

**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

5th SUNDAY IN LENT

March 17, 2024

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

+ Those able please stand

PRELUDE

+OPENING HYMN

“I Love To Tell The Story”

UMH #156

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lenten travelers, how long have you traveled this road with your gaze pointed down at the dust and gravel and asphalt as you walk or limp or roll down the path?

Sometimes it is easier to look at the road than at the people who share the journey with us.

Lift up your heads! Look, listen, reach out a hand. Who are your neighbors on this road?
We lift our heads and look to our Savior who journeys with us and helps us notice our neighbors all around us.

This is the Lenten journey—to learn to love God and love our neighbors just as Jesus showed us.

Our journey teaches us to lose our lives to God as we find and follow Christ in our service to others.

Come, let us worship God who caravans with us on this road to the cross.

Come, let us worship! Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 31:31-34

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Lord, we know Easter is coming soon and while we anxiously wait to celebrate your triumphant victory over sin and death, there are still difficult days between now and then. And try as we might, we cannot comprehend love and mercy so great as this. There is nothing perfect about us, yet you beckon us with hands that soon will be scarred by betrayal, greed, selfishness, pettiness, pride, and apathy. You see us and our imperfections with compassionate and patient eyes as we struggle to rid our lives of all the worldly things that distort, distract, and entangle us. As the cross looms ahead, our eyes and our focus are on you and you alone for our redemption and salvation. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Love that knows no boundaries: we crowd our lives with so much activity that it is hard to find time for you. We become so focused on ourselves, we can overlook those around us who are searching for hope. We fill our spiritual emptiness with junk, rather than feasting on your Word.

Abundant Mercy, forgive us. Open our eyes, that we may see your new covenant written in plain sight on our hearts. Open our hearts, that we may join you in serving the broken of the world. Open our love, so we may pour it out as abundantly and graciously as your love is given to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Offer prayers of silent confession

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Amen.

PSALTER

Psalms 51:1-12

UMH #785

JOYS & CONCERNS

The Lord's Prayer

UMH #895

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

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Please mail or drop off your tithes and offerings to:

15 Church Street, Hamden, CT 06514.

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

+RESPONSE

"The Doxology"

UMH #95

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of the ages, we share our tithes and offerings this day with, but we acknowledge that most of the time, we are clinging tightly to what we have, afraid we might lose something

we need and afraid somehow there won't be enough to live our lives. The scarcity mindset overtakes us, and it robs us of the joy of our days. Remind us that Jesus has called us to be ready to let go of this life so that we might claim the abundance of life eternal. In our redeemer's name, we pray. Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; ⁶as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

ANTHEM

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

UMH #402

+ John 12:20-33

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."
³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

SERMON

Rev. Jeremiah Paul

GOING FORTH

+CLOSING HYMN

"Soon and Very Soon"

UMH #706

BENEDICTION

Beloved, go from this place to seek and find the glory of Christ wherever you go. And may you be blessed to recognize Christ as you notice, meet, and serve your neighbors today and every day. Amen.

RECESSIONAL

"Sanctuary"

TFWS #2164

The Postlude

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

NEXT WEEK: *PALM SUNDAY* Scriptures: Mark 11:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47

YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT MEANS MUCH! Please mail gifts to HPUMC, 15 Church Street, Hamden, CT 06514 or drop them off during office hours, Tues - Fri., 9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

For Venmo, scan QR code or go to www.venmo.com/HamdenPlains-UMC.



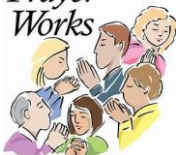
CONNECTIONAL BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP: Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Please watch for the link that will be emailed on Tuesday afternoon. Contact Pastor J for more information at 475.331.1122.

CHOIR REHEARSAL: WEDNESDAYS 7:00 p.m. If you would like more information about joining choir or being a song leader, please contact Pastor J (475.331.1122 pastorjj.hpumc@gmail.com) or 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.

Prayer Works



SPECIFIC PRAYER REQUESTS should be called or e-mailed to Nancy Estes at 203.248.4654 or secretary.hpumc@gmail.com or Holly O'Brien (203) 288-4252/ hollyobrien@snet.net

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

RECOVERING FROM SURGERIES- Janine Fiorillo-cancer of the pancreas

Nancy Estes- foot surgery

Lynn: Healing—her brother Bob, congestive heart failure

Lois Hartsoe, heart issues

Holly Wesman, partner of Karen Sroka, cancer

Home Bound/ Rehab

Mary Bales, 33 Woodruff Street, #113, Hamden, 06518

Lois Hartsoe, 7310 Ashlar Village, Wallingford, 06492

Pat Leno, 850 Mix Avenue, Hamden, 06514

Claudette and 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

Frank Teodosio, 330 Amity Rd., Woodbridge, 06525



BIRTHDAYS: BIRTHDAYS: Joseph Welch 3/18, Gabriella Neumann 3/19, Melisa Bodt 3/21 Geoffrey 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 Marty Hartog at 203.506.9788 or hartogm1@southernct.edu
- 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 or Holly O'Brien (203) 288-4252/ hollyobrien@snet.net

Worship Assistants

	TODAY March 17, 2024	Next Week, March 24, 2024
Liturgist	Megan Malanson	Shelly Jones
Ushers	Reon Keller	Megan Malanson
Fellowship Time	Holly O'Brien	Brenda & Ed Pineau
Counters	Marty Hartog Kirby Stafford	Lynn Brantley Perjah Delgado

March 10: ATTENDANCE: In-person: 35 OFFERING: \$2,319

<u>CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF March 17, 2024</u>			
Sunday	March 17	Worship	10:15 am
		Fellowship Time	Following worship
Tuesday	March 19	Connection Bible Study	6:30 pm
Wednesday	March 20	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm
Saturday	March 23	Dinner for a Dollar	6:00 pm
Sunday	March 24	Worship	10:15 am
		Fellowship Time	Following worship

Obeying a Tap on the Shoulder

Obeying a tap on the shoulder when the Lord calls your name
As you begin to live for Him, your life won't be the same
You must feel the master's touch as he walks amidst the crowd
You must listen carefully, for He may not speak loud
When you hear a voice in the wilderness saying,
 "Prepare your heart for Me
For when I live deep inside, I will set you free."
You must be willing to become a servant,
 For time grows shorter each day
You must become His witness by all that you do and say
We must learn to be like Mary by choosing a better part
Yielding to His tap on our shoulder right from the very start
Although Martha really tried her pride got in the way
 "Look at all I'm doing Lord,"
 Was all that she could say.
When Jesus said, "But Mary has chosen to do My will."
Martha could not see how this was done by sitting still
 Busy doing this and that
I do not spend the time I should to just sit and chat
Oh, help me be like Mary, Lord. Help me take time from my day
May I never be too busy to hear all you have to say.

By Judy Myer

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. Jeremiah J. Paul, Pastor, pastorjj.hpumc@gmail.com

Dunn Pearson, Musician Ministry, dunnpearson@gmail.com

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

Derrick Pommills, Property Manager, pommillsfacilityservices@gmail.com

PASTOR OFFICE HOURS: Pastor J is available on Wednesday and Thursday's by appointment only. If you would like to meet with Pastor J, please call the office at 203.248.4654 to schedule an appointment.



EASTER FLOWERS

March 31, 2024

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 24th

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.)