EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4901 Woodbine Road Sykesville, Maryland 21784 (410)795-6136

www.ebenezerumchurch.org

Rev. Judith A. Emerson, Pastor Linda Bange, Music Director/Organist

> March 23, 2025 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Order of Worship

The Third Sunday in Lent

WELCOME

Good morning and welcome to Ebenezer United Methodist Church. We are happy you've chosen to worship with us today. Let us begin our time together by thanking God for being so loving and merciful to us. Come, let us worship the Lord!

PRELUDE(11:00 AM)

"Love Round"

Joyful Noise

"If I Had a Hammer"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Wrap yourselves in the healing love of God!

We seek God's presence in our lives.

Know that God continually surrounds us with patience and persistence.

Even though we have not produced the "fruits" of hope that God seeks, God forgives and heals our weakness.

Rejoice! Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!

We will turn our lives again to the Lord,

to serve and seek God's presence. Let us worship the Lord together!

*HYMN

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

UMH No. 121

OPENING PRAYER

God of all creation, thank you for your presence with us today. We pray that you will open our eyes, our ears, our hearts and spirits this morning. Lord, we pray that we may be healed of our faithlessness, freed from our fears and anxieties, and placed on the pathways that lead to peace and service to you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

This is the season of turning. We are called on this journey to turn our lives to the Lord. Let us do so by confessing what's on our hearts.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, in the light of your holiness we see ourselves as we really are, and we are ashamed. We confess that we are people who think too highly of ourselves and too little of others. We cling so tightly to the treasures of this world that we cannot open our hands to receive blessings from above. Forgive us and set us again on the path that leads to life. Deal with us, not as we deserve, but according to your mercy; not because we are worthy, but because you are gracious. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

You are given another chance! God has heard your cries. Turn again to the Lord. Find comfort and strength in God's eternal love for you. Be healed and believe the gospel, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

(8:30 AM)

"Jesus. Name Above All Names" Chancel Choir
TFWS No. 2071

(11:00 AM)

Jesus, name above all names,

beautiful Savior, glorious Lord. Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

In this period of waiting, Paul urges the floundering church to learn from the mistakes of their "ancestors" and to be faithful to the God of Israel.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 13:1-9

This text is about the importance of repentance and bearing fruit in order to avoid spiritual destruction, using the parable of the barren fig tree to teach a lesson of seizing the opportunity for redemption before it is too late.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

HYMN "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

UMH No. 349

SERMON "A Work in Progress"

Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN "Just as I Am" UMH No. 357

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns 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.

THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

Announcements

Offertory (8:30 AM) "Lord, Most Holy" Chancel Choir

*Presentation of Gifts

*Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH No. 95 Tune: Old 100th Published by the General Board of Discipleship of the UMC.

Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's love in Christ into our hearts.
Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, as we bring these gifts before you, we reflect on your call to bear fruit in our lives. Like the gardener tending the fig tree, we pray that you will cultivate in us the ability to use our resources for good, to grow in faith, and to bear the fruit of love, kindness, and generosity. May our collective giving be fruitful in advancing the church's mission and bring hope, healing, and transformation to all. Amen.

*HYMN "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" TFWS No. 2158

^{*}BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

^{*}POSTLUDE

Announcements

March 23, 2025

EUMC GAME NIGHT – Saturday, **March 29th** from 6:00 – 9:00 PM. Bring your favorite card game, board game, or group game! If you have any questions, contact Nancy Thompson at 410-241-1509.

EASTER CANDY – Easter is coming up so don't forget to order your candy soon! Order forms are in the narthex and in your bulletin. There are also sign-up sheets on the bulletin board to help make the candy. Order forms and payments are due by **Sunday**, **April 6**th. Pickup orders on April 13th after services.

EASTER EGG HUNT – Sunday, **April 13th** at 12:30 PM. Infants thru 5th graders please join us for a fun time of crafts, games, snacks, and an egg hunt. Please bring your basket to hold all your eggs! To RSVP or for any questions, contact Julie Jones at 410-404-1275 or juliejones3@comcast.net.

MANIDOKAN – Camp Manidokan registration is OPEN! Register your kids online! We will be attending camp this year from July 13th, 2025, to July 18th, 2025. Attending Sunday School regularly can help you get a scholarship for camp (2 absences allowed). A deposit of \$100 is still required for each camper when you register online. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board, so we know who to look forward to having with us at camp! Thank you so much!

FUNDRAISER CRUISE - If anyone is interested in setting up another group cruise as a fundraiser to benefit our Church's building fund, please contact Linda Dayhoff at dayoff@comcast.net or 410-875-2093. Cruises can be scheduled as far out as a year and a half, so it does not need to be soon.

5th SUNDAY WORSHIP – We will have **two services**, in the Sanctuary, on Sunday, March 30th instead of our usual 5th Sunday single service.



April 13th, Palm Sunday - 8:30 and 11:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary April 17th, Maundy Thursday - 7:30 PM Worship in the Sanctuary April 18th, Good Friday - 7:30 PM Worship in Sanctuary April 20th, Easter - 6:30 AM Sunrise Worship by the patio 9:45 AM Sunday School (except High School) 8:30 and 11:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary

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Ebenezer United Methodist Church



Church Office: 410-795-6136 Website: ebenezerumchurch.org Email:eumcwinfield@gmail.com Pastor's Email: revjae@aol.com

Office Hours

Tues - Thurs 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Sunday 9:00 AM - Noon

	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Last Week: 03/16/25	\$3,838	116
WORSHIP LEADERS	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Liturgist	Susan Sager	Nicole Streaker
Ushers	Tony & Susan Sager	Karl & Nicole Streaker
Acolyte	Kyle Flater	Derek Jones
DATE	EVENT	TIME
Tuesday, March 25th	Bible Study – with Rev. Rick Gray	9:30 – 11:00 AM
Wednesday, March 26th	Children's Choir Lenten Bible Study Chancel Choir	6:30 – 7:15 PM 7:00 – 8:30 PM 7:30 PM
Thursday, March 27th	Pachelbells	6:45 – 7:30 PM
Saturday, March 29 th	Game Night	6:00 – 9:00 PM
Wednesday, April 2 nd	OWLS Lenten Bible Study	12:00 – 2:00 PM 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Monday, April 7 th	Ad Council Meeting	7:00 PM

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