

# Banning United Methodist Church

First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 29, 2024

## GATHERING

**SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP**

Cathy Mauge

**WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS**

Marilyn Casey

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Marilyn Casey

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor Doug

## WORSHIP OF GOD

**PRELUDE**

Cathy Mauge

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Marilyn Casey

L: We gather this morning, ready to listen.

**P: Open our ears, Lord.**

L: We gather this morning, ready to learn.

**P: Open our minds, Lord.**

L: We gather this morning ready to love.

**P: Open our hearts, Lord.**

L: We gather this morning, ready to worship.

**P: Open our spirits to receive You, Lord.**

L: We gather to praise the Lord Almighty! **Amen.**

†**OPENING PRAYER**

Marilyn Casey

**Holy One, as we gather today, may we be like young Jesus and Samuel, eager to hear, eager to learn, and eager to minister to others. Meet us here in this sacred space. May our hearts and minds be open to Your call as we worship and praise Your Holy Name. Amen.**

**HYMN SING**

**PSALM READING**

Marilyn Casey

Psalm 148 NRSV

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! <sup>2</sup>Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! <sup>3</sup>Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! <sup>4</sup>Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! <sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. <sup>6</sup>He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. <sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, <sup>8</sup>fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! <sup>9</sup>Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! <sup>10</sup>Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! <sup>11</sup>Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! <sup>12</sup>Young men and women alike, old and young together! <sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. <sup>14</sup>He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

**GOSPEL READING**

Pastor Doug

Luke 2: 41-52 NRSV

<sup>41</sup>Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's

journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**PASTORAL REFLECTION**

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

**THE LORD'S PRAYER: 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.**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Marilyn Casey

**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**

Marilyn Casey

**God of generosity, may Your peace and Your love seep into hearts and our offerings, that we might become shining examples of Your light in a dark and hurting world. Thank You for Your many gifts, including this gift of community, enthusiasm for learning, power of generosity, and love. May our gifts, our very lives, bring Your blessings to the world. Amen.**

**SENDING FORTH**

**†CLOSING HYMN**

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UMH #

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

**†BENEDICTION**

Pastor Doug

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

**POSTLUDE**

Mauge

Cathy