup>29</sup> The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup> And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him." <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." <sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup> He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON HYMN

"I Love to Tell the Story" vs. 1, 2 & 4

UMH #156

## SERMON

"The Lord Has Chosen You"

Pastor Ode

## PRAYERS

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"

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

**God of Grace and God of Glory, You bless us with water and the Spirit, that we might know the fullness of life. As we strive to be a light to the nations, may others be brought to the dawn of Your glory. Bless the gifts we bring before You now, that they might reach the very ends of the earth and help those struggling to find the Light. Amen.**

## SENDING FORTH

## CLOSING HYMN

"Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus"

UMH #349

## DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

†BENEDICTION

Pastor Ode

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

## POSTLUDE

Cathy Mauge