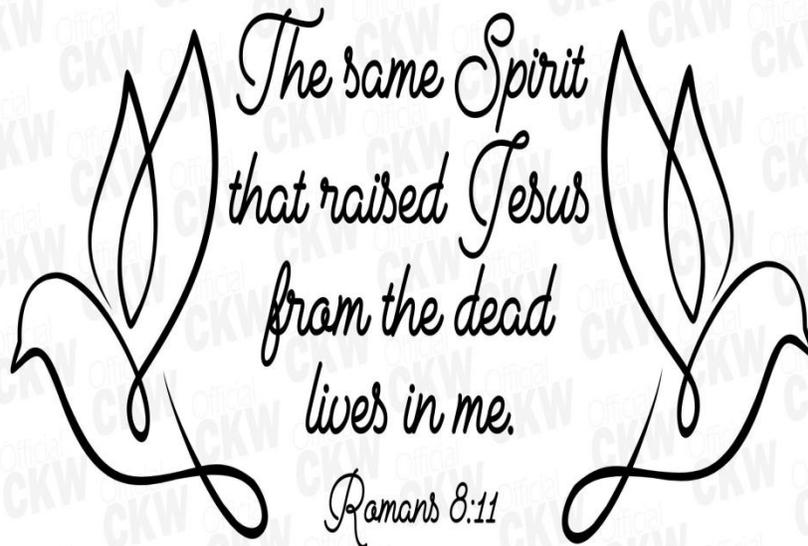


**HAMDEN PLAINS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

15 Church Street, Hamden, CT 06514
203- 248-4654



***“The mission of the
Hamden Plains United Methodist Church is sharing God’s love by
creating a safe and welcoming community, connecting people’s
needs with God’s power, and reconciling divisions through Christ.”***
-Mission Statement

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 22, 2026

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

+ Those able please stand

PRELUDE

+OPENING HYMN

“Here I am, Lord”

UMH #593

+WELCOME TO THE PARISH

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Louise Pruchnicki

CALL TO WORSHIP

Louise Pruchnicki

Leader: He established a decree in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children,

People: that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,

Leader: so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;

People: and that they should not be like their ancestors, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.

OPENING PRAYER

Louise Pruchnicki

Dear Lord, during this season of Lent, we ask that You show us how we can be closer to You. We Your church yearn for this knowledge. We seek for Your glory and Your honor. Romans 2:7 says “to those who by patiently doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.” We Your children will continue to seek Your glory and honor, Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Louise Pruchnicki

We Your church come before You to confess that You are Lord of Lords, and King of Kings. We confess dear Jesus that You are the great High Priest, and You have all power in Your hands. Hebrews 10:23 says “Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. We thank You dear Jesus for Your faithfulness to humankind, Amen.

Offer prayers of silent confession.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rev. Cleaven Johnson, Jr.

WOMEN’S HISTORY MOMENT

JOYS & CONCERNS

After each request

Louise Pruchnicki

Leader: Lord in your mercy People: *Hear our prayer*

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Cleaven Johnson, Jr.

The Lord’s Prayer

UMH #895

Louise Pruchnicki

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.

+THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Louise Pruchnicki

Song: The Jesus in Me

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Old Testament:

Exodus 3:1-6

Louise Pruchnicki

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, “I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up.” ⁴ When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” ⁵ Then he said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” ⁶ He said further, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Leader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God*

+ New Testament:

Romans 8:6–11

Louise Pruchnicki

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not

have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord. **People:** *Praise to you, Lord Christ*

SERMON

“Alive on the Inside!”

Rev. Cleaven Johnson, Jr.

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Louise Pruchnicki

*Please mail or drop off your tithes and offerings to:
15 Church Street, Hamden, CT 06514.*

Noisy Offering (coins for missions) may be dropped off at the church.

ANTHEM

“Oceans”

+RESPONSE

“The Doxology”

UMH #95

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Cleaven Johnson, Jr.

Dear God, we present to You this offering that we give with our most sincere hearts. We thank You dear God for You have offered up Your Son for the redemption of my soul. There is nothing that can compare to Your love for me. Hebrews 10:10 says “And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” With this gift that we give, we say thank You, Amen.

GOING FORTH

+CLOSING HYMN

“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”

UMH #526

BENEDICTION

Rev. Cleaven Johnson, Jr.

RECESSIONAL

“Sanctuary”

The Postlude

The Worship has ended. The Service Begins

PASTOR OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday’s 3-7 pm. Please call the office if you need to meet with the Pastor. HE is also available Thursday’s & Friday’s Appointment only

MEDITATION TIME: The Prayer Room will be available prior to service for anyone who would like to pray or have quiet time and prepare for service.

YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT MEANS SO MUCH!

Please mail gifts to HPUMC, 15 Church Street, Hamden, CT 06514 or drop them off during office hours, Tues - Fri., 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. For Venmo, scan QR code or go to www.venmo.com/HamdenPlains-UMC.

