

Grace United Methodist Church



March 22, 2026 - 10:00AM

Order of Worship – 5th Sunday in Lent

**Grace United Methodist Church is a Family of Faith
striving to share God's love with all.**

***Please Stand If You Are Able**

Opening Voluntary – "Lied" by Gordon Young

Welcome/Greetings

Choral Introit

***Opening Hymn #374 - "Standing on the Promises"**

***Call to Worship**

L: Everything seems dead.

P: There is no life anywhere.

L: Our hopes have perished.

P: We see no future.

L: Send the power of your spirit upon us.

P: Breathe new life into us.

L: We wait for your transforming love.

P: We hope. We wait. We trust.

*** Opening Prayer**

Come, Spirit of God. We wait for your presence. We trust in your abiding promises. Breathe the breath of your power into us this day, that we may experience the power of new life, the promise of forgiveness, and blessing of community. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

We cry to you, O God. It is so easy to be overwhelmed with all that is going on. It is so hard to see any hope. Everywhere we look, we see struggles and loss. We feel we have failed. But where we see death, you breathe new life. Where we see failure, your forgiving love changes everything. You alone, O God, have the power to bring forth new life, new hope, and new beginnings. Be with us as we wait for you. Teach us to place our trust in your faithful love. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Jesus promises, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever trusts in me will live." Let us trust the promise of new life.

Passing of the Peace of Christ

The Spirit draws us out of ourselves and helps us see others as beloved children of God. The Spirit leads us to life and peace. Let us celebrate the Spirit we see in each other.

Children's Message

Rev. Eumin Kim

Scriptures

Old Testament – Ezekiel 37:1-14 (New International Version – NIV)

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ⁵ This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.'" ⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin

covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army. ¹¹ Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’” ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ *Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them.* ¹⁴ I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.’”

L: The Word of God, For the People of God. P: **Thanks be to God.**

*** Gospel Reading - John 11:17-27, 32-45 (NIV)**

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. ²¹ “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask. ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” ³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ “Where have you laid him?” he asked. “Come and see, Lord,” they replied. ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” ³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ “Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.” ⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing

here, that they may believe that you sent me.”⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

L: The Word of God, For the People of God. **P: Thanks be to God.**

*** Hymn before Sermon #3081 - “Now Behold the Lamb”** (sing each verse two times)

Sermon – “Graves into Gardens”

Rev. Eumin Kim

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

Invitation to Tithes and Offering

God breathes new life into us, giving us hope. We can trust God’s promises. Grateful for God’s presence, we bring our gifts this day.

Chancel Choir – “Jesus Died for Me” by David Lantz III

*** Hymn No. 95 – Presentation of the Offering**

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Spirit of God, you breathe new life into the dead and stuck places of our daily living. We are so grateful for the power of your transforming love. We bring these gifts, hoping that they will breathe new life into barren places of our world. We bring our lives, filled with new life, ready to serve all your creation.

*** Closing Hymn #334 - “Sweet, Sweet Spirit”** (sing twice)

*** Dismissal with Blessing**

Closing Voluntary - “Toccatina in g minor” by Johann Pachelbel

Pastor: Rev. Eumin Kim	Counting Team: Debbie Nicosia
Liturgist/Reader: Coleen Murray	Ushers: Everett Fitch, Carol Provenzano, Michael Provenzano
Director of Music: Drew Banzhoff	Audio-Tech: Brandon Gauntlett



♥†Family of Pastor John Cole, ♥Carmela Stockmann (mom of Donna Hartmann), ♥†Family and Friends of Evelyn Neber, ♥†Family of Barbara Harper, ♥Susan Hill and Barbara Jean Kazar (daughters of Barbara Harper), ♥George and Jeanne Simmons, ♥Anthony Nicosia (stepson of Debbie Nicosia), ♥Lisa Becker, ♥Bill Smyth, ♥Steve Savarese, ♥Chris Ukanwoke, ♥Rhoda Lankins and Roosevelt Lankins, ♥Country and People of Nigeria, ♥Juana Fernandez (mother of Marisa Pershad), ♥Elmer Alfaro and Dion Alfaro (friends of Andrea Owen-Boyd), ♥Family of Jennifer Seymour (friend of Andrea Owen-Boyd), ♥Prayers for everyone in Cuba and Jamaica, ♥Barbara Woodford, ♥Pat Panzarino, ♥Sonia Elliott, ♥Amanda Brown (Naomi Brown's mother), ♥Diane Rutledge (Naomi Brown's aunt), ♥Maudlyn Scarlett, ♥Marianne and Don Pike, ♥Jerry Noble (Tom Noble's dad), ♥Lionel Brown, ♥Diane Vitacco, ♥Heather Manning (friend of Kim Neri), ♥SofiaRose Curry (relative of Sing Larson), ♥Edie Zipperlen, ♥Mary Flynn (mom) and Maureen Andersen (daughter), ♥Manny Kurz, ♥Debbielee Thomsen, ♥Everon Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Carol Whyte, ♥Winston Scarlett (brother-in-law of Maudlyn Scarlett), ♥Jennifer LaRochelle (friend of Kim Neri), ♥David Biegler, ♥Vin Dowling, ♥Garvin Phillip (nephew of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Marilyn Eller (sister of Elaine Treske), ♥Jim Poch, ♥All our Military men and women, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥All UMW in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske). † - Death in family, ♦ - New entry

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