

March 15, 2026

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
4th Sunday in Lent



Welcome! We're glad that you're here. Please use the time before worship to prepare your heart and mind for being in the presence of God. The musical prelude is offered as a time of spiritual preparation

Please let us know you are here,  
especially if you are new to worship with us!  
Simply open your camera on your smart phone and  
aim it at the code below. Thank you!.



#### Stay in touch with UMCNL!

- \* Visit [www.umcnl.com](http://www.umcnl.com)
- \* Check out our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/UMCNL](http://www.facebook.com/UMCNL)
- \* Download the free UMCNL app for announcements, prayer requests, sermons, newsletters, online giving, and more.
- \* Subscribe on our website to get our monthly newsletter electronically and other e-mail updates.

#### ENTRANCE

**Prelude & Processional**  
“Morning Has Broken” by Smith  
(Karen Weirman)

**Welcome & Announcements**  
\*Passing of the Peace

**\*Opening Prayer**  
Holy and Merciful God, You call us, again and again, to return — from our distractions to Your presence, from our fears to Your faithfulness, from our wandering to Your embrace. By your Holy Spirit, draw us back to you, where we find grace in our failures, and strength in our weakness. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*Opening Hymn** “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”  
(#452, vs 1-3)

#### PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

#### A Time Mostly for Children

**Anthem** 9:00 “The Glory of the Cross”  
(Mixed Quartet: Bill McKnight, Donna Roesel,  
Bryan Thrun, Mary Trent)

11:00 “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind/I Believe”  
(Barbershop Quartet: Rich Hagen,  
Bill McKnight, Bryan Thrun, Mark Yenser)

#### Moment of Silence and Pastoral Prayer

**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.

**Scripture Reading** John 9, Selected Versus (CEB)

**Sermon:** “Return to Sight” Rev. Wesley Dickson

#### THANKSGIVING

**Moment of Gratitude and Generosity**  
*Want to give electronically? Please scan the code to give now! Thank you!*



**Offertory** “Fifth Nocturne” by Leybach  
(Karen Weirman)

**\*Doxology** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”  
(#95)

**\*Prayer of Dedication**  
Gracious and Loving God, all that we have comes from You — our breath, our days, our resources, our hope. As we return these gifts to You, we offer our hearts, our hands, and our lives. Use what we bring to heal the broken, to lift the weary, and to proclaim the good news, so that all who wander can discover Your love. Receive us, O Lord, and make us new, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### SENDING FORTH

**\*Closing Hymn** “Be Thou My Vision” (#451)

#### Benediction

**Recessional** 9:00 “Amen”

11:00 “Irish Blessing” (Barbershop Quartet)

**Postlude** “Postlude in B Flat” by Ryan  
(Karen Weirman)

**\*\*Communion will be available in the Chapel immediately following the service for those who wish to participate.**

## Church Happenings

**Coffee Hour** Come and enjoy fellowship time between services! Thank you Memorials/SPRC for hosting coffee hour today. Hannah Circle will host 3/22.

**Easter Flowers for Sale** Time to order flowers for Easter beauty! Tulips are \$17.50/plant; lilies are \$22.50. Next Sunday, March 22, is the last day for ordering, no orders will be accepted after this date. Flowers will be available to take home after any Easter service on April 5. Order forms are available from ushers or on the welcome center.

**Easter Cantata** Join us on Palm Sunday, March 29 as our Chancel Choir and Palm Sunday Orchestra presents “At His Name”, a heartfelt and powerful expression of faith. Our cantata will be presented at both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. We hope you can join us!

**Holy Week** Join us for services during Holy Week. In addition to Palm Sunday services, we will have service on Thursday and Friday at 7:00 p.m. and four services on Easter Sunday at 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Please visit our website for the complete Holy Week schedule.

**Chapel Bible Study to Resume with New Afternoon Time!** The spring session of Chapel Bible Study will take place during afternoon hours from 3:30-4:45 p.m. and will resume on Monday, April 13 through Monday, May 18. This 6 week study by Adam Hamilton will focus on THE MESSAGE OF JESUS, by focusing on six of the most important themes in Jesus’ teachings and how they speak to us today. Sessions will be led by Pastor Greta McDonald and Marilyn Gallagher. Please contact Marilyn at (815) 485-3015 or email to gallaghermar2@yahoo.com to sign up and order a book.

**Sunday Email** If you are not receiving a Sunday morning email for Wesley and wish to be added, please contact Pastor Wesley at wesley@umcnl.com. You’ll receive an email each Sunday at 6:30 a.m. with the most current UMCNL information.

**Prayer Chain Ministry** Would you like to be a part of our Prayer Chain Ministry by becoming a prayer warrior? Email office@umcnl.com to join this wonderful group! Prayer changes things; we will never know the impact our prayers will have on others, but we will know when prayer begins to change us.

## Get Involved

**UMCNL Women’s Spring Retreat** will be Saturday, April 11, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Hosted by Sarah Circle and held at our church. Together, we will reflect on our spiritual journeys, grow in God’s love, strengthen our bonds in Christian fellowship, and find moments of healing, joy, and laughter. 40 members joined us last year! The cost is \$10 cash, collected the day of the retreat, to cover lunch. Please sign up on the board in the Narthex, or call/text Teresa Randolph (773) 405-6233 or Erika Martin (815) 409-5178

**Sarah Circle** will meet Friday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Joyce Spalla’s house in New Lenox. Bring a friend! Contact Teresa Randolph for more information. Call or text (773) 405-6233

**Friendship Group** Our next Friendship Group Luncheon will be March 19 at 12 p.m. at Country Charm Restaurant at 101 Lincolnway Drive in New Lenox. The Sponsors are Ray Christiansen and Beverly Deptolla. All 55 and older are invited. See you there. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex next to the name tags.

**The Comfort Makers** sewing group meets on various days throughout the year to make different projects for missions. The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 26 in the church chapel. They make comforters, backpacks and other items to be used throughout the world. You don’t even have to know how to sew to join in the fellowship of this wonderful group of ladies. You can cut fabric or iron if sewing is not your forte! If you would like more information, please contact Judy McCune at [jmcsews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmcsews@sbcglobal.net)

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** Our group meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m. We will next meet on Monday, March 23 at Beverly Deptolla’s house, 125 Whisper Creek Drive. If you knit or crochet, come join us for mission and fellowship. Yarn and patterns provided. Please contact Beverly at (815) 514-6814 for more info!

**Welcome Center Volunteers** are needed on Sundays! If you are interested and/or have any questions, please contact Amanda Fox at [amandaseverson1281@gmail.com](mailto:amandaseverson1281@gmail.com)

**Greeters Needed** We are looking for greeters on Sundays! Please contact Joyce Korista at (815) 485-6879 if you can help!

**Friday Morning Women’s Bible Study** meets in the church chapel Friday mornings from 9:30- 11:00 a.m. New ladies are always welcome to join us!

**Come and volunteer for the Easter Egg Hunt!** Helpers are needed the morning of the hunt, March 28, as well as filling Easter eggs March 18 and 19 at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Small, individually wrapped candy donations are appreciated. We fill over 10,000 eggs! A candy donation basket and volunteer sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

## Youth Updates

**UMCNL Easter Egg Hunt** will be Saturday, March 28, at 10 a.m. (Note this is the Saturday before Palm Sunday.) All children--toddlers through fifth grade--are invited to participate. The community is welcome. Bring your family and friends! We will meet in the sanctuary before the hunt. In case of rain, the hunt will be held inside the church.

**Scholarships** Completed scholarship application forms for consideration need to be returned to the church office by 12:00 p.m. today, Sunday, March 15, 2026.

**Youth Group** Join us! UMCNL will host a weekly youth program for 7-12 grade students every Wednesday from 7:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. We would love for you to join us! Keep in touch via email and text by texting JOINUYM to 84576 or connect online with us at [unitedmethodistchurchofn.flocknote.com](http://unitedmethodistchurchofn.flocknote.com)

## Contact Us/Prayer Requests

Would you like to connect with one of our Pastors? Please see the contact information below or you can scan one of the codes below using your smartphone to directly set an appointment.

**Pastor Mark:** Call/text: 815-587-3795; [mark@umcnl.com](mailto:mark@umcnl.com)  
**Pastor Wesley:** Call/text: 630-708-2470; [wesley@umcnl.com](mailto:wesley@umcnl.com)

*Pastor Mark*



*Prayer Requests*



*Pastor Wesley*

