

Preludes:                "Love Moved First"  
                              "My Jesus"  
                              "Your Love is Mine"

Welcome

Call to Worship:

Today we gather with joy.

**We gather with gratitude.**

We gather before the season of Lent begins.

**We gather to prepare our hearts.**

God calls us to return.

**We turn toward grace.**

Let us worship the Lord!

**With full hearts and open hands!**

Opening Prayer:

**God of abundance and simplicity,**

**Prepare our hearts.**

**Stir what needs stirring.**

**Turn what needs turning.**

**And draw us closer to Christ.**

**Amen.**

\*Song of Praise                "Come Thou Fount"

Children's Message    "The Flip That Changes Everything"

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the People

The Lord's Prayer

\*GLORIA PATRI

UMH 070

Choir Anthem                "Graves Into Gardens"

The Scripture Lesson(s):    Joel 2:12–13, Luke 15:11–24

The Offertory

\*"The Doxology"

UMH 095

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

**Gracious and generous God, Today we remember that You use ordinary hearts like ours to accomplish holy purposes. As we bring our offerings before You, we offer more than dollars and coins. We offer our time. We offer our plans. We offer our very selves. Your Word calls us: "Return to Me with all your heart." So take these gifts, and take our hearts as well. May these offerings help feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, strengthen Your church, and prepare us for the journey to the cross. In the name of Christ, who gave Himself fully for us, Amen.**

\*Hymn                "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"    UMH 348

Message:

Pancake Tuesday  
From Indulgence to Invitation  
Feast Before the Fast

Music Ministry                "O Come to the Altar"

\*Hymn                "Amazing Grace-My Chains Are Gone"

Benediction and Going Forth:

20 So he got up and went to his father.  
"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."  
21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'  
22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.  
~Luke 15:20-24~

**“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the  
world.”**



**“All are welcome,  
none are turned away!”**

# **First United Methodist Church**

**Mexico, New York**  
February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026



**Pastor: Brandin Greco**  
**Music Director: Kaylee Gilmore**