



# What Should You Do

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**  
**February 1, 2026**

Prelude

**Scherzo** from Sonata no. 2

van Beethoven

Greetings

*The assembly responds or joins in unison when our text is **bold**.*

## Centering Words:

God has called us and blesses us when we live God's ways and not the world's.  
God's love embraces us even when we fall short of what God desires for our lives and actions.

## Call to worship:

People of God, who do you come to worship?

**We come to worship the one true God.**

How will you worship?

**Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.**

Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

**Come and abide in God's heart, now and forever.**

\*Opening Hymn

*Be Thou My Vision*

UMH # 451

1.

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought by day and by night;  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

2.

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

3.

**Great God of Heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 451

Words: Ancient Irish; trans. by Mary E. Byrne, 1905; versed by Eleanor H Hull, 1912, alt.

Music: SLANE; Trad. Irish melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1963

Alt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House; harm. © 1964 Abingdon Press

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## Call to Confession

## Silent Prayers of Confession

## Words of assurance

## Old Testament Reading: **Micah 6:1-8**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## Epistle Reading: **1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

*A Song of Gratitude*

Broughton

\*Gospel Reading: **Matthew 5:1-12**

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn of Preparation

**Seek Ye First**

UMH # 405

1.

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God And His righteousness;**

**And all these things shall be added unto you.**

**Hallelu, Hallelujah!**

2.

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek, and you shall find.**

**Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.**

**Hallelu, Hallelujah!**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 405

Words: Karen Lafferty , 1972

Music: Karen Lafferty, 1972

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Message

**What Should You Do**

Hymn of Response

**One Bread, One Body**

UMH # 620

Refrain:

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless.**

**And we, though many, throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.**

1.

**Gentile or Jew, servant or free,  
woman or man, no more**

Refrain

2.

**Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all.**

Refrain

3.

**Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
gathered to one, for all.**

Refrain

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 620

Words: John B. Foley, 1978

Music: John B. Foley, 1978; harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

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## Invitation to the Offering

*Please submit your offering as you feel led by placing it in the plates on the altar railing, or text your gift to 833-756-0325, or on our website: [www.elyriafirstumc.org](http://www.elyriafirstumc.org).*

Offertory	<b>Plein Jeu</b> from Messe pour les couvents	Couperin
*Doxology	<b>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</b> <b>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;</b> <b>    praise him, all creatures here below;</b> <b>    praise him above, ye heavenly host;</b> <b>praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.</b>	UMH # 95

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 95  
Words: Thomas Ken, 1674; Music: OLD 100TH; Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

## \*Offertory Prayer:

**O God, you bless us in so many areas of our lives, in places we often fail to recognize as blessing. Help us have eyes to see and hearts to understand the depth of your love and blessing. Today, we give out of that blessedness, dedicating ourselves to lives of justice and love, giving all that we are and all that we have to bring about your beloved community, here and now. Amen.**

## Sharing in Holy Communion

## Announcements

\*Closing Hymn           **Lord, You Give the Great Commission**           UMH # 584  
**Lord, You Give The Great Commission: "Heal The Sick And Preach The Word."**

**Lest The Church Neglect Its Mission And The Gospel Go Unheard,**  
**Help Us Witness To Your Purpose With Renewed Integrity:**  
**With The Spirit's Gifts Empower Us For The Work Of Ministry.**

**Lord, You Call Us To Your Service: "In My Name Baptize And Teach."**  
**That The World May Trust Your Promise, Life Abundant Meant For Each,**  
**Give Us All New Fervour, Draw Us Closer In Community:**  
**With The Spirit's Gifts Empower Us For The Work Of Ministry.**

**Lord, You Make The Common Holy: "This My Body, This My Blood."**  
**Let Us All, For Earth's True Glory, Daily Lift Life Heavenward,**  
**Asking That The World Around Us Share Your Children's Liberty:**  
**With The Spirit's Gifts Empower Us For The Work Of Ministry.**

**Lord, You Show Us Love's True Measure: "Father, What They Do, Forgive."**  
**Yet We Hoard As Private Treasure All That You So Freely Give.**  
**May Your Care And Mercy Lead Us To A Just Society:**  
**With The Spirit's Gifts Empower Us For The Work Of Ministry.**

**Lord, You Bless With Words Assuring: “I Am With You To The End.”  
Faith And Hope And Love Restoring, May We Serve As You Intend,  
And, Amid The Cares That Claim Us, Hold In Mind Eternity:  
With The Spirit’s Gifts Empower Us For The Work Of Ministry.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 584

Words: Jeffery Rowthorn, 1978.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH; Cyril V. Taylor, 1941

Words © 1978 Hope Publishing Co.; music © 1942, renewed 1970 Hope Publishing Co..

