

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

+Indicates that all are invited to stand in body or spirit.
Congregation is invited to respond as indicated by **Bold Print**

PRELUDE *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Pastor Doug*

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER (UNISON) *Pastor Doug*
God, we do not know what to do, but You do. Open our hearts, eyes, and minds to You. Amen.

CENTERING TIME *Jesus, Name above All Names*

+CALL TO WORSHIP *Larry S.*

Larry: Come, all you people, and hear tell of the good news.
All: We gather to listen, to worship, and to bear witness.

Larry: God calls us to relationship, offering their abiding love.
All: The Lord is faithful, journeying through all of our days.

Larry: Lift up your hearts, O people! Lift them up to your God!
All: With all our souls and minds, we shall love the Lord!

+OPENING HYMN *Maker, Whom We Live* UMH # 88

+OPENING PRAYER (UNISON): *Larry S.*

Holy God, you have seen all things in heaven and on earth. Indeed, a thousand years is but a passing moment for you. Yet, your presence continues to be abiding and steadfast throughout Creation. You made each of us as reflections of your Divine being. You give to us the bounty and the fullness of your unending love, and you invite us to embrace it with all that we have and all that we are. Instead, we opt for another way. We choose to focus on what we want, on things we think will make us stronger, happier, more well-off, rather than on remaining open to our relationship with you. Forgive us, O God! Free us from the lesser things that we have tangled ourselves up in. Bring us back to the comfort and confidence of your saving grace surrounding our lives. Center our hearts and minds in you, that we might forever be grounded in your awesome love. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

+SILENT PRAYER

+SHARING THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Pastor Doug*

+GOSPEL READING *Matthew 22:34-40* *Larry S.*

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they met together. ³⁵One of them, a legal expert, tested him. ³⁶“Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?” ³⁷He replied, “*You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind.*” ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: *You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.* ⁴⁰*All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands.”*

SERMON *“Loving God”* *Pastor Doug*
Living in relationship with the Lord

HYMN *Lord of All Hopefulness* TFWS # 2197

COMMUNITY PRAYER *Larry S.*

OFFERTORY *How Can We Name a Love*

+DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH # 95

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Larry S.*

Wonderous God, within our day-to-day world, there are countless examples of your love being made known. In ways both great and small, you continue to pour out your abundance on all of us. With gratitude, we offer you our whole selves (body, mind, and spirit), trusting that in you, we will find our purpose and be given opportunity to share in the building of your kingdom. Amen.

If you do not feel comfortable speaking your joy or concern aloud, please complete a prayer card and pass it toward the center aisle. Pastor will collect the cards as we sing the following hymn:

PRAYER HYMN *Love the Lord Your God* TFWS # 2168

Wesley United Methodist Church

Worship Sundays 9 AM

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MARCH 9, 2025

JOY AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH # 895

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.

+CLOSING HYMN

God of Love and God of Power

UMH # 578

+BENEDICTION

Pastor Doug

POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

REACHING UP TO WORSHIP GOD | REACHING OUT TO SERVE OTHERS | REACHING IN TO GROW TOGETHER

*Love the Lord
your God with all
your heart
and
with
all
your soul
and
with all
your mind*



Matthew 22:37

ANNOUNCEMENTS



MARCH'S NOISY CAN

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN: MARSHFIELD MOBILEPACK EVENT

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian nonprofit hunger relief organization that provides food to help communities in developing countries become self-sustaining. FMSC's approach is simple: volunteers hand-pack scientifically designed meals which are shipped to partners in nearly 70 countries across the world.

Your financial support makes it possible for us to provide hope and the promise of a beautiful future to precious children around the world. Marshfield's FMSC Mobilepack's 2025 goal is to raise \$41,000 & pack over 135,000 meals.

Zion Community Church will host the MobilePack Event Thursday, April 24-Saturday, April 26, 2025. Registration to volunteer will open in mid-March.

JOIN TOGETHER FOR ONE CAUSE: TO FEED
STARVING CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD.

UPCOMING MARCH BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

11: DARLA A.

11: DAVID S.

2025 Lenten Book Study

Five Marks of a Methodist

Steve Harper

- Monday, March 10 @ 11AM
In-person or Zoom
- Tuesday, March 11 @ 7 PM
Zoom Only

Missed the first study & still want to join? Come & purchase a book for \$10.00.

Wesley's next dates to staff the Food Pantry are **April 7th & 9th.**



This week's YouTube link for Sunday Worship Service
<https://www.youtube.com/live/hSeDCjryx90>

Save the
Dates

The Recreation of The Last Supper will be performed on Monday, April 14th and Wednesday, April 16th @ 7 PM.



LET'S PRAY THIS WEEK FOR OUR BROTHERS, SISTERS, AND SIBLINGS!

If you have a joy or concern let us know! wumcoffice@wesleyhopeconnection.org

JOYS: those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week (see announcement page). Share with us your joys so we may celebrate together and glorify our Lord for your blessings!

- For **Nolan H.** who got a "1" on his solo at competition this past weekend.
- For **Penny's grandson** who stepped into the role of Jesus for his school's *Godspell*.
- For **Laura** (*daughter-in-law of Penny M.*) who is home and recovering well.
- For **Auburndale wrestlers** coming home from state.

CONCERNS:

- For **Carol** (*grand aunt of Pastor Doug*) who had a bad fall this past week.
- For **Mary E.** whose thumb is still giving her issues.
- For **Caleb H.** who is dealing with an ongoing cough.
- For **Terry** (*nephew of Betty S.*) who has severe health issues.

HOMEBOUND: Ruth S. Dorothy D. Shirley S. Ardis A.

OTHERS:

- For our **Muslim** siblings as they begin the holy month of Ramadan.
- For **Pope Francis** as he continues to struggle with respiratory issues.