

# Bethel United Methodist Church

## Third Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2026

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

### Lectionary Scriptures

**This Week:** Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

**Next Week:** 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

### Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

**\*Opening Hymn:** "I Love to Tell the Story" UMH 156 (1,2,4)

**Call to Worship:** *on opposite page*

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (Apostle's Creed) UMH 881

**\*Gloria Patria** UMH 71

### Offerings of Praise, Thanksgiving

**\*Doxology**.....UMH 95

**OT Scripture:** Amos 3:1-15

### Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

**\*Hymn of Preparation:** "Fairest Lord Jesus" UMH 189 (1,4)

**Message:** "Who Is Your Best Friend?"

Scripture: James 4:1-12

**\*Closing Hymn:** "Surely the Presence of the Lord" UMH 328

**\*Benediction and Closing Chorus:** "Bind Us Together"

*\*Please stand if able*

### Call to Worship

Leader: We are unable to observe ourselves directly, but only through the reflection of a mirror. Could it be that we see God reflectively through the fairness of others, our awareness of the creative process, in new ideas, acts of compassion, our own resolve to live decent lives? We do see God faithfully reflected through humanity.

**Prayer of Confession: Dear God, help us to recognize you in the people around us. Help us to live in a way that others might draw closer to you. In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### Calendar of Events

**Today:** *Third Sunday of Lent. Fellowship Dinner after the service*

**Next Sunday:** *Fourth Sunday of Lent*

**All Week:** *Keep Safe and Pray*

### Worship, Educational and Outreach Opportunities

**Today:** *Interactive Online Service thru link on Bethel Web Site, Service Page*

### Prayer Concerns

*Bethel UMC, The UMC, Our Country, those in Military Service, Police, Fire, EMS first responders, Healthcare professionals and home caregivers, Teachers, Students; the Homeless, Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone; Kathie & Al Adams; Lexie Allen; Don Bitner, Georgia Bubner, Lake Goreau, Ryan Goreau; Kaylee; Savannah Lantz; Annabelle Pafford; Don & Pat Singletary; Holly Snelgrove; the family of Mike Trimble; Lawson Wooley; Lon & Lucy Wright; Howard and Ruth Zody*

*Please use a prayer request form, in the narthex, to submit requests for adding to the Prayer Concerns in the worship bulletin.*

**Devotionals:** *The Upper Room and Our Daily Bread* are daily devotional booklets that are available in the Narthex. Please take one or both and enjoy!

**Bethel Website:** <http://www.bethelumctlh.org>

Recordings of recent sermons are available on the web site

Recordings of sermons or services are available on CD by request.

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