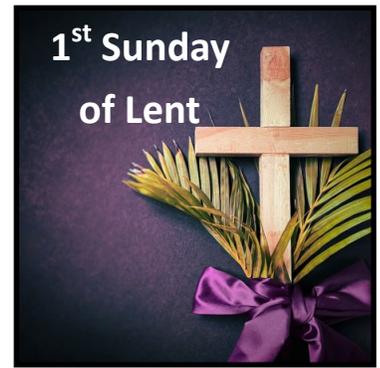


Highland Avenue
United Methodist Church
1st Sunday of Lent
February 22, 2026
9:30 a.m.



GATHERING TO PRAISE GOD

Words of Welcome

The Prelude : **“Come and Gather In”** *Composer: Ralph Cheney*

The Call to Worship: *(By B. J. Beu)*

God calls us to set out in faith.

The love of God leads us home.

Christ blesses us that we might bless others.

The blessings of Christ heal our world.

The Holy Spirit strengthens us for the journey.

The power of the Spirit sustains and supports us.

The One who made heaven and earth meets us here.

*The Opening Hymn: **“Gather Us In”** TFWS# 2236

Opening Prayer *(By B. J. Beu)*

Lord of light and love, your Spirit enlivens our spirits, even as your kingdom draws us to you. May we be born from above, that our souls might ascend to your realm and taste the joy of eternal life in your name. For you sent your Son into our world not to condemn the world, but that all who enter into his light might have life and have it abundantly. Amen.

LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

The Scripture Lessons: **Psalm 121** **John 3: 1-17**

A Time for Children: **“What Does Love Look Like?”**

The Message: **“A Place in the Story”**

Meditation in Music : **“Over My Head”**

A Time of Prayer

Celebrations and Concerns

Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer **UMH # 895**

(Continued on the back)

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

The Offering

*Doxology UMH # 95

*The Prayer of Dedication (By B. J. Beu)

Gracious God, just as you blessed the saints of old when they ventured forth in faith, so now bless us in our living and in our giving. Transform our gifts and offerings into blessings for a weak and weary world, that all my touch your great love. Amen.

*The Closing Hymn: "I Love to Tell the Story" UMH # 156

Benediction

Announcements and Prayer

Postlude: "Sent Out in Jesus' Name"



Please pray for:

Harold Aziz
Trisha Aziz
Tom Bailey
Geneva and Norman Beckwith
Michael Breed
Cathy Brissette
Russell Brown
Kendal Buck
Cameron (Ralph's grandson)
Gretchen Clark
Dwight Cooper
Karen Crommett
Joan Cummings
Danielle
Barbara Dill
Donna & Mike DiTaranto
Crystal Farris
Armand Fournier

Harold and Lynn Gerard
Carol Sue Giampitruzzi
Greg Giampetruzzi
Todd Goode
Connie Greenleaf
Kay Gregory
The Guthrie Family
Russell Hickey
Samantha Hills
Nancy Holmes
Vicky Kelley
Michael LaPlante
Ann LeClair
Kevin Lee
Cathy & Mark Leonard
Emily Long's gram
Lois, sister-in-law of Pat O'Connor
Jerry Lucas
Steve McNelly
Joe Mertz
David Meserve

Judy Meserve's cousins
Jim Meserve
Kathy Meserve
Ellen Minotty
Paula Moore
Tony Morgan
Pat O'Connor
Dennis O'Driscoll
Olivia & Jed
Silvia Palmer
Linda Pare
Mary Parker
Carla Parsons
Peggy Philips
Cheryl and Paul Poulin
Jessie Powell
Garry Prosser
Sylvia Quint
Judy Quintal
Alton Ranks
Sherman Family
Sandy Smith
Sullivan Smith

Flo Sutter
Laverne & Tim Tardiff
Michel Tessier
Randy and Lisa Thibeau
Rhoda Thombs
Rick Thombs
Ellen Truman
Samantha Dunn Walker
Lorna Ulmer's brothers
Jane Weir
Jonathan Williams
Bert Winslow
Irene Wise
People of the Middle East
The Military
Border Concerns
People of Ukraine
Victims of Violence
Victims of Natural Disasters
Kairos Prison Ministry