

# Bethel United Methodist Church

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2026

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

### Lectionary Scriptures

**This Week:** Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

**Next Week:** Matthew 21:1-11; Psalms 118:1-2,19-29; Phil 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27

### Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

**\*Opening Hymn:** “Beneath the Cross of Jesus ” UMH 297(1,2,3)

**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:** Psalm 22:24-31

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

**\*Hymn of Preparation:** “Old Rugged Cross” UMH 504 (1,2,4)

**Message:** “Holy, is Our Friend Jesus”

Scripture: 1 John 4:1-6

**\*Closing Hymn:** “Through It All” UMH 507

**\*Benediction and Closing Chorus:** “Bind Us Together”

*\*Please stand if able*

### Call to Worship

Seek the Sovereign of all nations. Praise God and be in good heart for ever.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Divine Gardener, you have planted the true Vine in our world and sustain living branches by the Spirit. We confess that we do not always readily receive into our fellowship those you send to us. We are suspicious of those who seem different or whose sincerity we question. We may fear that we will be replaced, forgetting that you want your church to grow like a healthy vineyard, well-pruned of dead wood and producing the fruits of the Spirit. Forgive us if we in pride seek to take over your role as Gardener, discontent to be but branches of your true vine, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### Calendar of Events

**Today:** *Fifth Sunday of Lent, brief trustees meeting after the service  
2 pm, conversation with the bishop at St..Paul's UMC*

**Tuesday:** *3-4:30 pm, meet with Ed New at Bethel, for info on FLUMC foundation*

**Next Sunday:** *Palm Sunday;*

**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; Darren Plate; Don & Pat Singletary; Holly Snelgrove; 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.

**Contact:** Church phone: (850) 576-1454 email: [bumctlh@gmail.org](mailto:bumctlh@gmail.org)

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