

Banning United Methodist Church
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13th, 2026

GATHERING

Special Music and Fellowship Cathy Mauge

Welcoming Friends and Newcomers Marilyn Casey

Announcements Marilyn Casey

LITURGY FOR THE DEDICATION OF THEOLOGICAL BOOKS AND BIBLES Pastor Ode

Pastor: We present these theological books and Bibles to be dedicated to the glory of Almighty God and for the service of Christ's Church, in loving memory of Janice Mabey. In the name of the Holy and Triune God, we consecrate these gifts for the study of Holy Scripture, the teaching of the faith, and the spiritual growth of God's people. May all who read them grow in wisdom, grace, and the knowledge of Jesus Christ. The memory of the righteous is a blessing.

Congregation (in unison): We gratefully accept these memorial gifts as a sacred trust and promise to preserve and use them reverently in loving memory of Janice Mabey. Most loving God, without You, no words or works of ours have meaning. Accept these gifts as symbols of faithful devotion, and grant that they may be an enduring witness among your people. Through their use, deepen our understanding of Your Word and consecrate our lives anew to Your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Centering Words Marilyn Casey

We turn our hearts from ourselves toward the One who formed us, loves us, and claims us.

Whether we live or whether we die, we belong to the Lord.

Passing of the Peace Pastor Ode

Gathering Hymn "The Spirit in Me" (Please return to your seat when the hymn begins)

The spirit in me greets the spirit in you, Alleluia! God's in us and we're in God, Alleluia! (Sung twice)

WORSHIP OF GOD

Prelude Cathy Mauge

Lighting of the Altar Candles

†Call to Worship Marilyn Casey

Leader: God, You have made and fashioned us.

People: Teach us to walk in Your ways.

Leader: We do not live to ourselves, but to Christ who is Lord of all.

People: Center our lives in You, O God.

Leader: Let us worship the One who shapes us and calls us His own. **Amen.**

†Opening Hymn "O Worship the King" UMH #73

† Opening Prayer Marilyn Casey

Holy God, turn our hearts from self-centered living to Christ-centered love. Form us by Your Word, guide us by Your Spirit, and lead us in Your truth. Make our lives a witness to the One to whom we belong. Amen.

Old Testament Reading - Psalm 119: 73-80 NSRV Marilyn Casey
73 Your hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments. 74 Those who fear you shall see me and rejoice, because I have hoped in your word. 75 I know, O LORD, that your judgments are right, and that in faithfulness you have humbled me. 76 Let your steadfast love become my comfort according to your promise to your servant. 77 Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight. 78 Let the arrogant be put to shame, because they have subverted me with guile; as for me, I will meditate on your precepts. 79 Let those who fear you turn to me, so that they may know your decrees. 80 May my heart be blameless in your statutes, so that I may not be put to shame.

New Testament Reading - Romans 14:7-12 NRSV Pastor Ode
7 We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. 10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." 12 So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

Sermon Hymn "Majesty, Worship His Majesty" UMH #176

Sermon "From Self-Centeredness to Christ-Centeredness" Pastor Ode

Prayers Marilyn Casey
Children in Prayer (After each slide: In Your mercy, Lord, hear our prayer)
Sharing Our Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer Pastor Ode
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 Marilyn Casey
Lord, you have blessed our lives in so many ways. In gratitude for all these blessings and in confidence that our gifts will be used for ministries of peace and hope, we offer these gifts. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH #206

Dismissal with Blessing
Benediction Pastor Ode
Carrying the Light of Christ out into the World