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## Benediction

Postlude

**Largo appassionato** from Sonata no. 2

van Beethoven

*\*Please stand as you are comfortable*

UMH ~ *United Methodist Hymnal* (hard cover hymnal)

FWS ~ *The Faith We Sing* (soft cover hymnal)

## Worship Participants

Preaching: Pastor Marcus Atha

Liturgist: Bailey Borer

Media Specialists: Denise Smith and David Wilm

Musicians: Kingsley Wood, Jack Roberts and the Chancel Choir

Sound: Neal Hubbard

Ushers and Greeters: Mike Gebhardt, Garry Gibbs, Bruce Schneider, and Mike Zahnke

This service is broadcast live on the radio station WOBL 1320 AM and 107.7 FM. Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Dalton Love in honor of January wedding anniversaries.

The altar flowers are sponsored in honor of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Community Breakfast Team: Debbie Miller, Dennis and Denise Ostergaard, and Dave Wilm for serving 100 meals last Sunday during the severe weather.

***If you are interested in joining our church family, or if you have any pastoral needs or prayer concerns, please call the church office at 440.322.6622.***



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035 440.322.6622

[www.elyriafirstumc.org](http://www.elyriafirstumc.org)

An equal opportunity provider

**Scherzo** from Sonata no. 2 by Ludwig van Beethoven. **A Song of Gratitude** by Edward Broughton, copyright © 1997. **Plein Jeu** from Messe pour les couvents by François Couperin. **Largo appassionato** from Sonata no. 2 by Ludwig van Beethoven. All songs are performed under license # 673591.

# Third Street Review



February Mission focus:

February 1, 2026

First United Methodist Church

312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Phone: 440.322.6622

Email: church@elyriafirstumc.org

## Save Our Children

For more than 40 years, Save Our Children has been a beacon of support for Elyria's youth, born from the heart of the youth ministries program at Asbury United Methodist Church. The program provides on average 95 children in grades K- 12 in Elyria with a safe place to go after school. Their mission is to enhance literacy, foster academic excellence, and nurture leadership skills among the vulnerable youth in our community. You may give on-line via our website: elyriafirstumc.org or submit a check to: *Elyria First United Methodist Church*, indicate **SOC** on the memo line. Changing the world one child at a time. Thank you for your generosity!!

## Second Harvest Grant

Elyria First UMC has received a food grant from Second Harvest Food Bank. We have been awarded \$1000 to use for the Community Breakfast and the Free Hygiene Store. We have a wonderful partnership with Second Harvest, and we are so blessed. God is good!

## Severe Weather

It's been several years since we have had extreme cold and snow like we did this past week. Based on the weather service warning system, if **Level 1** is issued, we will be **open** and will worship. *Only come if you feel safe.* If **Level 2 or 3** is issued, **please stay home!** We are registered on iAlert system and News5Cleveland. We will utilize those programs and send an email to reach as many as possible.

## Lent Begins February 18<sup>th</sup>

Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. The word "Lent" comes from the Old English word lencten, meaning "spring." This is a beautiful way of understanding this holy season: as a transition from the barrenness of winter to the new life of springtime. Make time to pray, fast, and prepare your heart for Easter!

## Free Clothing Store

We are accepting clothing, coats, blankets, and linens once again. Please place items in the box on the main level. Thank you! The store will be open to the community on **Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> 10 am-12 pm**. Please contact the church office at 440.322.6622 with questions or to volunteer for this wonderful ministry.

## **2025 Year-End Statements**

The year-end electronic statements have been sent. If you did not receive the electronic statement, please contact Heather Tucker in the church office at 440.322.6622. The hard copy statements have been mailed.

## **Share Your Gifts/Talents**

**YOU have gifts and talents** to share. The Community Breakfast and our Free stores need you!

*Volunteering once a month can make a significant difference in the life of our ministries, the community, and YOU!*

Please contact the church office to cheerfully offer your gifts and talents to serve in these vital ministries in 2026!

