

# UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**March 22, 2026**

**5th Sunday in Lent**



JOHN 11:25-26

“Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over, it became a butterfly.” ~ Chuang Tzu



**Sunday Worship**  
**10:00 am**

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday – Friday  
8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
541-926-5551



330 Fifth Avenue Southwest  
Albany, OR 97321

## We Gather in God's Name

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### Prelude

"Dance of the Mountain Bluebells"

by Michael Scott

*You are invited to make the transition from getting here to being here. Be still and know that God is God.  
We are claimed by Christ in the waters of baptism; the light of Christ shines in our lives and in the world.*

### Welcome & Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### + Invitation to Worship

In reverence, in wonder, in hope, we gather.  
**With unsettled questions in our hearts and a thirst for grace.**  
Come, for Christ welcomes you to this time and place.  
**Remembering that we who were lost are found and loved,  
we come to worship God.**

### + Gathering Song 611

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

## We Offer Our Gratitude

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### Community Prayer

Holy God, source of all being,  
you are greater by far than our human thoughts can comprehend.  
With all that you have created, you abide;  
weeping with us in grief and pain, rejoicing with us in life and love.  
You are everywhere in this very moment;  
holding the entirety of living experience,  
and weaving us together in the great and intricate tapestry of creation.  
In your holy love you took on our limitations.  
Born of a body, bound within a body,  
you know the whole of this human experience.  
Learning to communicate with words;  
teaching us to communicate with presence.  
Learning the fears that wring us dry;  
teaching us of the love that nurtures us back to life.  
When we see nothing but hopelessness,  
you surprise us with the breath of your spirit.  
Call us out of our complacency,  
set us free from our self-imposed bonds,  
and fill us with your spirit of life.  
In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Theresa Kidd

*Silent prayer and reflection*

### Sung Response 659

"Know That God Is Good"

### + Sharing the Peace of Christ

May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*As you are willing and able, please greet one another with signs of peace.*



## Welcome

We are delighted that you have added to the joy of worship this morning at United Presbyterian Church. We proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God, worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome all, celebrating our differences while finding unity in Jesus Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey - whatever grief, joy, or doubts you may bring today—you are welcome here.

## Announcements

**March's Shopping Cart Mission:** Our mission for the month of March will be [Snacks for Packs for FISH of Albany](#): They need 100% juice boxes, milk boxes, tuna packets (**no cans, please**), cookies / treats, granola bars, fruit snacks, fruit roll-ups, applesauce, ramen noodles, single-serving dry cereals, crackers (*Ritz, Club*), and rice krispies treats. **No nuts please!** Please put your donations into the shopping basket next to the elevator. **Thank you!**

## Upcoming Events

<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	<b>March 22</b> Worship Spiritual Guidance Group
<b>Tuesday</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>March 24</b> Sabbath Circle Book Study
<b>Wednesday</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>March 25</b> Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b> 11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	<b>March 26</b> YOGA Women's Book Study Linn-Benton Food Share

[The Children's Place and the United Presbyterian church office will be closed for Spring Break from March 23—March 27.](#)

## Serving Today

Thank you to all who served in worship today.

**Liturgist** — Theresa Kidd

**Ushers** — Annie Kumpula, Carol Harrison, Mike and Maureen Wellman

**Coffee Hour**—Gathering Committee

**Children's Programs** - Meredith Hansen, Denise Alejandre, Natalie Alejandre, and Logan Breese.

## Children's Programs

We are thrilled that you have chosen to bring your family to worship with ours! We believe children soak up the love of God even when they draw and color, read and create, or rest their head in your lap. Please feel welcome to visit our Children's Space located in the Round Room in the back of the sanctuary.

### Children's Nursery (Age 0 – 4 yrs)

This is open for infants to 4 years old. In this age, we help guide these curious minds in play and encourage exploration in their environment.

### Godly Play (Age 5 – 9 yrs)

Godly play is for children 5 - 9 years old. This is where the children learn about God through stories and explore their own thoughts by having free choice of activities that include a variety of crafts, art, song, and games.

### Creative Minds (10 yrs +)

This program is for the youth 10 years old and up. Creative minds uses a combination of technology, art media, games, and service projects to explore our relationship with God, and to encourage one another to grow in our faith, spirituality, and community.

## Local Outreach | Ways to Serve

**Linn Benton Food Share**—Packing boxes of food for families who suffer from food insecurities. The next time will be **Thursday, March 26th at 5:00 - 7:00 pm** at the Linn Benton Food Share Warehouse, 33900 Looney Ln., Tangent, OR 97389.

## Prayers & Praise

**Please send prayers of comfort and healing for:**

Nancy & Steve Hammond's daughter, Leslie  
Nancy Goode  
The family of Carol Jordan

### CHURCH STAFF

Brandon Lewis, *Pastor*

Tami Van Ras, *Pastoral Assistant*

Sienna Bogart, *Director of The Children's Place*

Meredith Hanson, *Children's Ministries Director*

Deborah Beier, *Office Manager*

Kason Stevens, *Facilities-Manager*

Michelle Mayers, *Music Coordinator/Choir Director*

Andrea Recek, *Pianist*

Tao Li, *Organist*

Jim Cole, Nathan Reid, or Chris Misa, *AV Techs*

Logan Breese or Greg Sutton, *Bus Driver*

