

The liturgical color is purple, representing both royalty and penitence.

PRELUDE “What Wondrous Love Is This” arr. Cathy DeRousse
Amy Bender, organist

WELCOME 9:00 Melanie Lyttle | 11:00 Chris Fournier, Liturgists

***CALL TO WORSHIP**
Why are you here?
I am seeking God with my whole heart, with my entire mind, with a fire burning in my bones.
I see it! You’re in the right place!
This is God’s house. The door is open to you.
Why are *you* here?
I am seeking God with my whole heart, with my entire mind, with a fire burning in my bones.
We see that in you! You’re in the right place. This is God’s house.
The door is open to you.
Let us worship God.
Let us learn from the Spirit. Amen!

***OPENING HYMN** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” UMH 400

OPENING PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Children are invited to stay in worship or meet in the Narthex to go to Sunday School

SCRIPTURE Psalm 119:9–16, p. 436

WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC “Joy In the Morning” Natalie Sleeth
Capella: Laurie Babcock, Noralee Starr, Karen Nemelka, Tammy Palermo

SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Holy God, We long to be lifelong learners. We long to approach you with curiosity and an open mind. Instead, we often live as if we know best. We forget that the disciples called you “Rabbi, Teacher.” Forgive us for the times when we fail to be curious. Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best. Forgive us for the moments when we imagine that our learning is done and that we have all the answers. Like Peter—who was brave enough to ask, “How many times should we forgive?”—make us brave. Spark a desire in us to learn, and may our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters. With hope and humility we pray, amen.

** Congregation invited to stand if able*

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that questions are a building block of faith.
“How many times should I forgive?” “Jesus, where are you going?” “What must I do to inherit eternal life?”
We believe that humble curiosity can open our eyes.
“Where does it hurt?” “What do you need?” “How can I help?”
We believe that God is a teacher.
“Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.” “Here I am.” “Send me.”
We believe that faith invites our whole being to engage,
with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our strength.
We believe. Help our unbelief.
In Christ’s name we pray, 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.

KIN-DOM SIGNS Johanna Martin, Royal Family Kids Camp

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 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” arr. Dan Forrest

***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**

***HYMN OF CENTERING** “Where Charity and Love Prevail” UMH 549

SCRIPTURE Matthew 18:15–22, p. 695

MESSAGE “Wandering Heart: Teach Me” Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

***HYMN OF MISSION** “Help Us Accept Each Other” UMH 560

*FAITH IN ACTION

*BENEDICTION

***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 g minor" J. S. Bach

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



Altar Flowers are presented by Nancy Leyden
In Loving Memory of Neil & Margaret Franz and Robert Franz


Pulpit Flowers are presented by Jane Hieronymus
In Loving Memory of Ted Hieronymus,
Husband, Father, and Grandfather

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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Seventy-seven Times
by Lauren Wright Pittman
Inspired by Matthew 18:15-22
excerpt from artist's statement on insert
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Traditional Worship

March 17, 2024

MENTOR UNITED HIGHLIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH



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Members who are in need of prayer:
Karen Mancini, Marilyn Oliver, Luke Sanvido, David Fell, Ruthie Hobart, Mike Cosmo, Nora Kieser, Terry Szabo, Lois Dyckman, Kathy Fellows

Members admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:
The Enclave - 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, March 18
- Parents Morning Out
- Tuesday, March 19
- Ring Journey Group
 - Primary Election
 - Blood Drive

- Wednesday, March 20
- Child & Caregiver Class
 - Knitting Group
 - Family, Feast, & Fellowship/Classes
- Thursday, March 21
- Canticle Bells, 6 PM
 - Charter Members, 6:45 PM
 - Chancel, 7:45 PM
 - GEM Meeting
- Friday, March 22
- MOMCo
 - Youth Lock-In

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OUR FINAL: Family, Feast, and Fellowship this Wednesday

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:

March 20: Mama Robertos (Chick Parm)

Be The Light Lock-In

Youth are invited to join us for a church lock-in on Friday, March 22nd from 6:30 PM to Saturday, March 23rd at 7:30 AM. RSVP online

Bunny Brunch

The Easter Bunny will be making a special stop at MUMC on Saturday, March 23 from 9:30 to noon. To help out, [please click here](#).

Easter Egg Hunt

Join us on Saturday, March 30 at Garfield Park for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. To get involved, [click here](#). You can donate candy by dropping it off to the church office during office hours.

Puzzles

Visit the table in the Gallery to put our Puzzles together! With your help, Mentor United Methodist Church is a more complete picture of the Body of Christ!

The BIG Event: “Heroes for Humanity”

\$15 adults | 17 and under are FREE: *[Ticket information to come](#)*

Mark your calendars for April 14th for our annual YSP fundraiser that includes a dinner, auctions, and entertainment. Join us in Fellowship Hall from 5-8 PM. Donate a basket for the auction by filling out a form in the Information Hub.

Excerpt from Artist’s Statement

“When I was drawing the figures from the center out, it began to look like a dance. Is this the picture that grace paints? Forgiveness cannot happen in isolation and certainly neither can reconciliation nor restoration. The movement toward wholeness is the movement toward one another...Perhaps craving more tangibility and practicality, Peter asks how many times he should forgive someone who has wronged him, and Jesus says, “Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times” (Matthew 18:22). This piece contains seventy-seven people and flowers to represent the abundance of grace that Jesus calls us into.

Seventy-seven Times by Lauren Wright Pittman, Inspired by Matthew 18:15-22
(full statement can be found in the devotional in Info Hub/online)

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