

The liturgical color is purple, representing both royalty and penitence.		
PRELUDE	"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Amy Bender, organist	Albin C. Whitworth
WELCOME		Mike Fournier, Liturgist
*CALL TO WORSHIP	God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters, the courageous and the fearful, the hungry and the hopeful, the impatient and the reserved. God welcomes the young and the old, the poets and the prophets, the faithful and the tired, the curious and the convicted. Wherever you are on your journey, wherever your boat is at sea, there is room for all to gather here. This is God's house. Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.	
*OPENING HYMN	"More Love to Thee, O Christ"	UMH 453
OPENING PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION		
<i>Children are invited to stay in worship or meet in the Narthex to go to Sunday School</i>		
SCRIPTURE		Psalm 22:23-31, p. 392
ANTHEM 9:00 AM	"Sweet River" Canticle Bells	Karissa Dennis
11:00 AM	"Gonna Sit Down and Rest Awhile" Chancel Choir; Bonnie Budziak, accompanist	Patti Drennan
KIN-DOM SIGNS		
SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS		
You may place your offering in the Offering Box at the entrance of the Sanctuary or give online using the link on the back of the bulletin		
OFFERTORY 9:00 AM	"Song of Hope"	Cynthia Dobrinski
11:00 AM	"We are Not Alone" Chancel Choir; Laurie Babcock, soloist	Pepper Choplin

*Congregation invited to stand if able

*DOXOLOGY #95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION
SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS
CALL TO CONFESSION
PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Gracious God, There are days that threaten to swallow us, days when the storms of life feel too big. In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear, spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you. Forgive us for doubting ourselves. Forgive us for doubting you. Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us. With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.
WORDS OF FORGIVENESS
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
I believe in a God who moves toward me when storms rage. I believe in a God who invites me to be brave. I believe in a God whom the wind and waves obey. I believe in a God who knows my name. I believe in a God of love. I am not afraid. Amen.
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.
HYMN OF CENTERING
<div>"Just As I Am" vs 1 & 5</div> <div>UMH 357</div> <div><i>Hymn History:</i> The words to this hymn were written by Charlotte Elliott. She was born in Brighton, England in 1789. She was an accomplished poet, hymn writer and editor. One day in 1821, she met Rev. Cesar Malan who asked her if she was at peace with God. She pondered that question for days and said to Rev. Malan that she needed to cleanse her life before she became a Christian. Rev. Malan said to Charlotte, "come, just as you are". Years later when she was struggling spiritually, she sat down and wrote the lyrics to the hymn we sing today. William Bradbury put her words to music. This hymn was used near the end of Rev. Billy Graham's Crusades when he asked people to come forward to accept Christ. Charlotte Elliott died in Brighton in 1871.</div>
SCRIPTURE
Matthew 14 :22-33, p. 692
MESSAGE
"Wandering Heart: Rescue Me From Danger" Rev. Dr. Ivy Smith

***HYMN OF MISSION**

"Rescue the Perishing"

UMH 591

***FAITH IN ACTION**

***Benediction Sung Response**

"Go Now In Peace"

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.**

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POSTLUDE

"Prelude in d minor"

J. S. Bach

Other than the Prayer of Dedication, the prayers used in this service were written by Rev.
Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



Altar Flowers are presented by The Scott Palmer Family
In Loving Memory of Our Nephew, Brandon Toki

For flowers please call Kathy Fellows: 440-477-4485

MENTOR

United Methodist Church

8600 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060
440.255.3496 - info@mentorumc.org

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WIFI password: GodLovesYou



Lift Off by Nicolette Peñaranda
Inspired by Matthew 14:22-23b | excerpt from artist's statement on insert
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Traditional Worship



February 25, 2024

MENTOR UNITED HIGHLIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH



Members who are in need of prayer:

Karen Mancini, Marilyn Oliver, Dick Anderson,
Luke Sanvido, David Fell, Norma Ickes,
Ruthie Hobart, Mike Cosmo,
Jon & Rev. Beth Wilterdink, Nora Kieser,
Moy Family, Georgeanna Allen

Members admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:

The Enclave - Kay Disbro, Delores Tackett,
Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler
Salida Woods - Doris Sturm
Aristocrat Berea - Virginia Gilman
Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell, Deloris Parsons
Danbury Senior Living - Kathryn Bevacqua
Tapestry - Gloria McFeely
Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom
Breckenridge/Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher

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Upcoming *This Week*

Monday, February 26

- Parents Morning Out

Tuesday, February 27

- Ring Journey Group

Wednesday, February 28

- Child & Caregiver Class
- Knitting Group
- Family, Feast, & Fellowship
- Classes

Thursday, February 29

- Canticle Bells, 6 PM
- Charter Members, 6:45 PM
- Chancel, 7:45 PM

Friday, March 1

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Family, Feast, and Fellowship

A time to Connect & Grow - February 21 - March 20
Dinner at 5:45-6:30 PM in the Gallery will include a 20-minute “camp style” worship. Let us know if you have particular dietary parameters, we will do our best to accommodate. No charge, though donations are accepted.

- MENU:**
February 28: Lasagna
March 6: Chicken Tenders & Mac ‘n Cheese
March 13: Ham & Bean Soup and Grilled Cheese
March 20: Mama Robertos (Chick Parm)

Easter Flowers

Forms are available in the Narthex and Information Hub. Orders are due on MARCH 10!

Lenten Devotional

Copies of our Lenten Devotional *Wandering Heart* will be available in the Info Hub AND online through our email blasts. Contact the church office to get on our email list if you are not already. You can also sign up for our email list on the front page of [our site](#) (scroll until you see it).

David Smith Celebration of Life

All are welcome to join as we celebrate the life of Pastor Ivy’s husband, David Smith at 1 PM in the Sanctuary on March 9th with a luncheon to follow. Many have asked how to show love and support for Pastor Ivy during this time and one way is to contribute to the luncheon. Monetary donations can be designated in your Giving, in-person or online. If online, select the option “Other” then specify in the comment section that it is for David Smith’s COL/Luncheon.

Bulletin Cover Art - Statement from the Artist

“I titled this piece Lift Off as a nod to the 2011 Jay Z and Kanye West (ft. Beyonce) song by the same title. There is something about the opening lines, “We gon’ take it to the moon, take it to the stars, how many people you know can take it this far?” that lingers in my head...The fear that entered Peter with the wind was most likely heightened because it was dark out. Without knowing exactly what was around him, Peter became vulnerable, thus causing him to reach out. The wonder of darkness exposes us and invites us to seek connection. We see that in the reaching hand gently entering the dark sky.”
—Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda
(full statement can be found in the devotional in Info Hub/online)

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Will you be attending this week’s dinner?

_____ **YES** _____ **NO**

Do you need a ride to/from the dinner or classes?

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Email and/or Phone number:



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