



MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 22nd, 2026 | Fifth Sunday in Lent
10:00 AM Theme: Renewed in Mercy
Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor
Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Some of us come to worship today, weary and worn, heavy with all the circumstances that are too much to bear alone.

We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

Some of us come to worship today, dry and thirsty, longing for relief and peace from the troubles that surround us.

We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

Some of us come to worship today with stories to tell of little resurrections, moments of new life that sprang up when we least expected them.

We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

Beloved, whatever we bring with us to worship today, God welcomes us and calls us to work together as we travel God's redemption road together.

We gather to be truth-tellers and life-bringers as we travel God's redemption road together. Amen.

* CONGREGATION STANDS AS COMFORTABLE CONGREGATION RESPONSE IN **BOLD Italic**

Key to abbreviations: OT: Old Testament; NT: New Testament UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS: The Faith We Sing ++ Indicates Someone's Favorite Hymn

***OPENING HYMN** "And Are We Yet Alive" (vs. 1-3, 6) UMH 553

PRAYER OF CENTERING

God of mercy, we come to you dry and lifeless, seeking your breath of life. Lead us to the place where our hopes lie buried and call us out from the tombs of despair. Call forth our faith that we may know you to be the resurrection and the life, in this world and the world to come. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

NOISY OFFERING

***PSALTER READING** Psalm 130 UMH 848

DRAMATIC READING John 11:1-45 NT p.104-5

SERMON "Redemption Road"

ANTHEM Search Me, O God Lani Smith

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Out of the depths of despair, we cry to you, O God. We are lost in a world of pain and suffering. When we put our trust in weapons of war, we find no peace. When we put our faith in our own resources, we feel the ache of our true needs. When we put our hope in the health of our bodies, we suffer pain and find no healing. Come to us, O God. Forgive our doubts and fears. Heal our brokenness, that we may rejoice in your steadfast love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PARDON

There is forgiveness and healing with God. God's steadfast love has the power to redeem our brokenness and make us whole.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY** "My Tribute" UMH 99

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Life-Giving Spirit, you breathe hope into our valleys of despair and call forth life where we see only dry bones. We long to be part of your work that restores, renews, and redeems. Take these gifts and use them to roll away the stones that keep your people bound. Let them be signs of trust, symbols of resurrection, and tools of transformation in a weary world. Through Christ, who calls us out of the grave and into your grace, we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Lord of the Dance” (vs 1-3)

UMH 261++

***BENEDICTION**

For all that has been...*Thanks!*

For all that will be...*Yes!*

***SENDING FORTH**

GREETER | Penny & Michael Seltzer **LITURGIST** | Laurie Oszczepinski
FELLOWSHIP/COFFEE HOUR | Jan Lucciola and Christine Tomczyk

PRAYER LIST: For Peace in the World, Bradley Seltzer, Beth Klopfleisch, Harry Moulton, Jackie & Dani Pentecharsky, Maryann Schneider, Pat Corcoran, Connie & Fred Lamando, Terry Coupell, Gary Psarudakis, Pat Mystkowski, Barbara Urban, Hernandez Family, Dianne Siconolfi, Rhonda Leister, Greg Hunt, Patrick Singer, Mark Geleyn, Carolyn Grossmann, Linda Ryder, David Scheer, Mike St. Jean, Joanne Green, Sue & Gregg Rhodes, Jacob Hernandez, Rebecca Suarez, Barbara Brown, Nazareth, Joe Schneider, Jim Schneider, The Tedesco Family, John Rodriguez, Geoff & Pam Sackett, Armando Avila, Agnes Halsey, David Kent, James Bennet, Joan Pauley, Lori Sheppard, Nancy McKeen, Steve Urban, Brian Sheppard, Lee Malone, Ellen Lee, Henry Salidino, Jim Lordi



IMPORTANT CHURCH INFORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHILD CARE (IN COMMUNITY RM/NURSERY AFTER CHILDREN'S MESSAGE)

CHOIR PRACTICE: SUNDAYS 8:30AM SANCTUARY

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE: SUNDAYS 11:30AM SANCTUARY

LIFE TALK : SUNDAYS 12:30PM in COMMUNITY ROOM

CRAFTY LADIES: THURSDAYS 9:30 AM Craft/Community Room

MEETING SCHEDULE and MEETING ZOOM LINK: bit.ly/MUMCZoom

- **Mondays 6PM, March 23rd—March 30th —Lenten Soup & Study (H)**
To attend Virtually, Join us via the Meeting Zoom Link at 6:30PM
- **Tuesday, March 24th—Noon—MS Support Group (H) (Conf. Rm)**
- **Wednesday, March 25th 6:30 PM—One Board/Trustee Meeting (Conf. Rm)**
- **Saturday, March 28th—CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY—Many hands make light work!**



We will host an Easter Indoor Egg Hunt for the Children after Worship on Palm Sunday, March 29th.

HOLY WEEK

March 29th – PALM SUNDAY

Thursday, April 2nd – 6:30 pm HOLY THURSDAY Dinner Church in Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 3rd – GOOD FRIDAY

10:00 am – Community Walk of the Cross begins at Good Shepherd Church

7:00 pm – Tenebrae Service of Shadows

April 5th – 10AM EASTER SUNDAY/ Holy Communion

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