The liturgical color is green for Ordinary time

Traditional Worship
Sunday, November 15, 2026

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal

PRELUDE "The Gift to Be Simple" Dale Wood
Amy Bender, organist

WELCOME Chris Fournier, liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Family of God, whom do you serve?
We serve God, who calls us to love our neighbors, tend creation, and care for the least of these.
Family of God, in a world that values productivity and profit, whom do you serve?
We serve God, who calls us to value equity, justice, and sabbath for all.
Family of God, in a world that privileges power over others instead of power shared with our neighbors, whom do you serve?
We serve God, who calls us to privilege the agency and flourishing of ourselves, our neighbors, and all creation.
Family of God, we gather here to grow in love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation. Let us now enter the joy of serving God, who is Love.
We gather to worship God and work for God's purposes until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH 206

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S INVITE

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 NRSV, p. 837

ANTHEM "A Call to Celebration" David Angerman
Canticle Bells

SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, We have failed to love you with all our heart and to be good stewards of your creation: Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

**All are invited to stand in body or spirit*

Merciful God, We have failed to love you with all our heart and to be good stewards of your creation: Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
We have failed to take up the cross of discipleship and to be good stewards of your gospel: Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
We have failed to be faithful members of your church and to be good stewards of your spiritual gifts: Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God proves God's love for us in that while we still were sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8) Confident in God's free gift of forgiveness, I declare to you: in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

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.**

MENTOR IN MINISTRY

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

As the plates are being passed, please also take this opportunity to sign the Welcome Book and pass it on.

OFFERTORY "Be Thou My Vision" arr. Sandy Mullaney

***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**

***HYMN OF CENTERING** "Take My Life and Let It Be" UMH 399

Hymn History: The words to this hymn were written by Frances Havergal. She was born in 1836 in Astley, Worcestershire, England. Her father, William Havergal, was an Anglican clergyman and a composer. Frances learned Hebrew and Greek and also studied in Germany in 1852&1853. She suffered from poor health throughout her life. Many of her hymns were published posthumously. The hymn we sing today uses Romans 12:1 as its inspiration. The verse states that in view of God's mercy, we should offer ourselves as a living sacrifice to God. *(Continued on next page)*

Hymn History Cont.: Frances followed this verse completely, giving most of her possessions to the Church Missionary Society of the Anglican Church. While living near Caswell Bay, Wales, she suffered an attack of peritonitis and died in 1879 at the age of 42. She is buried in her hometown of Astley, next to her father.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 25:14-30 NRSV, p. 702

MESSAGE "It Will Be Like This: Enter the Joy"
Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

***HYMN OF MISSION** "Give Me the Faith Which Can Remove" UMH 650

***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" Piet Post

Call to Worship: Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2026.
Adapted from Liturgies Alive, Models of Celebration.
Opening Prayer: Adapted from Liturgies Alive, Models of Celebration
Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance: Adapted from David Beswick,
http://www.beswick.info/rclresources/15C95OS.htm.

Altar Flowers are presented by Chris Fletcher
In Celebration of the 35th wedding anniversary with
Loving husband, Doug Fletcher

To order flowers please contact Kathy Fellows at 440.477.4485

MENTOR
United Methodist Church
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440.255.3496 - info@mentorumc.org

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

Scan to
Give, Connect,
Get Updates, and more

WIFI password: GodLovesYou

It Will Be Like This



Mentor United Methodist Church

Traditional Worship | November 15, 2026

Gift of Time
The annual "Gift of Time" is a Saturday afternoon of free childcare for families at Mentor UMC. Children may come to the church for holiday fun from 1 PM to 4 PM while parents & guardians take a break, get a nap in, or get their Christmas shopping done. Register online or reach out to Pastor Tammy. Youth & Young Adults are encouraged to help with childcare (this is a great way to get service hours or childcare experience).

Christmas Play: On Christmas Day in the Morning
MUMC's Truth & Light Players present On Christmas Day in the Morning on Friday, December 11th at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets on sale soon! All sales go back into the theatre program at the church.

Winterland Outing
Youth & Young Adults are invited to carpool with us or meet in downtown Cleveland for the annual Christmas tree lighting at the Winterland Festival. Enjoy music, food trucks, and Christmas cheer! We'll meet at the church at 3:30 to leave at 4 PM OR you can meet us downtown by 4:30 PM.

Christmas Caroling
Youth & Young Adults are invited to Christmas caroling with us in the neighborhood around the church on Sunday, December 20th at 5 PM. Please reach out to Mackalyn Figgins for questions.

Extending the Table: A New Ministry of Holy Communion
The Lord's Table is open to all, including those who are unable to join us for worship in person. Through our new Extending the Table ministry, trained laypersons will bring Holy Communion to people in their homes, hospitals, or other settings. In this way, we extend the fellowship, grace, and love of Christ beyond the walls of our church. You can be part of this meaningful ministry by participating in a brief orientation. Contact Pastor Steve to learn more.



Shepherding Summit: Celebrate - Vision - *GO!*
Join us on Saturday, January 23rd from 9 AM to 3 PM for a day full of celebration, fellowship, good food, worship, and church learning. ALL are welcome and encouraged to attend. Participants will take part in activities, awards, and breakout rooms as well as opening & closing worship. Lunch is provided. RSVP online for this big day. Questions? Reach out to Pastor Steve.

MENTOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HIGHLIGHTS

Scan to Read the Weekly Update

Admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:
The Enclave - Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith,
Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler, Joe & Judy Tirpak
Ohman Family Living in Holly - Bob & Sandy Linsell
Parker Place - Deloris Parsons, Mary Ann Haycox
Salida Woods - June Van Ostrand

In need of prayer:
Russ Lancaster, Kay McKinney, Mary Ellen Reynolds, Nancy Smith, Joyce Snyder, Ruthie Hobart, Richard & Nancy Smith, Laura Van Riper, Rev. Connie Sterner, Star Bruno, Wrobel Family

UPCOMING
AT MENTOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, November 15
- 9, 9:15 & 11 AM Worship
- 9 & 11 AM K-5 Sunday School
- 9 AM Youth Sunday School
- 9 & 11 AM Early Childhood Care
- 10 AM Martin Journey Group
- 10 AM & 12 PM Fellowship Hour
- 10:30 Chapel Communion
- Christmas Play Rehearsal

Monday, November 16
- Parents Morning Out
- Carr Journey Groups
- Blood Drive
- Food Distribution
- Undoing Conquest

Tuesday, November 17
- Ring Journey Group
- Modern Worship Meeting
- Disciple Study
- Young Adult Group
- Food Distribution

Wednesday, November 18
- Knitting Group
- Gaming Group
- Ad Council
- Traditional Worship Meeting

Thursday, November 19
- Canticle Bells
- Charter Members Men's Choir
- Chancel Choir

Friday, November 20
- More Than a Meal

Saturday, November 21
- Modern Worship Practice
- More Than a Meal (one week early)

Thanksgiving Day Dinner
MUMC will host a FREE Thanksgiving Day Dinner on Thursday, November 26th from 11 AM to 1:30 PM. We feed *hundreds* in the community every year. To receive a meal, contact the church office to RSVP for dine-in, request carry-out, or request delivery (Lake Co. only). ***Volunteers***: This meal isn't possible without YOU! The sign-ups for food donations and volunteering are available in the Gallery after service. Scan the QR code to sign up online.

Gingerbread Thank You
Thanks to our congregation for all their help in once again making Gingerbread House a success. We made well over $8,000 for missions. Thanks to all the shoppers, those selling, bakers, caramel puff makers, crafters, cheese cutters and pricers, sign makers, cooks, truck driver who hauled away unsold attic treasures, and all those who supported our efforts.

More Than a Meal - DATE CHANGE
Volunteer to prepare, cook, serve, or clean up for the next More Than a Meal on Saturday, November 21st (this is one week earlier than usual, to accommodate Thanksgiving weekend). Doors open at 5 PM and the meal is served at 5:30 PM. This meal happens EVERY last Saturday of the month. Signup online or get in touch with the church office for help with signing up.

Whole Church Bible Study
All are welcome to join us for "Lunch & Learn" at 12:30 PM on Sunday, November 22nd. We'll prepare for Advent together with Biblical discussion and fellowship. Please RSVP online or in the Info Hub.

Tree Removal
On Saturday, November 28th, the Trustees, Youth, and Young Adults will remove invasive trees on church grounds. The plants removed will be replaced. To get involved, reach out to Mackalyn Figgins.

Memorial Middle School Theatre Program Snack Donations
Pastor Tammy is looking for donations of snacks for the Memorial Middle students as they rehearse their upcoming musical. Sign up online to donate snacks for the kids. Donations can be dropped off in the church office.

ADVENT OFFERINGS & SERVICES

Poinsettia Orders
Order your poinsettias for Christmas Eve now! Forms are available online and in the Info Hub. Plants are $7.50 each. They will be displayed during the Christmas Eve services (your choice of Fellowship Hall or Sanctuary).

Advent Candle Lighters
Sign up online or in the Info Hub for Advent Candle lighting during a Sunday this Advent season. Light with family or friends during the service of your choice. For questions, reach out to Pastor Tammy.

Brews & Bibles
All are welcome to join for another "Brews & Bibles" study this Advent. Starting on November 24th, we'll meet on Tuesday evenings at 6 PM for 4 weeks to discuss Amy-Jill Levine's *Light of the World*. We'll meet at a different Holiday bar in downtown Willoughby each week. Questions, reach out to Mackalyn Figgins.

Christmas Cantata
The Christmas Cantata will take place on Sunday, December 13th at 11 AM in the Sanctuary. Join us in person or online for a fantastic presentation.

Blue Christmas
Join us on Wednesday, December 16th at 5 PM in the Chapel for a meaningful service for those grieving this holiday season.

Prelude to Christmas
Each year, our Charter Member Men's Choir, along with members of the men's choirs from Painesville & Chardon United Methodist, presents an evening of the Christmas story told through scripture and song. Join us on Friday, December 18th in the Sanctuary at 7 PM for a special service that includes candle lighting during the singing of "Silent Night".

Advent Devotional
Find a copy of the Advent Devotional by Sanctified Art in the Info Hub OR online here. There are **LIMITED** physical copies available, so we encourage readers to check out the online version!

Carols in the Gallery
Join us on Sundays during Advent at Fellowship Hour after worship for refreshments and beautiful Christmas music played by friends & members, such as the gifted Carol Haines.