

The liturgical colors are white & gold for  
Celebration, Joy, Purity, and Victory

**PRELUDE** Fantasia on "America" Edward Broughton  
Amy Bender, organ

**WELCOME** Melanie Lyttle, liturgist

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *Based on John 8:31-33 and Garth Brooks' song "We Shall All be Free"*  
Jesus said, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples."  
**We come to dwell in the truth that sets us free.**  
Free from fear. Free from hatred. Free to love.  
**We shall be free—when every voice is heard and every soul is valued.**  
Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.  
**We shall be free—when no child cries for bread and no person is left behind.**  
Let us worship the One who frees us from sin and injustice, who calls us to be  
peacemakers and dreamers.  
**We shall worship Jesus who is the Way and the Truth until justice rolls down like  
waters, and love conquers hate. We shall be free!**

**\*OPENING HYMN** "God of the Ages" UMH 698

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**OPENING PRAYER**

*Children invited to stay with families or to go to Sunday School at this time*

**SCRIPTURE** Jeremiah 7:27-28 – NIV, p. 540

**ANTHEM** "American Tribute" Douglas Wagner  
Charter Members Men's Choir & Friends from Chardon UMC Men's Choir

**SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS**

**SILENT PRAYER**

**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.**

*\* Congregation invited to stand if able*

**MENTOR IN MINISTRY**

**SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY** "The Folded Flag" Joseph M. Martin  
Charter Members Men's Choir & Friends from Chardon UMC; Ben Chiappone, soloist

**\*DOXOLOGY #94**  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below;**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**  
**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!**  
**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**  
**Jesus, you are the Truth that sets us free. Take these gifts, offered in faith, and  
use them to break chains, lift burdens, and build a world where all are  
welcome. May our giving reflect your justice, and our lives bear witness to your  
love. Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF CENTERING** "Faith of Our Fathers" UMH 710  
*to be inclusive, you may choose to say "our founders" in place of "our fathers"*

**SCRIPTURE** John 8:31-33 – NIV, p. 758

**MESSAGE** "Jukebox Jesus: Truth & The Music of Garth Brooks"  
Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

**\*HYMN OF MISSION** "Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing" UMH 671

**\*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** "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" Post

*Liturgy and prayers written by Pastor Steve with assistance from ChatGPT*

Altar Flowers presented by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Montgomery & family  
In Loving Memory of Lance Corporal Brian Montgomery

*OPENING FOR FLOWERS ON JUNE 8TH:  
To order flowers please contact Kathy Fellows at 440.477.4485*

Traditional Worship | May 25, 2025



## Jukebox Jesus

1.57

-0.34



At Mentor United Methodist Church,  
our mission is to lead all onto a path of Christ-centered  
discipleship through connection & love.



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

Pastor Steve Stultz Costello, Lead Pastor  
Pastor Ivy Smith, Associate Pastor  
Pastor Tammy Palermo, Pastor of Children & Family Ministry

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WIFI password: GodLovesYou

## I Thank God for Unanswered Prayers

Just the other night at a hometown football game  
My wife and I ran into my old high school flame  
And as I introduced them, the past came back to me  
And I couldn't help but think of the way things used to be  
She was the one that I'd wanted for all times  
And each night I'd spend prayin' that God would make her mine  
And if he'd only grant me this wish I wished back then  
I'd never ask for anything again  
Sometimes I thank God  
For unanswered prayers  
Remember when you're talkin'  
To the man upstairs  
That just because he doesn't answer doesn't mean he don't care  
'Cause some of God's greatest gifts  
Are unanswered prayers

## We Shall All be Free

When the last child cries for a crust of bread  
When the last man dies for just words that he said  
When there's shelter over the poorest head  
Then we shall be free, yeah  
When the last thing we notice is the color of skin  
And the first thing we look for is the beauty within  
When the skies and the oceans are clean again  
Then we shall be free  
We shall be free, we shall be free  
Stand straight and walk proud  
'Cause we shall be free  
When we're free to love anyone we choose  
When this world's big enough for all different views  
When we all can worship from our own kind of pew  
Then we shall be free, yeah (oh, oh, oh)  
We shall be free, we shall be free  
Have a little faith, hold out  
'Cause we shall be free