## **Community Breakfast**

Still thinking about joining a breakfast team? The 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> teams can really benefit with your help! **Prayerfully consider joining a breakfast team this year**, then call Julie Joy in the church office (440.322.6622) to volunteer!

## **Free Hygiene Store**

We are grateful for your continued support of this much needed ministry. Being open to the community and filling in the gap for many families is a blessing!

Our needs for February include:

- **Baby Wash and Lotion**
- **Cleaning Supplies** (glass, bathroom, and toilet bowl cleaners)
- **Laundry & Dish Soap**
- **Shampoo & Conditioner** (dry shampoo too)
- **Women's and Men's Body Wash, Deodorant, and Razors**

Please place these items in the box located on the main level. The store will be open on **Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>** from 10 am-12 pm!

## **Open Sponsorship Dates**

Altar Flower dates: Cost \$22

**February 15 and 22**

Radio dates: Cost \$300 (*includes advertising!*)

**February 15 and 22**

Please call the church office at 440.322.6622 to reserve your special date!

## **312 Happy Hour**

Happy Hour is a twice per month event held on the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at noon** in **Fellowship Hall!**

Join us for a great meal, fun, and fellowship on  
**February 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>!**

## **Scripture readings for the week:**

Sunday, February 1: **Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12**  
Monday, February 2: **Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 1:1-18; Philemon 1-25**  
Tuesday, February 3: **Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 2:1-16; James 5:1-6**  
Wednesday, February 4: **Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 3:1-13, 4:13-22; Luke 6:17-26**  
Thursday, February 5: **Psalm 112:1-9; Deuteronomy 4:1-14; 1 John 5:1-5**  
Friday, February 6: **Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:1-12; James 3:13-18**  
Saturday, February 7: **Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:13-16; Mark 7:1-8**  
Sunday, February 8: **Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 112:1-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-16; Matthew 5:13-20**



## **February 2026 Daily Readings**

Sunday, February 1: **Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12**  
Monday, February 2: **Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 1:1-18; Philemon 1-25**  
Tuesday, February 3: **Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 2:1-16; James 5:1-6**  
Wednesday, February 4: **Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 3:1-13, 4:13-22; Luke 6:17-26**  
Thursday, February 5: **Psalm 112:1-9; Deuteronomy 4:1-14; 1 John 5:1-5**  
Friday, February 6: **Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:1-12; James 3:13-18**  
Saturday, February 7: **Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:13-16; Mark 7:1-8**  
Sunday, February 8: **Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 112:1-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-16; Matthew 5:13-20**  
Monday, February 9: **Psalm 119:105-112; 2 Kings 22:3-20; Romans 11:2-10**  
Tuesday, February 10: **Psalm 119:105-112; 2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25; 2 Corinthians 4:1-12**  
Wednesday, February 11: **Psalm 119:105-112; Proverbs 6:6-23; John 8:12-30**  
Thursday, February 12: **Psalm 2; Exodus 6:2-9; Hebrews 8:1-7**  
Friday, February 13: **Psalm 2; Exodus 19:9b-25; Hebrews 11:23-28**  
Saturday, February 14: **Psalm 2; 1 Kings 21:20-29; Mark 9:9-13**  
Sunday, February 15: **Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9**  
Monday, February 16: **Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55; Exodus 33:7-23; Acts 7:30-34**  
Tuesday, February 17: **Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55; 1 Kings 19:9-18; Romans 11:1-6**  
Wednesday, February 18: **Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**  
Thursday, February 19: **Psalm 51; Jonah 3:1-10; Romans 1:1-7**  
Friday, February 20: **Psalm 51; Jonah 4:1-11; Romans 1:8-17**  
Saturday, February 21: **Psalm 51; Isaiah 58:1-12; Matthew 18:1-7**  
Sunday, February 22: **Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11**  
Monday, February 23: **Psalm 32; 1 Kings 19:1-8; Hebrews 2:10-18**  
Tuesday, February 24: **Psalm 32; Genesis 4:1-16; Hebrews 4:14-5:10**  
Wednesday, February 25: **Psalm 32; Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28; Matthew 18:10-14**  
Thursday, February 26: **Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:3-7**  
Friday, February 27: **Psalm 121; Micah 7:18-20; Romans 3:21-31**  
Saturday, February 28: **Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:4-8; Luke 7:1-10**

The readings can also be found on the church's website:

<https://www.elyriafirstumc.org/february-scriptures>