



February 22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Welcome

Prelude

I Love Thee

Ritter

The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.

Call to Worship

Tina Wilmoth

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice.

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust the Lord.

When we confess our transgressions,

Christ's grace and forgiveness encompass us.

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust the Lord.

Open yourselves to the teachings and wisdom
of the Spirit.

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust the Lord.

Opening Prayer

Tina Wilmoth

Gracious and Loving God, we seek the freedom
found in the grace we receive through Christ Jesus.
We seek to know more fully your great love.

Turn us from our temptations.

Inspire us to open ourselves to the way of Christ,
that as we examine our lives and live out these days,
we may become examples of your abundant love
for all people.

May your Divine Spirit tend us
as angels attended Jesus in the wilderness,

and may we feel revived and sustained
to follow Jesus. Amen.

Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy

UMH 64

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Passing the Peace of Christ

Tina Wilmoth

May the grace, the steadfast love, and the peace
of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please offer one another a sign of Christ's love
and peace.

Children's Message

Pastor Larry

Ministry of Music

It Is Well With My Soul

Damon Moore

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer of Preparation

All Praying

Covenanting God, may your Holy Spirit bind the reading of your Word to us, heart and soul, that we and our children may live in your presence for as long as the heavens are above the earth. Amen

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock^[e] I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Response to the Word

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn*My Jesus, I Love Thee*

UMH 172

Sermon*"Pop Quiz"*

Pastor Larry

The Apostles' Creed

UMH 881

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

UMH 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.

Morning Prayer

Pastor Larry

The 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Tina Wilmoth

Christ knows every breath we take: each one is a gift from the Spirit. God watches over, protects, and provides for us. Let us present our offerings of thanksgiving for the goodness of the triune God.

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Choir

**Prayer of Dedication* Tina Wilmoth

**We offer ourselves to you, Lord Jesus,
emptying ourselves to become your vessels
of love and grace and hope to all we encounter.
May the gift of our lives and the gifts of our service
create God's kingdom on earth,
as it is in heaven. Amen.**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

***Hymn** *Precious Name* UMH 536
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***Benediction** Pastor Larry

***Choral Benediction** *I Come With Joy*
Together met, together bound,
we'll go our different ways,
And as his people in the world,
We'll live and speak his praise,
We'll live and speak his praise.

Postlude *Hymn of Praise* **Blake**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! LORD GOD ALMIGHTY!

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

*2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.*

*4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.*

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

*My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

*2. I love thee because thou hast first loved me,
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

*3. In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

PRECIOUS NAME

*Take the name of Jesus with you,
child of sorrow and of woe;
it will joy and comfort give you;
take it then, where'er you go.*

Refrain:

***Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.
Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.***

*2. Take the name of Jesus ever,
as a shield from every snare;
if temptations round you gather,
breathe that holy name in prayer.*

(Refrain)

*3. O the precious name of Jesus!
How it thrills our souls with joy,
when his loving arms receive us,
and his songs our tongues employ!*

(Refrain)

*4. At the name of Jesus bowing,
falling prostrate at his feet,
King of kings in heaven we'll crown him,
when our journey is complete.*

(Refrain)