

Banning United Methodist Church

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

GATHERING

SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP

WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS

Kathy Bainter

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. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathy Bainter

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Janice Mabey

WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Kathy Bainter

L: How shall we live when shadows gather?

P: Drawn to God's unquenchable light, we are also drawn into one another's presence.

L: What was hidden has been revealed; we are woven together with all Creation.

P: When we live in the light, as God is in the light, we are one with each other.

L: Let us worship God, Who is our Light and Salvation. **Amen.**

†OPENING HYMN

"In the Garden"

UMH #314

†OPENING PRAYER

Kathy Bainter

Almighty God, through Jesus Christ You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we, who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may, by the renewing of Your Spirit arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Kathy Bainter

Psalm 119:105-112 NIV

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. ¹⁰⁶I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws. ¹⁰⁷I have suffered much; preserve my life, Lord, according to your word. ¹⁰⁸Accept, Lord, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your laws. ¹⁰⁹Though I constantly take my life in my hands, I will not forget your law. ¹¹⁰The wicked have set a snare for me, but I have not strayed from your precepts. ¹¹¹Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart. ¹¹²My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.

†NEW TESTAMENT READING

Rev. Janice Mabey

Matthew 5:13-16 NIV

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

†**HYMN OF PREPARATION** "Morning Has Broken" UMH #145
SERMON "Living in the Light" Rev. Janice Mabey
PRAYERS Rev. Janice Mabey
Children in Prayer (After each slide: In Your mercy, **Lord, hear our prayer**)
Sharing Our Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

Generous God, as we gather to offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the words of the apostle John about the Word of life. Just as Your Word brings light into our lives, may our giving be an act of generosity, a reflection of the abundance of Your grace and love. We thank You for the forgiveness and grace offered through Your Son, Jesus Christ, and as we give, may we also steward these gifts wisely for the betterment of Your Kingdom. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II

UMH #12

†**COMMUNION HYMN** "One Bread, One Body" (sung twice) UMH #620

SENDING FORTH

†**CLOSING HYMN** "Because He Lives" UMH #364

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

†**BENEDICTION**
CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

Rev. Janice Mabey

POSTLUDE