

# Prospect Street United Methodist Church

185 S. Prospect Street, Marion, OH 43302

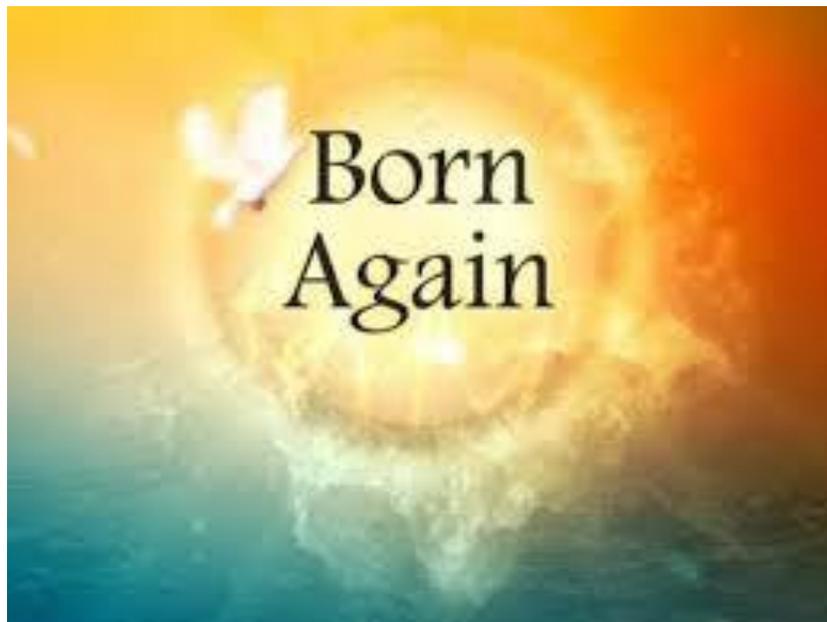
740-382-6069

Pastor, Joshua Freshour

614-519-8870

**Sunday, March 1st, 2026**

**10:30 a.m.**



## Mission Statement:

“We are united to love God,  
to grow in our commitment to Christ,  
to serve others, and welcome all people.”

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

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Joshua Freshour, Pastor

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\*Please stand if you are able

Please silence electronic devices

WELCOME

Michelle Fassler

OPENING PRAISE SONG      “All Creatures of Our God and King”

PASS THE PEACE

Leader:

The Lord Be With You

People:

**And Also with You**

CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

**“We are united to love God,  
to grow in our commitment to Christ,  
to serve others, and welcome all people.”**

PRELUDE

Jim Anderson & Gary Flach

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory” arr. by Lani Smith

Lighting of the Altar Candles

*Use this time to prepare your heart for worship*

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Beginning anew is not fun.

**People: It's scary and risky.**

Leader: It's not comfortable.

**People: But it's essential.**

Leader: Because by the grace of Christ, we were designed to keep growing.

**People: And once we accept this...**

**All: Then the only thing uncomfortable is the knowledge that we've been comfortable for far too long.**

OPENING HYMN

“Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”

#175

\*INVOCATION

**Gracious loving God, Creator of everything good. Creator who sees the sacred possibility in all things. As the potter with the clay, You long to mold us and make us. To tear away from us the bad and to repair the cracks and creases. You desire to lay Your caring graceful hands upon us, Your creation. To shower mercy upon us, forgiving us when we have created ourselves with a different image in mind. O God, so that we might live into the image you have created in us, give us the strength to move from our stagnation and to have the courage to put one foot in front of the other. May we remember that You are not far away O God, You are right beside us cheering us on to become that which You have always longed for us to be. A creation that calls You ours because of how we bring love to life in Your name. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"Jesus Loves Me" vs. 1

Children under age four may go to the Nursery  
 Children ages four through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade are dismissed for Junior Worship

## OFFERING

Offertory

"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" arr. by Mary McDonald

\*Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#95

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

## SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:1-17

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

## MESSAGE

"Shed Your Skin"

## HYMN OF PREPARATION

"One Bread, One Body"

# 620

## WORD OF INSTITUTION

## HOLY COMMUNION

## 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.**

## \*CLOSING HYMN

"God of Ages"

#698

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“God Be With You”

**God be with you till we meet again;  
by his counsels guide, uphold you,  
with his sheep securely fold you;  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
till we meet at Jesus’ feet;  
till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul” arr. by Tedd Smith & D. Hustad

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Liturgist: Colleen McCartney  
Greeters/Acolytes: The Deeter Family

*Next Sunday Scripture: John 4:5-42 & Sermon Title: “Can I Offer You Something to Drink?”*

*The clear candle burning on our altar signifies our appreciation for the men and women serving our country during this time of national concern.*

If you have a **Prayer Request**, please call Pastor Josh at 614-519-8870

The UWIF sponsored **Seed Tree** is set up by the main entrance doors to the Sanctuary beginning today through **March 29**. All circles encourage the church family to bring vegetable seeds for this ministry.

