

HINDUISM

BUDDHISM

JUDAISM

ISLAM

NONE



CANTON, OHIO

**CROSSROADS**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## CHRISTIANITY & THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS

### UNDERSTANDING AND LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

**Sunday, February 23, 2025**

*Prayer candles are available at the communion rail  
Financial gifts may be made in the wooden offering boxes  
Please silence your electronic devices*

#### **THE GATHERING & CARILLON PRELUDE**

#### **THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

*Lord, I Want* Thomas W Jefferson  
*To Be a Christian*

#### **THE CALL TO WORSHIP\***

*Liturgist*  
For God so loved the world,  
**the sparrows, the mountain lions,  
the fish and the people.**

*Liturgist*  
For God so loved the world,  
**in success and failure,  
in sickness and health,  
in mediocrity and extraordinariness.**

*Liturgist*  
For God so loved the world,  
**enough to become one of us,  
enough to suffer along with us,  
enough to offer new life for us.**

*Liturgist*  
For God so loved the world,  
**let us worship God!**

#### **THE ENTRANCE HYMN\***

*Lift High the Cross*

UMH #159

#### **THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION\***

**God of glory,  
you sent Jesus among us as the light of  
the world,  
to reveal your love for all people.  
We confess that our sin and pride hide  
the brightness of your light.  
We turn away from the poor;  
we ignore cries for justice;  
we do not strive for peace.  
Forgive us, God.  
In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin,  
and baptize us once again with your  
Spirit,  
so that,  
as forgiven and renewed people,  
we may reflect the love and life of Jesus  
Christ into our world.**

#### **THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON\***

*Pastor*  
Our God is a God of grace and mercy and love; know  
that our sins have been forgiven. May we be  
strengthened in all goodness. Since we have been  
raised with Christ, let us seek the things that are  
above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of  
God. Thanks be to God.

**AMEN.**

#### **THE GLORIA PATRI\***

UMH #70

#### **THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Genesis 45: 3 - 11, 15

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Pastor*  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

**THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC** Mary McDonald  
*God So Loved the World*

**THE THANKSGIVING & DOXOLOGY\*** UMH #94

**THE GOSPEL LESSON**  
John 3: 16

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD** UMH #172  
*My Jesus, I Love Thee*

**THE MESSAGE** The Reverend Don Ackerman  
*Christianity*

**THE CLOSING HYMN\*** UMH #75  
*All People That On Earth Do Dwell*

**THE BENEDICTION\***

**THE POSTLUDE** Richard Lloyd  
*Andare*

**New Community Action Group**

Join with your fellow church members  
and help turn fear and grief about our civic life  
into shared action

*First Meeting TODAY*  
11:15 am - Wesley Hall

See Megan Smith for details

**Camp Wanake Work Day**

Saturday, April 5, 2025 \* 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Lunch Included

*Volunteers Needed! - See Jim Kennedy*

**Easter Flowers**

**Easter flower order forms are available  
in the rear of the sanctuary**

*Form must be received by Palm Sunday, April 13,  
to be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin*

**La Mesa Familia**

**Monday, March 3, 2025**  
**5:30 pm - Wesley Hall**

*A new, monthly dinner and community gathering  
with a play area for young ones  
and delicious homemade food for everyone*

\* - Please stand as you are able  
UMH - The United Methodist Hymnal

**PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP**

Megan Smith  
*Liturgist*

The Reverend Don Ackerman  
*Pastor*

**The Crossroads Choir**  
Beth Polen, *Director of Music Ministries*

Christopher Dazey  
*Organist, Pianist & Carillonneur*

**Happy  
Birthday**

2/24 — Andrew Begert,  
Betty Kennedy  
2/28 — Elizabeth Jenkins

**LENTEN ORGAN VESPERS**

**Sunday, March 9, 2025**  
**4:00 pm**

*Featuring*  
*Manuel Halkias, Reader*  
*Christopher Dazey, Organist*

*Join us for this thoughtful and meditative beginning  
to the penitential season of Lent*

**New Member Class**

**Beginning Sunday, March 30, 2025**  
**11:15 am - Wesley Hall**

*Whether you are a new member or not,  
you are welcome to join Pastor Don's  
weekly New Member Class  
starting Sunday, March 30*

*Learn about the church's history and theology  
and ask as many questions as you'd like  
about your church home!*

To help keep our sacred space clean, at the conclusion of the service,  
please return this bulletin to one of the wooden tables located throughout the sanctuary