

The United Methodist Church in  
**Wayne**



Forgiving Father, painting by Frank Wesley

**Sunday March 30, 2025**

**UMC in Wayne**

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Join us on Zoom: [Meeting ID: 823 9591 4126 Passcode: 092827](https://umcwayne.org/join)

**PRELUDE**

*House of the Rising Sun*

*Parish Drive*

**WELCOME**

**INTROIT**

*Amazing Grace*

*Jubilation Ringers*

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader:* God of love, when we wander away it is your grace that calls us back to you.

**All: You receive us with mercy, and we give thanks.**

*Leader:* Loving Christ, when we are lost and lonely in a far land, you accompany us in love, and guide us home.

**All: You receive us with grace, and we give thanks.**

*Leader:* Holy Spirit, your joy in us calls us, blesses us, and revives us.

**All: We celebrate, for we who were lost are found! We who were dead are alive!**

**HYMN**

*Mighty To Save*

*W & S #3038*

**OPENING PRAYER**

**God of love, speak your word to lead all who are lost and seeking the way. Speak your healing word to all who are hurting and alone. Speak your reconciling word to all who are not at peace. Speak your life-giving word to us, and bring us close to you. Amen.**

**THE BASKET**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gentle God, we have wandered away from you, from your love, and from what gives you deepest delight in our lives, so our lives become hollow and hungry, lost and lonely.**

**We return to you.**

**Receive us, accept us, forgive us, nourish us and bless us.**

**May we always be yours. Amen.**

*Silent reflection .....*

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Psalm 103.8-14)**

*Leader:* God is merciful and gracious,

**All: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

*Leader:* God will not always accuse, or keep fierce anger forever.

**All: God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

*Leader:* For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love toward those who turn to God;

**All: as far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our transgressions from us.**

*Leader:* As a father has compassion for his children, so the Holy One has compassion for those who fear God.

**All: God knows how we were made, and remembers that we are dust.**

## **SCRIPTURE Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32**

All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus to listen to him. The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Jesus told them this parable:

Jesus said, "A certain man had two sons. The younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the inheritance.' Then the father divided his estate between them. Soon afterward, the younger son gathered everything together and took a trip to a land far away. There, he wasted his wealth through extravagant living.

"When he had used up his resources, a severe food shortage arose in that country and he began to be in need. He hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. He longed to eat his fill from what the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything. When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have more than enough food, but I'm starving to death! I will get up and go to my father, and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Take me on as one of your hired hands."' So, he got up and went to his father.

"While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion. His father ran to him, hugged him, and kissed him. Then his son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quickly, bring out the best robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! Fetch the

fattened calf and slaughter it. We must celebrate with feasting because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life! He was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his older son was in the field. Coming in from the field, he approached the house and heard music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. The servant replied, 'Your brother has arrived, and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he received his son back safe and sound.' Then the older son was furious and didn't want to enter in, but his father came out and begged him. He answered his father, 'Look, I've served you all these years, and I never disobeyed your instruction. Yet you've never given me as much as a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours returned, after gobbling up your estate on prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him.' Then his father said, 'Son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad because this brother of yours was dead and is alive. He was lost and is found.'"

## **MESSAGE**

*The Divine Embrace*

**HYMN**    *Amazing Grace* (set to the tune of *House of the Rising Sun*) *Choir & Parish Drive*

## **DEDICATION OF THE FAITH WE SING AND WORSHIP & SONG**

We present *The Faith We Sing and Worship & Song* to be dedicated to the glory of almighty God and for service in this church.

**All: We accept these hymnals to the glory of God, and in joyful anticipation of lively worship and our formation as Christ's disciples. We receive this collection of hymns, choruses, and songs as gifts from sisters and brothers of all times and places who share their faith with us and so remind us of who we are as the church. With them and all creation, we will sing with joy and praise God now and forever.**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we dedicate these hymnals to the glory of God and to all the saints who have been remembered and honored through memorial donations.

