

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

**Prelude** "Jesus, Priceless Treasure" Johann Gottfried Walther  
Amy Bender

**Welcome** Rev. Mikayla Doepker

### Call to Worship

One: Wrap yourselves in the healing love of God!

**Many: We seek God's presence in our lives.**

One: Know that God continually surrounds us with patience and persistence.

**Many: Even though we have not produced the "fruits" of hope that God seeks, yet God forgives and heals our weakness.**

One: Rejoice! Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!

**Many: We will turn our lives again to the Lord, to serve and seek God's presence. Amen.**

(Courtesy of Ministry Matters)

### Opening Prayer

**Open our eyes, our ears, our hearts and spirits this morning, Lord, that we may be healed of our faithlessness, freed from our fears and anxieties, and placed on the pathways that lead to peace and service to you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.**

(Courtesy of Ministry Matters)

**\*Hymn #519** "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

*Hymn History:* The words to this hymn were written by James Weldon Johnson. He was born in Jacksonville, Florida in 1871. He became an educator and writer and in 1897 was the first African-American admitted to the Florida Bar since Reconstruction. He was appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt as Consul to Puerto Rico and Nicaragua. This hymn was the result of a poem written by Johnson to honor Abraham Lincoln's birthday. It was set to music by his younger brother, J. Rosamond Johnson, and has become known as the Black National Anthem. The Johnson brothers moved to New York City where they collaborated to write and compose Broadway songs. James wrote many collections of poetry in his lifetime and he was also a tireless advocate for civil rights. He died in 1938 in Maine.

\*Congregation invited to stand if able

### Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance

**Many: This is the season of turning. We are called on this journey to turn our lives to the Lord, to turn away from all those things which have harmed us and others; to separate ourselves from actions and attitudes that demean and destroy. It is far too easy for us to sink into the mire of self-pity and self-serving attitudes, wondering why everything isn't coming our way. We want comfort, contentment, no stress, no struggle. Yet our lives are filled with stress and discontent. We hurt, Lord. We hurt in our bodies and our souls. We hurt in our relationships with others. How we must try your patience! We don't want to be like this - we want to feel the warmth of your love, the freedom of your spirit, the joy of serving you. Forgive us for our selfishness and stupidity. Heal us. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. 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.**

**Anthem 9:00** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" arr. Dan Forrest  
Capella

**11:00** "At Calvary" Mary McDonald  
Chancel Choir

### Serving & Giving Emphasis

**Offertory 9:00** "Lamb of God" Choral Setting by Lloyd Larson

**11:00** "Cross of Christ, O Sacred Tree" Lloyd Larson

#### \*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 #381** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

**Scripture** Luke 13:1-9

**Sermon** A Fruitful Life

Rev. Mikayla Doepker

**\*Hymn #413** "A Charge to keep I Have"

**\*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 f minor"

Leon Boellmann

Altar Flowers are presented by Connie Irvin  
In Loving Memory of Robert Irvin, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great Grandfather.  
*From his loving family*

Pulpit Flowers are presented by Jane Hieronymous  
In Loving Memory of Ted Hieronymous. Husband, Father, Grandfather.

Lectern Flowers are presented by Geri Kranz  
In Loving Memory of Dave, Husband, Dad, and Poppa  
*From Geri & family*

Flower openings: April 9 (Easter Sunday) & April 16  
Please contact Kathy Fellows 440-477-4485  
if you would like to order flowers.

# Mentor United Methodist Church



March 12, 2023  
Traditional Worship

**To catch up on activities, missions, and events read our Weekly Update which is located in the Narthex and the Information Hub.**

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

Fill out a  
Connect Card  
online.



## Announcements

### *March*

- Easter Flowers - Order yours today! Forms are in the back of the Sanctuary and the Information Hub.
- Lenten Cantata - Sunday, March 26 during the 9 and 11 AM Traditional Services.
- Companions in Grief - this grief group starts in March. Contact Pastor Barb to learn more: [bholzhauser@mentorumc.org](mailto:bholzhauser@mentorumc.org)
- Bowling & Bibles - Meet us at the Rollhouse in Mentor on March 15 at 7:30 PM!
- Prayer Bookmarks - Every week of Lent there will be a new bookmark to pick up in the Narthex or the Info Hub!

For more details about these events and missions, please read our **Weekly Update** or visit the Information Hub!

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