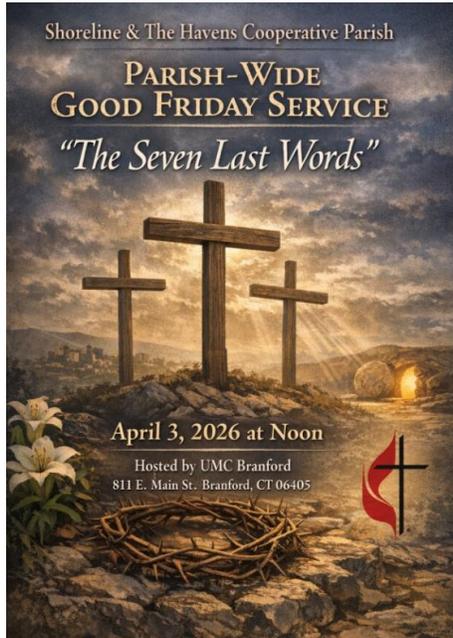


CONNECTIONAL BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP: Tuesday’s at 6:30 pm on Zoom. Fifth Sunday in Lent Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalms 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

CHOIR REHEARSAL: WEDNESDAYS 7:00 p.m. If you would like more information about joining the choir, please contact Dunn Pearson (dunnpearson@gmail.com) for more information. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.



All are invited to *Dinner for a Dollar* each Saturday, 6 – 7 p.m. take-out only through the Church Street doors.



EASTER FLOWERS

March 29, 2026

Easter Lilly \$11.00 ____ Daffodil 6in pot \$8.00 ____
Tulip 6in pot \$8.00 ____ Hyacinth 6in pot \$8.00 ____

Your Name: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

All orders must be paid to Nancy Estes by March 29th

Palm Sunday

Leave in Office, collection plate OR Mail to Church: 15 Church ST., Hamden, Ct 06514

(Please make check payable to **Nancy Estes** and mark it **"Easter Flowers"** on the notation line.)



SPECIFIC PRAYER REQUESTS should be called or e-mailed to Nancy Estes at 203.248.4654 or secretary.hpumc@gmail.com

THIS WEEKS PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray without ceasing; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:17-19

- Muriel Collins, Healing
- Rosemary Shaw
- Lorraine Welch, cancer
- Lois Hartsoe, heart issues
- Lois Fucci
- Harold Estes, cancer
- Willie & Delores Freeman
- Pam Gripper, Grimes Rehab
- Ed & Brenda Pineau, resting at home
- Barbara, request from Louise Pruchnicki
- Holly Wesman, partner of Karen Sroka, cancer

Home Bound/ Rehab

- Pam Gripper, 91 East Gate Lane, Hamden, 06514
- Lois Hartsoe, 7310 Ashlar Village, Wallingford, 06492
- Pat Leno, 850 Mix Avenue, Hamden, 06514
- Jimmy Morrison, 112 East Gate Lane, Hamden, 06514
- Carmine Raccio, 15 Sunrise Cove Road, Branford, 06405
- Marianne Reynolds, 520 Pool Rd. Apt. 424, North Haven, 06473
- Rosemary Shaw, 345 Fountain Street, Apt. 202, New Haven, 06515



BIRTHDAY'S: Geoffery Stafford 3/24

WAYS TO BE IN MINISTRY AND MISSION:

- Host Fellowship Hour
- Bring your "Cans for the Congo" during office hours or on Sundays.
- Drop off food for the Hamden Food Bank.
- Cook and/or serve for "Dinner for a Dollar" (take-out only). To sign up, contact Elias Joseph at 203.464.4988 or eliasvjoseph@gmail.com
- Check in by phone or send a note to someone home-bound or elderly.
- Continue to mail in your tithes and offerings.
- Donate used books to our Little Free Library
- Donate used printer ink cartridges
- Stay abreast of developments by reading your e-mail or checking the website.
- Read the upcoming Sunday scriptures as an act of spiritual formation
- Become a reporter for *The Messenger*

For information about these ministries, contact Nancy Estes at 203.248.4654/
secretary.hpumc@gmail.com

Worship Assistants

	TODAY March 22	Next Week, March 29
Liturgist	Louise Pruchnicki	Carole Outlaw
Ushers	Sandra Wade	Randi Harrell
Fellowship Time	D. Freeman/E. Kirkland	Shelly Jones
Counters	Shelly Jones Kirby Stafford	Lynn Brantley Randi Harrell

March 15: ATTENDANCE: 42

OFFERING: \$1,743

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF March 22, 2026			
Sunday	March 22	Worship	10:15 am
		Fellowship	Following worship
Tuesday	March 24	Bible Study	6:30 pm
Wednesday	March 25	Prayer and Healing	11:00 am
Saturday	March 28	Dinner for a Dollar	6:00 pm
Sunday	March 29	Worship	10:15 am
		Fellowship	Following worship

www.hamdenplainsumc.com
<https://www.facebook.com/HamdenPlainsUMC/>

The YouTube channel address:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxwHc1E3_YK4W1nHICT5iAA
or <https://tinyurl.com/t9q8gw6>

Worship at 10:15 a.m. Sundays

Minister: All Congregation Members

Rev. Cleaven Johnson, Jr., Pastor, rareblm1@gmail.com

Dunn Pearson, Musician Ministry, dunnpearson@gmail.com

Nancy Estes, Parish Secretary, secretary.hpumc@gmail.com

Derrick Pommills, Property Manager, pommillsfacilityservices@gmail.com