**All: Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth! We thank you, God, for the gift of music; for the melodies that move our hearts and souls; for the rhythms that encourage us to dance and sing, and the harmonies that unite us as your people. We thank you for the good company of artists, poets, musicians, soloists, choirs, and instruments that sing for us and with us. We are grateful for the words; bearing witness to truth, bringing joyful thanks and glad songs of praise, a source of comfort for those who are hurting and a balm for weary souls. May our voice of love and praise be a delight to your ears and a faithful witness to you. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN**

### **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.**

## **WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING**

### **OFFERTORY**

*Open the Eyes of My Heart*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart,  
I want to see you; I want to see you.*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see you; I want to see you.*

*To see You high and lifted up,  
Shining in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your pow'r and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy*

**Doxology**  
**Holy, Holy, Holy**  
**Holy, Holy, Holy**  
**Holy, Holy, Holy**  
**I want to see You.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

As you have blessed us beyond all expectation and need, we would join in imitating you, by offering gifts which will bring hope, healing, and help to those who struggle in this life. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***Open the eyes of my heart, Lord***  
***Open the eyes of my heart***  
***I want to see you; I want to see you.***

**\* CLOSING HYMN**

*Lord of All Hopefulness*

*TFWS #2197*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Redemption Song*

*Parish Drive*

***Thank you for financially supporting our ministry.***  
***We offer many ways to give:***

*In the sanctuary or by mail.*

Online at [www.umcwayne.org](http://www.umcwayne.org)

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZP6G/home>

Text "GIVING" to 973-447-3223

QR Code:



**SAVE THE DATE!**

***The United Methodist Women in Faith's Spring Celebration will be held here at the UMC in Wayne on April 6<sup>th</sup> from 3pm – 5pm.***

All are welcome to attend this event to learn more about the UMWF.

We are also looking for volunteers to help set up tables and provide coffee, tea, juice, and water. Please see Pastor Ninabeth for more

## ANNOUNCEMENTS March - April 2025

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS March 31<sup>st</sup>- April 6<sup>th</sup>

#### Monday March 31<sup>st</sup>

AA mtg @ 7:30pm in Fellowship Hall (Room 8)

#### Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup>

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

#### Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Bible Study @ 12pm in Fellowship Hall BYO Lunch

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

#### Thursday April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Christian Meditation @ 6:30pm in French Chapel

Draw Close @7:15pm on ZOOM

#### Friday April 4<sup>th</sup>

Friday Morning Prayer @ 7pm on Facebook

First Friday @ 12 noon

#### Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup>

Worship/Communion @ 10am

Jubilation Ringers @11:15am

United Women in Faith 3-5pm

### New Community Garden

We would like to start a **community garden** on our church property! We are looking for folks interested in planning, building, planting and any other ideas you have to offer. We will call it "**The Garden of Eatin'**" If you are ready, willing and able to help, please email Pastor Ninabeth at [pastorninabeth@gmail.com](mailto:pastorninabeth@gmail.com)



During the 45 days of Lent which starts March 5th, UMC in Wayne will be collecting food for WIN.

We did this several years ago and we delivered about 150 bags of food to WIN.

The challenge is to beat our old record!

Get your friends and family involved to help our friends in Wayne.

We will have a list of acceptable food items.

Hate to shop? All monetary donations are accepted! See Anita or Liz with questions.

### Easter Flowers 2025



On Easter Sunday, we decorate our church for Easter with beautiful flowers. You can participate by making a special donation of \$12 for Easter Flowers. Please find an order form and envelope in the back of the Sanctuary.

**Complete the info and return with your payment to the plate or church office by 4/7/25.**

### Lenten Soup Sale



Our annual soup sale during Lent begins on **Sunday, March 9 and will continue until April 13. Sign-up sheets for soup makers are on the bulletin board in the narthex. Containers are provided.**

As in the past, there will be delicious varieties of soups to purchase each week at a bargain price of \$5 per pint. All are welcome to support the sale by preparing or purchasing these savory soups! Questions? See Anita Dispenziere or Lyn Sentkowski.



### **ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING SENIORS!!**

The UMCW Scholarship applications can be picked up in the church office **beginning in April** and must be returned by **May 15th**. Office Hours: 10am-3pm Tuesday-Thursday.

**\*\*Applicants must be an active member of the UMC in Wayne**

**\*\* Any questions contact Nancy Kinch at (973) 694-2603 or [nkinch@aol.com](mailto:nkinch@aol.com).**

### The words and music in our liturgy,

#### hymns, and songs are by:

Prayer of dedication of hymnals is written by Rev. Ninabeth Metcalf Mighty to Save. Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan CCLI Song #4591782 © 2006 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia Lord of All Hopefulness. Jan Struther CCLI Song #2788717 © 1931, 1982 Oxford University Press

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### UMC Wayne Ministers

All the members of UMC in Wayne

Pastor Ninabeth Metcalf

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