

# Banning United Methodist Church

## Fifth Sunday in Lent

### March 26, 2023

<b>GATHERING MUSIC</b>		Cathy Mauge
<b>MEDITATIVE THOUGHT</b>		Marilyn Casey
	<i>In this sacred moment, we look for God and find the promise of hope, steadfast love, and new beginnings.</i>	
<b>PRELUDE</b>		Cathy Mauge
<b>WELCOMING FRIENDS and NEWCOMERS</b>		Marilyn Casey
	We ask that you please sign the attendance book, then pass it to the middle aisle. If you are here this morning as a guest, please include your address and phone number, so that we can reach out to you.	
	<b>If this is your first time visiting and would like to introduce yourself, please raise your hand, and a microphone will be brought to you.</b>	
<b>WELCOME and PASSING OF THE PEACE</b>		Pastor Doug
<b>MINISTRY MOMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>		Marilyn Casey
<b>†CALL TO WORSHIP</b>		Marilyn Casey
	L: Lazarus, though dead, was called to life by Jesus.	
	<b>P: May we be called to the light of righteousness.</b>	
	L: As others witnessed this resurrection, they believed in Jesus.	
	<b>P: May we, who have heard, believe in the power of Jesus to conquer our fears and doubts.</b>	
	L: Praise be to God Who has given us Jesus.	
	<b>P: Praise be to Jesus Who has given us life. Amen.</b>	
<b>†OPENING HYMN</b>	“O Spirit of the Living God” vs. 1, 2, & 4	Hymn #539
<b>OPENING PRAYER</b>		Marilyn Casey
	<b>Healing and Empowering God, we are sometimes so sure that things will not work out, we doubt even Your ability to put things right in our lives. We lack such faith. But Jesus came to show us that our most dreaded enemy--death--can be overcome by faith. Heal our doubts and our longings for assurance and give us spirits of trust and hope. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.</b>	
<b>OLD TESTAMENT READING</b>	Ezekiel 37:1-14 NRSV	Marilyn Casey
<b>†GOSPEL READING</b>	John 11:1-45 NRSV	Pastor Doug
	One: The Word of God for the people of God.	
	<b>All: Thanks be to God.</b>	
<b>†HYMN</b>	“It's Me, It's Me, O Lord”	Hymn #352
<b>SERMON TITLE</b>	“When God is Late”	Pastor Doug

**PRAYERS OF THE PASTOR and PEOPLE**

Pastor Doug

Children in Prayer

(After all slides: 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.**

**GIVING BACK TO GOD (TITHES AND GIFTS)**

Marilyn Casey

**MASON JAR MINISTRY**

All funds raised go to the Golden Cross Fund, helping those in need in our community.

**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

**Almighty and restoring God, we have been living through some difficult days, as churches and as individuals. We experience days when we rise, wondering if we will make it through one more day, whether the church will survive for another generation; and we feel like those dry bones in the valley. As we offer our tithes and offerings, help us to hear the word of hope the prophet shares, not just with our ears but with our hearts. May it call us back to life and service, out of the graves of despair in which we have buried ourselves. In Christ's Holy Name. Amen.**

**†CLOSING HYMN**

"Spirit of the Living God"

Hymn #393

**†BENEDICTION**

Pastor Doug

**POSTLUDE**

Cathy Mauge