

March 22, 2026 Fifth Sunday of Lent 10:30 AM

*Those who are able, please stand

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

We are pleased that you are worshipping with us today. We hope the service will be a blessing to you. This is the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Today we focus on the way God expects us to sacrifice ourselves for others and give our love and caring to them. Even now, God's word is clear. Keep My Covenant and keep love in your hearts and serve others.

Announcements:

March 23, 2026 Free Lunch 11:00 AM -12:30 PM w/North Bush UMC &

Northville UMC - Pastor Ron, Maggie and Charlotte

March 27, 2026 - Lenten Fish Fry - 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

March 29, 2026 - Palm Sunday Service in Sanctuary w/ Palms

April 2 2026 - Maundy Thursday Service in Chapel w/Communion @ 4:00 PM

April 3, 2026 - Good Friday Service @ 4:00 in Chapel (In Memory of Irving

Livingston) - Walk to the Cross Outside the Church at end of service

April 4, 2026 - COC Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 @ Foothills Worship Center

April 5, 2026 - Easter Sunday Service w/Communion in Sanctuary

MUSICAL PRELUDE: "The Lord is My Shepard" Pianist Mavis Baldwin

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (In Unison)

Even before we were born, God knew us. God has always been with us! The God we serve is the God of life, the God of hope, the God of new beginnings. Feel God's love shining on you and in you. Feel the warmth of the presence of God and let go of your fear, for God is with you. Rejoice, God's love surrounds each of us this day and always. Place your trust in God's presence and forgiving love. Amen

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Leader: Welcome this day to the Fifth step on our Lenten Journey.

People: It is on this journey that God will confront us. Lord, be with us on this journey.

Leader: Today's journey will demand much of us. Open our hearts, Lord, and bring us to your light.

People: Along the way we will witness astonishing acts of mercy and justice.

Leader: This is not going to be an easy journey. We are strengthened in our faith by the mighty acts of Jesus. Let us begin again the wondrous excursion.

People: We come with great hope and expectation as we walk the way of Christ. May we, who have heard, believe in the power of Jesus to conquer our fears and doubts.

Leader: Guide our lives and our steps as we move forward on this Lenten journey.

People: Lord, make us ready to offer ourselves to you. We place our faith and trust in Jesus, the one who has shown us light.

Leader: Today we step up a little higher on our Lenten Journey.

People: Let us place our lives in God's abiding love. The world is behind us; we are focused on the cross from today forward. AMEN

GATHERING SONG "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

UMH 496

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (In Unison)

God of the ages, we come into this holy space asking for your blessing, only to find that the abundance of your love is already around us. Open our eyes to see the blessing of your creation in the beauty all around us. Open our ears to hear the blessing of your word as it is proclaimed this day. Open our hearts to experience the blessing of faith through the gentle touch of a friend or the supportive smile of a stranger. Open our doors that we may become vessels of your blessing to a world still in need of salvation. All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS (Prayer request forms are at the back of the sanctuary)

PASTORAL PRAYER:

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE Where he leads me, I will follow (refrain)

UMH 338

GIVING OF OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "I Cannot Tell" Chancel Choir

DOXOLOGY "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

From your hands, O God, come the blessings that make life possible, even the very gift of life itself. In gratitude and thanks, receive from our hands this portion of our labors. By your Spirit's leading, may we use these gifts to bless the life of others with the assurance of love, the promise of hope, and the course of justice. Use these gifts in ministry to our church and our community as well as the World, in Your holy name, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

SONG OF COMMITMENT "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" UMH 452

SPECIAL READING (in unison) Canticle For Holiness of Heart UMH 401

PSALTER READING (responsive) Psalm 130 UMH 848

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From 1 Corinthians UMH 888

GLORIA PATRI (We use this ancient response to praise God for the Bible) UMH 70

SCRIPTURE John 11: 1-45

SHARING THE STORY "Close Encounters with Jesus" Pastor Joyce Royal

SENDING SONG "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" UMH 526

THE SENDING FORTH

God did not say that it would be easy to bring the good news to all people, but God did say that God would be with you. God's covenant is eternal and His promises endure from generation to generation. May the God who sent Jesus to redeem us, keep us safe and whole as we leave today. We are a people loved by God. We will live as signs of this love. Go in God's grace. May peace reign in your hearts forever! God is with you as you bring the good news of Jesus Christ to all you meet.

MUSICAL POSTLUDE "Lead On, Oh King Eternal" Pianist Mavis Baldwin

Prayer List: The Kevlin's on the death of Tom's brother-in-law Richard Nellis, The family of John Chiachierreta, Samantha Bielli (Gaulin), Dorothy Holly, Warren Baldwin, Elaine Schrum, Carol Johnson, Mike Frederick, Carol Sinsigalli, Sandy Marsh, Calae Bonfey, Ivy Patterson, The Sanfords, Don Williams

** If you have a joy or a prayer request or would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain group, please call Carol Johnson at 518-921-9902 **

Welcome to Worship

North Main Street United Methodist Church

316 North Main Street

Gloversville, New York 12078-2141

We Gather to Worship

We Scatter to Serve

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

