

Prospect Street United Methodist Church
185 S. Prospect Street, Marion, OH 43302
740-382-6069
Pastor, Joshua Freshour
614-519-8870

Sunday, March 15th, 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.”

4th Sunday in Lent

Joshua Freshour, Pastor

*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

“Wonderful Words of Jesus” arr. by Patti Drennan

Gary Flach

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Use this time to prepare your heart for worship

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is in our very midst.

People: But we don't recognize Him.

Leader: We are too busy looking to the past.

People: We are too busy looking for blame.

Leader: We choose to see what we want to see

People: When all Jesus cares about is that we see Him.

OPENING HYMN

“Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love”

#422

*INVOCATION

Come Holy Spirit and bring new meaning to our lives. Help us to see that paradise and fulfillment do not come on our terms. Help us to see beyond the land flowing of milk and honey or the greener grass that we believe exists just for us. Help us to see that the images we have placed in our minds eye, those ideals and goals and promises we have made to ourselves, that while they might even be attainable, are not fully real and are not everlasting. While they are useful, they can also become a distraction used by the devil to move us further away from You. We desire O God, to be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and to be shown the truth. Even though we

might be afraid of what it is we will uncover, give us the courage to take off our blinders and to see ourselves and the world as it really is. A world with great promise, but a world that needs healing and love. Amen.

WITNESS IN MUSIC

“Praise the Lord of Love”

Senior Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

“Jesus Loves Me” vs. 1

Children under age four may go to the Nursery

Children ages four through 5th Grade are dismissed for Junior Worship

OFFERING

Special Offering

”UMCOR Sunday”

use pew envelope mark UMCOR

Offertory

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” arr. by Larry Shackley

*Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

#95

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

SCRIPTURE READING

John 9:1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” ¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. ³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered,

“And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

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

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

“We will get through this together”

HYMN OF PRAYER

“Spirit of the Living God”

#393

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

“He Touched Me”

#367

*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

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” arr. by Lloyd Larson

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Liturgist: Terry Huff

Greeters/Acolytes: David Haines & Shelly Kincaid

*Next Sunday Scripture: John 11:1-44 & Sermon Title: “Lazarus on the Other Side of the Tracks”*

*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.

A special collection will be taken for **UMCOR Sunday today!**

**Spring Pot-Luck Luncheon** - Hope you can join us **today** immediately following the 2<sup>nd</sup> service!

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

**Bible Study** will meet every **Wednesday** at 6:30 p.m. & every **Friday** at 11 a.m.

The **Leadership Team** will meet on **Thursday, March 19**, at 6 p.m. in the Upper Room.

**Newsletter Deadline** for our April 2026 Tower Notes is **Thursday, March 19!**

**Book Study** every **Friday** at 10 a.m.

**Neighborhood Supper** will be **Friday, March 20**, from 5 – 6 p.m. as a Carry-Out Meal. We would like your help in getting cans of Tuna in Water and Cream of Mushroom Soup. Donations can be placed in the kitchen. Thank you!

**Men's Prayer Breakfast** will be held on **Saturday, March 21**, at 8 a.m. The mission for March 2026 will be the PB&J Ministry. What is needed is peanut butter & jelly, sandwich bags, paper lunch bags, and individual size containers of apple sauce.

**Noisy Collection** will be on **Sunday, March 22**, for the Salvation Army Food Pantry.

We will collect for the **Salvation Army Food Pantry** on **Sunday, March 22**. Suggested donations: Pasta & Rice. They are also in need of paper products and feminine products. Put your donations in the shopping cart in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you!

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

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

**Marion Music Club** will be performing in our sanctuary on **Sunday, March 22**, at 3 p.m.

**Free Community Breakfast** will be held again on **Saturday, March 28**, from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. Come one, come all to help, support or just have breakfast and fellowship.

Our annual **SPRING FLING** for children ages 2 to 12 will be held on **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!

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

**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.

The **Flower Calendar** for 2026 is hanging up in the hallway. The price for fresh flowers is \$46.95. Silk flowers are \$5.00. Select your date to remember a loved one or to honor a family member or friend. Make checks payable to Prospect Street United Methodist Church. Let the office know if you order your own flowers.

**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 March 8:** Sunday School – 27                      Worship Services – 19/83

Pastor Josh: [pastor@prospectstreetumc.com](mailto:pastor@prospectstreetumc.com)  
Church Office: [secretary@prospectstreetumc.com](mailto:secretary@prospectstreetumc.com)  
Website: [www.prospectstreetumc.com](http://www.prospectstreetumc.com)