

Banning United Methodist Church

Laity Sunday
October 19, 2025

GATHERING

SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP

Cathy Mauge

WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS

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. 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

Marilyn Casey

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Marilyn Casey

WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

Cathy Mauge

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leslee Pieksma

One: We have gathered once again, Lord of all and Lord of us.

All: We come to lift our prayers, and to sing Your praises once again.

Leader: We come to ask and hope and long to see Your justice in the land.

All: We worship in that hope and will work in that Spirit.

OPENING HYMN "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

UMH #430

†OPENING PRAYER

Emerald Allende

Gracious God, we confess that we do not meditate on Your commands and teachings all day long. We do not keep Your word before us always and in all things. Instead, we turn away from Your demanding truth and wander toward easier opinions. Forgive us, we pray, for pursuing our own desires rather than Yours. Forgive us for growing weary in following You; for failing to pray and work tirelessly for justice; for losing hope in Your power to transform the powers of this world. Tune our ears to the sound of Your justice. Turn our hearts to Your commandments and word of grace. Do not remember our sin, but remember Your mercy forever. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Yvonne Adams

Psalms 121 NRSV

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come? ²My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. ³He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. ⁴He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. ⁵The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. ⁶The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. ⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. ⁸The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Mona Villegas

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 NRSV

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

¹ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON HYMN "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

UMH #584

SERMON "Persistence"

Marilyn Casey

PRAYERS

Dan Mabey

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Marilyn Casey

OFFERTORY

Cathy Mauge

†DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #95

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

Sonya Moore

Loving God, You teach us humility and service. We bring our offerings today with grateful hearts. As we reflect on Your holy scripture today, may we give as a testament to our commitment to serve others, not seeking the highest places but embracing the path of sacrificial love. Bless these gifts and use them to advance Your Kingdom. Remind us that true greatness always comes through serving. In Jesus's name, we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

CLOSING HYMN "Wonderful Words of Life" vs. 3

UMH #600

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

†BENEDICTION

Carmen Terrazas

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

Cathy Mauge

CHEERFULLY SERVING THE LORD IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING...

Laity Sunday Team: Marilyn Casey, Myrle Petty, Leslee Pieksma, Emerald Allende, Yvonne Adams, Mona Villegas, Dan Mabey, Carmen Terrazas, Sonya Moore