

Banning United Methodist Church

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

GATHERING

SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP

Maxine Hoth

WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS

Kathy Bainter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathy Bainter

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Ronald Lang

WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE "All Things Bright and Beautiful" tune - Royal Oak arr: Sandra Eithun

Maxine Hoth

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kathy Bainter

L: My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?

P: Why are You so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

L: O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

P: Yet You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

L: In You our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and You delivered them.

P: To You they cried, and were saved; in You they trusted, and were not put to shame.

†OPENING HYMN "Hymn of Promise"

UMH #707

†OPENING PRAYER

Kathy Bainter

Almighty God, we long to rest in Your gentle arms. We need Your compassion as we face the challenges and disappointments of life. When our hearts are hard, and our concern is only for ourselves, turn us back to You. Remind us of Your saving love and keep us close to You, Lord. Love us as only You can love, in Jesus' name. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Kathy Bainter

Psalms 8:1-9 NRSV

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is our name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Ronald Lang

Luke 12:49-53 NRSV

"I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN "Lord of the Dance" UMH #261
SERMON "Okay?" Rev. Ronald Lang

PRAYERS

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.

Rev. Ronald Lang

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Kathy Bainter

OFFERTORY "Fantasia on Morning Song" tune - Kentucky Harmony arr: Lani Smith Maxine Hoth

†**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

Loving God, our shelter and hope, as we walk through this holy season, we come to You with hearts open to Your grace. In our giving, may we reflect the love that sustains us, and may we lift one another up in times of need and vulnerability. Use these offerings to bring comfort to the weary and hope to the brokenhearted, just as You draw near to us in our struggles. Strengthen us to be a source of light and love in this world, reflecting Your compassion in all we do. In Christ's Name, we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

†**CLOSING HYMN** "Sweet Hour of Prayer" UMH #496

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

†**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Ronald Lang

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE "Down to the River to Pray" traditional American Melody arr: Mark Hayes Maxine Hoth