

**Worship**  
**Sunday, March 22, 2026**  
**5th Sunday in Lent**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Responsive Call to Worship:**

*Welcome to the weary and the worn.*

**Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.**

*Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.*

**Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.**

*Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.*

**Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.**

*Welcome to the sinners and the saints.*

**This is God's house.**

*You can make yourself at home here.*

**Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!**

**Opening Hymn:** *Let Us Remember (tune Have Thine Own Way)*

*[Good News devotional]*

**Invitation to Confession:**

*...Join me in this act of transformation. Let us pray:*

**Prayer of Confession:**

Holy God, we love to live our lives by the rules. We love clear answers. We love right and wrong. We love swift justice. We love to pick up stones, but you show us another way. You welcome shades of gray and nuanced conversation. You prioritize mercy over legality.

You prioritize people over tradition. You prioritize love over everything.

Forgive us for losing sight of what truly matters. Forgive us for clinging tighter to laws than to each other or to you. Forgive us. Soften our hearts. Root us in mercy, justice, and love. With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray. Amen.

**Words of Assurance:**

*... So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:*

Our God is a God of mercy. Our God is a God of compassion. Our God is a God of grace. We are forgiven, loved, and invited to choose another way. Thanks be to God for yet another second chance. Amen.

**Passing the Peace**

**Sharing Joys & Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn:** *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

UMH #430

**Prayer for Illumination:**

Holy One, when you speak, we don't want to miss it. When you bend down and write in the dirt, when you move through the trees, when you wake with the dawn, when you tug on our heart, or whisper into our dreams, we don't want to miss it. So today we pray, clear out the cobwebs in our ears. Quiet the steady stream of thoughts marching through our minds. Open up space in our hearts so that we can receive your word for us today. With hope we pray. Amen.

**Scripture:** Matthew 23:23 NRSVue; John 8:2-11 NRSVue

(reader) *The Word of the Lord!*

**(All) Thanks be to God!**

**Message:** *The Good News is... rooted in justice mercy  
and faithfulness*

*Rev. Randy Maddox*

**Hymn of Response:** *Compassion Hymn with Be Thou My Vision*

Keith & Kristyn Getty

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory:** *You Say*

Lauren Daigle

Praise Team

**Doxology – Hymn 95**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Opportunities Coming Soon! (Announcements)**

**Blessing (Benediction)**

**Closing Song:** *Flawless*

Mercy Me

***Please join us for Coffee Fellowship  
after the Worship service***

**Our Staff:**

*Pastor: Rev. Kim Poer  
Office Administrator: Nancy Volgamore  
Music Director: Matthew Compton  
Accompanist: Josh Billings  
Family Ministries: Tiffiney Nordby  
Preschool Director: Ashley Skelton  
Youth Ministries: Lacey Kelley*

**TODAY'S SERVANTS:**

*Guest Speaker: Rev. Randy Maddox  
Reader: Debbie Troyer  
Greeters: Jim & Betty Selby  
Ushers: Jean Berkheiser & Laurie Doering  
A/V Booth: Glenn Ekberg, Steve Enyeart, Dan Kingsley  
Information Desk: Joan Stuart  
Sunday School Volunteer: Betty Selby  
Coffee Hosts: Kathy Bachman, Andy & Suzy Clayton*

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*We are a welcoming United Methodist Church congregation that worships together as disciples of Jesus Christ, uniting in fellowship, missions and service.*