

WORSHIP 10:00 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM

MARCH 19, 2023

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

***OPENING PRAYER (IN UNISON) LED BY DIANE VARNUM:**

Patient and ever-faithful God, we come to you this morning confessing that we can be a grumpy and unsatisfied people. When things are not perfect in our eyes, we murmur and complain, and grumble and doubt. We lose hope in the people around us and, even worse, we lose hope in you. We challenge instead of accept. We put you to the test rather than trust your caring love. Forgive our doubts and complaining. Forgive our loss of hope. Let your healing, life-giving waters pour over us. Restore our souls. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM

A TIME FOR CHILDREN WITH MARATHA GILL

This, this is where children belong.
Welcomed as part of our worship and song.
Hearing God's Word, sharing love all along.
This is where children belong.

After the Children's Moments your child is welcome to:

-Stay and be part of the worship service.

-Attend God's Big House (Ages: K-5th Grade-upstairs with Mr. Andrew and our volunteers)

-Attend the Nursery (Ages: Newborn-Pre-K-main level, down the hall with Ms. Sarah and our volunteers)

***A SONG OF PREPARATION: MY HOPE IS BUILT**

UMH 368

SCRIPTURE : JOEL 2:12-27 READ BY BILL NIEMANN

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God? ¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast;

call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her canopy.¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar, let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery,

a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?' " ¹⁸Then the LORD became jealous for his lands and had pity on his

people. ¹⁹In response to his people the LORD said: "I am sending you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a mockery among the nations. ²⁰I will remove the northern army far from you and drive it into a parched and desolate land, its front into the eastern sea and its rear into the western sea; its stench and foul smell will rise up." Surely he has done great things!²¹ Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! ²²Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit; the fig tree and vine give their full yield. ²³O children of Zion, be glad, and rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given the early rain^[a] for your vindication; he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. ²⁴The threshing floors shall be full of grain; the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. ²⁵I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army that I sent against you. ²⁶You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame.²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

This is the Word of God. Do you believe it?

Yes, we believe it!

MESSAGE: ASHES TO ASHES: RESTORATION

REV. DUSTIN MCCUNE

A TIME OF PRAYER

A TIME OF GIVING

***DOXOLOGY**

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.

***A SONG OF INVITATION: JESUSS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS UMH 301**

***THE BENEDICTION**

*** CONGRAGATIONAL BENEDICTIONAL: THE BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you
make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meetings: Finance Team-March 27 at 6:30 pm

Meeting Night- April 2

September Club- April 5 at Noon

Pecans: The Hospitality Team is still selling Pecans

Wednesday Night Dinner: Main Dish: Please see the sign up sheet to volunteer to bring a main dish.

30 Hour Famine: The Youth are accepting donations of \$2.00 for each fingerprint represented on the poster in the Sanctuary to raise money for World Vision. Their goal is to raise \$3,800.00.

WEEKLY:

Prayer Breakfast : Thursdays at 8:30 am at Bob Evans in Kinetic Park. We will start with a devotion, pray over our prayer list, and enjoy fellowship together. You pay for your meal.

Eat, Study, Pray (ESP) Tuesdays at noon. Mary DeMoss leads our bible study. Bring your own lunch.

Wednesday Dinner/Bible Study:

Dinner at **6:00 pm**

Bible Study at **6:30 pm.**

WNK: Wednesdays at 6:00 pm.

Choir Practice : Wednesdays 5:00—5:55 pm.

Donate to Cross Roads UMC-scan the bar code for quick access to the Cross Roads website. Click “donate” to reach our safe, online Donation app, Tithe.ly.



Cross Roads United Methodist Church

Rev. Dustin McCune, Pastor

March 19, 2023

To parents of young children: Relax!

God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house.

-Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to engage.

-Explain the parts of the service and action of the pastor, musicians, and leaders.

-Sing the songs, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn behavior by mimicking you.

If you have to leave the Sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back.

As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

*Congregation is invited to stand, if able.

GATHERING MUSIC:

THE LION AND THE LAMB

GLORIOUS DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***A SONG OF PRAISE: GOODNESS OF GOD**

***CALL TO WORSHIP LED BY DIANE VARNUM:**

L "EVEN NOW," DECLARES THE LORD, "RETURN TO ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH FASTING AND WEeping AND MOURNING. REND YOUR HEARTS, AND NOT YOUR GARMENTS."

P RETURN TO THE LORD YOUR GOD, FOR HE IS GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL, SLOW TO ANGER, AND FILLED WITH COMPASSION AND LOVE .