# MENTOR UNITED HIGHLIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH

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### Members who are in need of prayer:

Kay Feiten, Hilary Pleska, Nora Kelley, Noralee Starr, Tom Martin,  
Laurie Post, Sandy Williams, Dee Smith, Bob & Sandy Linsell

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

*The Enclave* - Delores Tackett, Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines,  
John Shetler, Carol Anderson  
*Parker Place* - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell, Deloris Parsons, Mary Ann Haycox  
*Prosper at Wickliffe* - Gloria McFeely  
*Symphony of Mentor* - Lorraine Ahlstrom  
*Village of St. Edward* - Dale Porter  
*Holly Hill* - Floyd Richard  
*Fairmont* - Gretchen Tice  
*Governor's Point* - Bob Williams  
*Mentor Ridge* - Terry Reynolds

## UPCOMING

WHAT'S HAPPENING  
THIS WEEK?

### Wednesday, May 28

- Knitting Group

### Sunday, May 25

- Sunday School
- Middle School Sunday School
- Youth Group

### Thursday, May 29

- Disciple 1
- Disciple 2
- Choir Rehearsals

### Monday, May 26

- OFFICE CLOSED  
FOR MEMORIAL DAY

### Friday, May 30

- Music at Seven & Mixer

### Tuesday, May 27

- Disciple Fast Track

### Saturday, May 31

- Modern Worship Practice
- More Than a Meal

## May Sermon Series & Events

In the series, “Jukebox Jesus”, we’ll explore scripture through popular music and enjoy creative events all month long. Next up:

- May 30<sup>th</sup>: Music at Seven & Mixer, 7 PM
  - We’ll meet in the Gallery at 7 PM to listen to incredible live performances by members & friends of MUMC (get in touch with Amy Bender if you would like to participate). Then around 8 PM we’ll begin our mixer featuring snacks, mocktails, crafts, games, dancing, and playing real records from every decade. This event is FREE and OPEN TO ALL!

## Graduation Sunday

Grads & Scholarship recipients, please get in touch with Mackalyn or find the RSVP form online. There is a breakfast at 10 AM and recognition during the services. We can’t wait to celebrate with you!

## Summer Programs

Register a child or sign up to volunteer for this year’s Summer Programs: G.O.D. Camp, Middle School Mission Week, Theatre Arts Camp, and VBS: Road Trip. Visit our website or grab a flyer in the Info Hub to learn more about these super fun programs!

## MUMC Softball

Mentor UMC has two teams that you can support this softball season. Games are on Tuesdays at 6:30 PM @ Richmond Heights Community Park.

## Hannah’s Home Bottles

The Annual Hannah’s Home Baby Bottle fundraiser takes place from Mother’s to Father’s day. Grab a bottle in the Info Hub and fill with a cash or check donation. Bottles can be dropped off in the church office. If you wish to give online, visit our website and make sure to designate your Giving to “Hannah’s Home” in the comment section.

## The Thunder Rolls (Refrain)

Thunder rolls  
And the lightnin’ strikes  
Another love grows cold  
On a sleepless night  
As the storm blows on, out of control  
Deep in her heart  
The thunder rolls

## Standing Outside the Fire (Refrain)

Standing outside the fire  
Standing outside the fire  
Life is not tried it is merely survived  
If you’re standing outside the fire

## The River

You know a dream is like a river  
Ever changin’ as it flows  
And a dreamer’s just a vessel  
That must follow where it goes  
Trying to learn from what’s behind you  
And never knowing what’s in store  
Makes each day a constant battle  
Just to stay between the shores

[Chorus]

And I will sail my vessel  
‘Til the river runs dry  
Like a bird upon the wind  
These waters are my sky  
I’ll never reach my destination  
If I never try

So, I will sail my vessel  
‘Til the river runs dry

[Verse 2]

Too many times we stand aside  
And let the waters slip away  
Till what we put off till tomorrow  
Has now become today  
So don’t you sit upon the shoreline  
And say you’re satisfied  
Choose to chance the rapids  
And dare to dance the tide

[Bridge]

And there’s bound to be rough waters  
And I know I’ll take some falls  
But with the good Lord as my captain  
I can make it through them all