The **Monday Morning Meeting Bible Study** will meet **tomorrow** at 9:30 a.m.in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Board of Trustees** will meet **tomorrow** at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Young Adult Group** will meet every **Wednesday** at 6 p.m.

**Bible Study** will meet every **Thursday** at 6 p.m. & every **Friday** at 11 a.m.

The **Martha Horne Circle** will meet on **Thursday, March 5**, at 6:30 p.m.  
**Book Study** every **Friday** at 10 a.m.

**Spring Forward** - Daylight Saving Time begins **March 8!**

The **Prayer Team** will meet on **Sunday, March 8**, during the Sunday School hour.

**Ladies’ Lunch** will meet on **Sunday, March 8**, after the Traditional Worship Service at Payne’s Pizza.

The **YA Squad** will meet on **Sunday, March 8 and Sunday, March 22**, at 1 p.m.

**Youth Fellowship** will meet on **Sunday, March 8** and **Sunday, March 22**, from 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

The **Hilda Weiss Circle** will meet on **Monday, March 9**, at 1 p.m. at the home of Phyllis Heineman.

The **Guiding Light Circle** will meet on **Tuesday, March 10**, at 1 p.m.

The **VBS/Education Team** will meet on **Tuesday, March 10**, at 6 p.m. in the Upper Room.

The **Finance Team** will meet on **Thursday, March 12**, at 7 p.m. in the Upper Room.

A special collection will be taken for **UMCOR Sunday, March 15**.

**Spring Pot Luck Luncheon** on **Sunday, March 15**, immediately following the 2nd Service. Meat (fried chicken) will be provided. Also, plates, cups, napkins and eating utensils will be provided. Your job is to bring a favorite dish or dessert to share. This is a good opportunity to invite family and friends to join us for worship and fellowship. Some help setting up and taking down tables and chairs would be appreciated. Pete is going to be on vacation and needs us to lend a helping hand for this event. Hope you can join us!

Our annual **SPRING FLING** for children ages 2 to 12 is scheduled for **Saturday, March 28, at 10:30 a.m.** Please donate individually wrapped candies or other goodies for treat bags for the kids. There will be an egg hunt, story time, games and a craft. There will be baskets in the foyer and outside the choir room for donated goodies. Donations need to be brought by Sunday, March 22. Thank you for your support!

**Palm Sunday Feast – Sunday, March 29!** The traditional meal will be noodles with chicken or beef, real mashed potatoes, green beans/butter beans, bread and butter, dessert, and beverages. The meal will be after the second service, and the cost will be \$8.00/adults, \$20.00/family, and \$4.00/kids 10 and under. This meal is sponsored by the Guiding Light Circle. Mark your calendar now for this event and joyfully plan to share in the loving kinship and fellowship with your church family.

**Offering Envelopes for 2026** – If you need envelopes or want to sign up for E-Tithing, please call Erika.

**Service DVD's for Shut-Ins!** We have DVD's available of our 10:30 a.m. worship service for anyone who would like to borrow or have a copy. We are delivering DVDs on Monday mornings!

**E-Tithing** is an automatic withdrawal from your checking account and is remitted automatically to the church. We can set it up so it will deduct from your checking account on the 1<sup>st</sup> and/or the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Contact the church office for more information!

**Kroger Community Rewards** – Please enroll in the Kroger Community Program. Go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and all the details on creating an online account are there. Under Community Rewards make sure you search and select “Prospect St. United Meth. Chur” our organization number is VF478. Thank you! If you have any questions, please call Erika.

**Attendance February 22:** Sunday School – 24

Worship Services –23/78

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Website: [www.prospectstreetumc.com](http://www.prospectstreetumc.com)