

Welcome to Mt. Healthy United Methodist Church! We hope you find a spiritual home with us or another church community.

Children are welcome here! We know it can be stressful to come to church with your family. If your child makes a little noise or is a little squirmy, we consider it a blessing. Activity bags are at the front of the sanctuary. Childcare and Sunday School are available during Sunday worship. The nursery is located in the lower level of the education wing. Children are also welcome to join us upstairs in the sanctuary for worship. We welcome all people no matter where they are on the journey of faith, to find a spiritual home at Mt. Healthy United Methodist Church. We believe that God is love and this love is expressed fully in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We live this out in loving community with one another and humble service to our neighborhood.

Come grow with us! We look forward to seeing you again! Until then, check out our Facebook page, website and this worship guide. You may find an opportunity that is just right for you!

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jerome Weaver • (513) 615-1592 7612 Perry Street • Cincinnati, Ohio • 45231 • (513) 931-5827 Email: mthealthyumc@fuse.net • Website: mthealthyumc.org www.facebook.com/mthealthyumc Adult Sunday School: 9 AM • Children's Sunday School: 10:10 AM Sunday Worship: 10 AM

### Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 30th, 2025

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" by Maranatha! Introit (ALL SING) The Praise Team Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Jerome Weaver** Flowers on the Altar: Happy 40th Anniversary of Rosemary Andrew and Frank Light. Congratulations! Today is the last day to order Easter flowers. Order forms in the back, or see Sylvia Lawson. See pages 5-6 for more details, events, and ministry opportunities.

**Prelude** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" By: Dale Wood

### \* Call to Worship

(The liturgist (L) makes statements of faith. The congregation (C) reads the words in bold.)

L: When we struggle to live as you teach us, and we fail to answer your call...

- C: God, your steadfast loves surrounds us.
- L: When the truth clogs up in our throat, and we fear what will happen if we speak and if we keep silent ...

### C: God, your steadfast love surrounds us.

- L: When we open our hearts and let the truth of our sorrows, our sin, our joys, and our doubts flow freely...
- C: God, your steadfast love surrounds us.
- L: When our stubborn hearts encounter the grace that teaches and guides us into a life of trust and joyful obedience...
- C: God, your steadfast love surrounds us today and every day. Thanks be to God! Amen.

### \* Opening Hymn

"Love Divine, All Love Excelling"

### \* Opening Prayer

(The pastor (L) leads the prayer. The congregation (C) reads the words in bold.)

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.

P: Loving God, it was said of the Prodigal Son that he "came to himself."

Help us to wake up to ourselves, and to You. Set us free from the illusion of trying to be perfect so that we might be more fully human. Help us not to chase after an imaginary life, and to find satisfaction in our real lives. And turn us away from our self-rejection so that we might notice Your arms open in welcome. Amen.

### C: Amen.

### \* Sharing the Peace of Christ

P: May the peace of Christ be with you!

C: And also with you! (During this time, we ask that you greet one another with a peace sign, an elbow bump, a bow or a simple nod of the head)

### \* Children's Moments

(We invite children, 12 years of age and under, to come forward. After Children's Moments, we invite children to go with loving caregivers to Sunday school.)

"Jesus Loves Me" (Verse 1)

The United Methodist Hymnal, #191 \* Indicates please stand, if able.

The United Methodist Hymnal #384

### **Rev. Jerome Weaver**

Joe Dilley, organ

**Rev. Jerome Weaver** 

**Rev. Jerome Weaver** 

## Jeff Vehr, Liturgist

Joe Dilley, organ

### **The Old Testament Reading** *Psalms 32 (niv)*

Jeff Vehr, Liturgist

1 Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

- 2 Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- 3 While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.
- 4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
- 6 Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.
- 7 You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.
- 8 I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;

I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

9 Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,

whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

10 Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.

11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

- L: The Word of God for the people of God.
- C: Thanks be to God!

**Responsive Special Music Chancel Choir Ensemble; Joe Dilley, director** "In Christ Alone" By: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend The Worship of God with Tithes and Offerings Jeff Vehr, Liturgist The Offertory "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" By: Hal H. Hopson Joe Dilley, organ \* Doxology Joe Dilley, organ "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" The United Methodist Hymnal, #94 **Prayer of Dedication** Congregation, led by Liturgist Gracious God, our refuge and restorer, we bring these gifts as a sign of our return to you. Like the prodigal, we long to feel your embrace and live in the light of your grace. As we observe this holy time of Lent, may our offerings reflect hearts that are turning back to you. Clear the clogs in our lives that separate us from you and one another and help us see the rainbow of your promise even in our struggles. Bless these gifts and our lives so that we may share your steadfast love with the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen. **Invitation to Prayer** Joe Dilley, organ "He Who Began a Good Work in You" The Faith We Sina. #2163 **Morning Prayer Rev. Jerome Weaver** Sharing Our Joys and Concerns Pastoral Prayer The Lord's Prayer \* Indicates please stand, if able.

\* The New Testament Reading 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (niv)

### **Rev. Jerome Weaver**

### The mystery and ministry of reconciliation

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way.

- 17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!
- 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;
- 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.
- 20 So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God.
- 21 For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin,
  - so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
  - L: The word of God, for the people of God!

### C: Thanks be to God!

 Sermon
 "Intentional Connection"
 Rev. Jerome Weaver

 \* Closing Hymn
 Joe Dilley, organ

 "Amazing Grace"
 The United Methodist Hymnal #378

 \* Benediction
 Rev. Jerome Weaver

 \* Postlude
 "A Charge to Keep" By: Gordon Young

 \* Indicates please stand, if able.

NOTES

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Flowers on the Altar:* In celebration of the 40th anniversary of Rosemary Andrew and Frank Light. *Today* is the *last day* to order *Easter flowers*. Order forms in the back, or see Sylvia Lawson. *Zoom Bible Study:* with Pastor Weaver is on *Thursdays, from 7:00 :8:15 PM. Meeting ID - 829 3727 2744 Pass Code - 600228* 

**TODAY IS UMCOR SUNDAY :** UMCOR Sunday, observed on March 30 seeks to increase awareness and support for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Gifts given on this Special Sunday are designated for UMCOR's administrative costs, allowing 100% of donations to UMCOR throughout the year to go toward relief and recovery efforts. **Please designate UMCOR Giving by using an Pew envelope marked "<u>UMCOR</u>." If giving online, choose "<u>UMCOR</u>." <b>A Messy Church Pancake Breakfast / Easter Egg Hunt:** is Saturday, **April 12th**, **10:00 am - 12:00** pm. **Come Hungry!** (**A basket is on the back table for your candy donations**) **Thanks! Easter Egg Hunt:** We're accepting individually wrapped candy donations to fit Easter Eggs. **Thanks! Maundy Thursday April 17th:** We have been invited to a combined worship service at **New Vision U.M.C. at 7pm, 4400 Reading Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45229 Prayer Chain:** If you have the time to make a few phone calls, and to pray for your friends who have asked for prayers, this is the ministry for you! Please and leave a **message** at

the church office (513-931-5827) if you are interested.

To activate the Prayer Chain, please <u>CALL</u> or <u>TEXT</u> Lenora De Marco at 513-884-5111.



Free Pancake Breakfast / Easter Egg Hunt Mt. Healthy United Methodist Church 7612 Perry St. Mt. Healthy, OH 45231 10:00 AM -12:00 PM All you can eat pancakes, juice, fruit, sausage and children's crafts Carry-out or Dine in. Everyone Welcome!

# Saturday, April 12th, 2025

