

Banning United Methodist Church
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
February 2, 2025

GATHERING

SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP

Cathy Mauge

WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS

Dan Mabey

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Dan Mabey

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor Doug

WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

Cathy Mauge

†**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Dan Mabey

L: Let us gather to listen deeply.

P: Word of God, speak.

L: Let us gather with childlike faith.

P: Ageless wisdom, reveal.

L: Word of God, speak.

P: Your servants are listening. Amen.

†**OPENING HYMN**

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

UMH #361

†**OPENING PRAYER**

Dan Mabey

God of love and life, speak to our hearts this day. Speak words of wisdom and faith. Open our hearts and minds to perceive Your message of love. Strengthen our faith to answer Your call, even when we don't feel confident or capable. Be our wisdom, strength, and love so that we may bring Your strength and love to the world. Amen.

PSALM READING

Dan Mabey

Psalm 71:1-6 NRSV

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me. Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel. For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth. Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Pastor Doug

Luke 4:21-30 NRSV

Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph's son?” He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Challenging Expectations" Pastor Doug

PRAYERS Pastor Doug

CHILDREN IN PRAYER (After each slide: In Your mercy, Lord, hear our prayer)

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Dan Mabey

OFFERTORY Cathy Mauge

†**DOXOLOGY** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Dan Mabey
Bless these gifts, O God, with Your love, strength, and presence. May the ministries this offering supports be a sign of Your love, strength, and presence in the world. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II Hymnal Page 12

COMMUNION HYMN "One Bread, One Body" Hymn #620

SENDING FORTH

†**CLOSING HYMN** "We'll Understand It Better By and By" vs 1, 3, 4 UMH #525

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

†**BENEDICTION** Pastor Doug

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD