

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**  
**February 15, 2026**

Prelude

***Praeambulum in D***

Scheidemann

Greetings

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

Centering Words:

Be still before God, wait patiently; delight in God, who fulfills the desires of your heart.

Call to worship:

God is our light and our salvation.

**God shelters us in love.**

Come with shouts of joy to worship this day.

**We come with song and music to celebrate God's love.**

Come with longing to seek God's presence.

**Be with us now, O God, as we sing your praises.**

\*Opening Hymn

***Lord of the Dance***

♫ UMH # 261

**I danced in the morning when the world was begun,**

**And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,**

**And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth:**

**At Bethlehem I had my birth.**

Refrain:

**Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

**I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
They came with me and the dance went on:**

*Refrain*

**I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:  
The holy people said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,  
And they left me there on a cross to die:**

*Refrain*

**I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;  
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;  
But I am the dance, and I still go on:**

*Refrain*

**They cut me down and I leapt up high;  
I am the life that'll never, never die.  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he.**

*Refrain*

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 261

Words: Sydney Carter, 1963

Music: 19th cent. Shaker tune; adapt. by Sydney Carter, 1963;

harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

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Call to Confession

Silent Prayers of Confession

Words of assurance

Special Music

First Methodist Brass

First Lesson: **Matthew 4:17-5:20a**

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

Second Lesson: **Jeremiah 29:4-7**

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

Anthem

***I Want Jesus to Walk With Me***

Larson

\*Gospel Lesson: **Matthew 25:34-36**

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

Message

***What Did Jesus Do?***

Musical Response

First Methodist Brass

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

First Methodist Brass

\*Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

♫ UMH # 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 95

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674

Music: OLD 100TH; Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

\*Offertory Prayer:

**O God, we have seen your glory, felt the touch of your love,  
and felt your presence with us. With joyful hearts, we offer you our gifts.  
Having heard your call, we offer you our lives and our service. Amen.**

Announcements

\*Closing Hymn

***Together We Serve***

♫ FWS # 2175

**Together we serve, united by love,  
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.  
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,  
extending God's love to the last and the least.**

**We seek to become a beacon of hope,  
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.  
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through  
until we see Christ in each person we meet.**

**We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,  
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.**

**We offer a home to those who will come,  
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.**

**Together, by grace, we witness and work,  
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.  
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,  
remembering love is the strength of our song.**

The Faith We Sing Hymnal Number 2175  
Words: Daniel Charles Damon  
Music: SAN ANSELMO; Daniel Charles Damon  
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Benediction

Postlude

***Petit Plein Jeu***

Couperin

*\*Please stand as you are comfortable*

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

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

#### Worship Participants

Preaching: Rev. Karson Collins

Assisting: Rev. Marcus Atha

Media Specialists: Denise Smith and David Wilm

Musicians: Kingsley Wood, Jack Roberts and the Chancel Choir

Sound: Neal Hubbard

Ushers and Greeters: Roger and Janice McFrederick, 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 with money given for our radio ministry. Thank you to those who donate which allows us to continue our radio ministry as we share God's love with the radio audience and the community.

The altar flowers are sponsored by John Borer in loving memory of his mom, Joan Borer.

***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

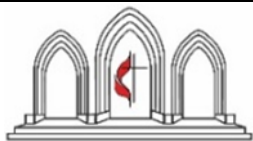
312 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035 440.322.6622

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

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# Third Street Review



February Mission focus:

**February 15, 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](http://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!!

## ***Fellowship Time***

Come, enjoy goodies and wonderful fellowship in the **Parlor** after worship **next Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**. If you would like to bake or host this monthly time of fellowship in the future, please see Darlene Lewis or Carol Stomieroski, or call the church office.

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

Ash Wednesday, marking the first day of Lent, evolved from ancient Jewish and early Christian practices of public penance using ashes to symbolize mortality, mourning, and repentance. Key themes of Ash Wednesday are mortality, sinfulness, and Repentance as a call to Spiritual Renewal and the need to turn back to God, grounded in His mercy. Make time to pray, fast, and prepare your heart for Easter!

## ***Severe Weather***

It's been several years since we have had extreme cold and snow like we did this past month. 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.

## ***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 24<sup>th</sup>!**

## **Open Sponsorship Dates**

Altar Flower dates: **Cost \$22**

**February 22; March 1, 8, 15, and 29**

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

**February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29**

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

## **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 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.**

## **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!**

## **Share Your Gifts/Talents**

***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!

## **90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**

All are invited to the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration for **Barb Nakanishi**. It will be held at *Wesleyan Village* in **Cascade Hall** on **Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> 1:30-4 pm.**

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

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**