

# Banning United Methodist Church

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 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

**When we are hurt and lost,**

God brings us laughter and joy.

**When our lives reach a dead end.**

God opens a way forward.

**When the rivers of our lives dry up,**

God sends living water to quench our thirst.

**God has done wonderful things for us.**

Let's rejoice! **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

UMH #368

†**OPENING PRAYER**

Marilyn Casey

**God of Love, You know our lives inside out, the times of joy and laughter and the times of pain and loss. You accompanied our ancestors of faith into exile and then journeyed back with them back to the promised land. Jesus, our sibling, You wept at the grave of Lazarus and then celebrated with Your resurrected friend at the dinner table. Be with us in times of plenty and times of want, and let us rejoice in Your presence, for You see us and care for us. In the name of the Eternal Spirit, we pray. Amen.**

**PSALM READING**

Marilyn Casey

Psalm 126 NRSV

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. <sup>2</sup>Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. <sup>4</sup>Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb. <sup>5</sup>May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. <sup>6</sup>Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

**GOSPEL LESSON**

Pastor Doug

John 12:1-8 NRSV

<sup>1</sup>Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

One: The Word of God for the people of God.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

<b>SERMON</b>	“Mary’s Elaborate Love”	Pastor Doug
<b>PRAYERS</b>		Pastor Doug
CHILDREN IN PRAYER (After each slide: In Your mercy, Lord, hear our prayer)		
SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS		
PASTORAL PRAYER		
<b>PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS</b>		Marilyn Casey
<b>OFFERTORY</b>		Cathy Mauge
† <b>DOXOLOGY</b>	“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.	
† <b>PRAYER OF DEDICATION</b>		Marilyn Casey
<b>Gracious God,</b> <b>You chose a path of suffering to reach out to us in our suffering. Use us and our gifts to extend Your love and comfort to those in need, reaching people in places of loss and grief. Use us and our gifts this day to bring hope and compassion to those who weep, that they may know Your miraculous power and Your fullness of life. Use us and our gifts to bring shouts of joy to those who weep with bitter tears. Amen.</b>		

#### **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

<b>SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II</b>		Hymnal Page 12
<b>COMMUNION HYMN</b>	“One Bread, One Body”	

#### **SENDING FORTH**

<b>CLOSING HYMN</b>	“O How I Love Jesus”	UMH #170
<b>DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING</b>		
† <b>BENEDICTION</b>		Pastor Doug
CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD		
<b>POSTLUDE</b>		Cathy Mauge