

# Prospect Street United Methodist Church

185 S. Prospect Street, Marion, OH 43302

740-382-6069

Pastor, Joshua Freshour

**Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**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.”

# *1<sup>st</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

"O How He Loves You and Me!"  
**O how He loves you and me!**  
**O how He loves you and me!**  
He gave His life.  
What more could He give?  
O how He loves you;  
O how He loves me;  
**O how He loves you and me!**  
Jesus to Calv'ry did go;  
His love for sinners to show.  
What He did there  
brought hope from despair.  
O how He loves you;  
O how He loves me;  
**O how He loves you and me!**

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

"Pachelbel's Canon in D"  
arr. by Janet Linker & Jane McFadden

Lighting of the Altar Candles

*Use this time to prepare your heart for worship*

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader: We come to worship because the world is our wilderness.**

**People:** It is not the land of milk and honey.

**Leader:** It is dry, and it is empty.

**People:** The wilderness is not where we want to be.

**Leader:** And so the world will offer us ways to make life better.

**People:** But the world's ways don't match up with God's ways.

**All:** We choose God over the world, and that is why we come to worship.

\*OPENING HYMN

"How Great Thou Art"

#77

**1. O Lord my God!**  
when I in awesome wonder  
consider all  
the worlds thy hands  
have made,  
I see the stars,  
I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy power throughout  
the universe displayed.  
Then sings my soul,  
my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art,  
how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art,  
how great thou art!

**2. When through the woods**  
and forest glades I wander,  
and hear the birds  
sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down  
from lofty mountain  
grandeur  
and hear the brook,  
and feel the gentle breeze;  
Then sings my soul,  
my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art,  
how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
my Savior God to thee;  
how great thou art,  
how great thou art!

**3. And when I think**  
that God, his Son  
not sparing,  
sent him to die,  
I scarce can take it in;  
that on the cross,  
my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died  
to take away my sin;  
Then sings my soul,  
my Savior God to thee;

how great thou art,  
 how great thou art!  
 Then sings my soul,  
 my Savior God to thee;  
 how great thou art,  
 how great thou art!  
 4. When Christ shall come  
 with shout of acclamation  
 and take me home,  
 what joy shall fill my heart.  
 Then I shall bow  
 in humble adoration,  
 and there proclaim,  
 my God,  
 how great thou art!  
 Then sings my soul,  
 my Savior God to thee;  
 how great thou art,  
 how great thou art!  
 Then sings my soul,  
 my Savior God to thee;  
 how great thou art,  
 how great thou art!

#### \*INVOCATION

Holy Spirit, we call upon Your strength today to help us look in the mirror. Help us to look at our reality and to courageously not be afraid of what we see. When we are fearful, we make wrong decisions and choices in our spiritual lives. We turn to the easy ways of the world that falsely build us up and make us feel like gods. We binge on things we ought not, so as to fill our bellies and make us feel better and safer when in reality they only leave us feeling even more empty. Forgive us when we are tempted to pray to You, O God, for the selfish easier way out of the difficult fears in our lives. Help us this day O God, by the strength of the Holy Spirit, to not allow fear to dictate our lives but instead, place them and everything into your loving careful powerful hands. Amen.

#### WITNESS IN MUSIC

"Lenten Carol"

Senior Choir

#### 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

"People Need the Lord" arr. by Marion Verhaalen

\*Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#95

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." 4 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" 5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to

him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8 Jesus answered him "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" 9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' 11 and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" 12 Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

**Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

***"Into the Wilderness"***

Pastor Josh Freshour

HYMN OF PRAYER

#367

"He Touched Me"

**1. Shackled by a  
heavy burden,  
neath a load of  
guilt and shame,  
then the hand of  
Jesus touched me,  
and now I am  
no longer the same.**

**He touched me,  
O he touched me,  
and O the joy  
that floods my soul!  
Something happened,  
and now I know,  
he touched me  
and made me whole.**

**2. Since I met  
this blessed Savior,  
since he cleansed  
and made me whole,  
I will never cease  
to praise him;  
I'll shout it  
while eternity rolls.**

**He touched me,  
O he touched me,  
and O the joy  
that floods my soul!  
Something happened,  
and now I know,  
he touched me  
and made me whole.**

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 Will Take Care of You"**

**#130**

**1. Be not dismayed,  
whate'er betide,  
God will take care of you;  
beneath his wings  
of love abide;  
God will take care of you.  
God will take care of you,  
through every day,  
o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.  
2. Through days of toil  
when heart doth fail,  
God will take care of you;  
when dangers fierce  
your path assail,  
God will take care of you.  
God will take care of you,  
through every day,  
o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.  
3. All you may need  
he will provide,  
God will take care of you;  
nothing you ask  
will be denied,  
God will take care of you.  
God will take care of you,  
through every day,  
o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.  
4. No matter what  
may be the test,  
God will take care of you;  
lean, weary one,  
upon his breast,  
God will take care of you.  
God will take care of you,  
through every day,  
o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.**

**\*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

“Proclaim the Glory of the Lord” arr. by Marion Verhaalen

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Liturgist: Faye Roszman  
Greeters/Acolytes: The Deeter Family

Next Sunday Scripture: Philippians 3:17-4:1 & Sermon Title: “We Don't Belong”

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

The **Ladies' Lunch** group will meet again **today** after the second service.

**Monday Morning Bible Study Group** will meet **tomorrow** morning at 9:30 a.m.

**Easter Flowers** can be ordered through **tomorrow**.

The **Hilda Weiss Circle** will meet **tomorrow** at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Staff-Pastor-Parish-Relations Team** will meet **tomorrow** 6 p.m.

The **Guiding Light Circle** will meet **Tuesday, March 11**, at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Lenten Study – Wednesdays** at 5:30 p.m. and **Fridays** at 10:30 a.m.

The **Finance Team** will meet on **Thursday, March 13**, at 7 p.m. in the Upper Room.

Erika will be on vacation till **March 14**. Dianna Eckle will be in the office Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Men's Prayer Breakfast** will be held on **Saturday, March 15**, at 8 a.m. There will be good food, devotions and fellowship! Please join this amazing group of men!

The **S.K.I. Group** will meet on **Tuesday, March 18**, at 6:30 p.m.

The **Leadership Team** will meet on **Thursday, March 20**, at 6 p.m. in the Upper Room.

**Newsletter Deadline** will be **Friday, March 21**, for our April 2025 Tower Notes!

**Neighborhood Supper** will be **Friday, March 21**, from 5 – 6 p.m. as a Carry-Out Meal.

**Neighborhood Supper Canned Fruit Drive** - Most months, we go through 3 to 4 GFS sized cans of fruit. We will take any kind of fruit and any size can. Also, we are looking for cookie bakers. If you enjoy baking cookies and would like to become one of our “bakers”, please let Molly Lu or Judy Stambazze know. Thank you for your support.

**Free Community Breakfast** will be held on **Saturday, March 22**, from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. This breakfast is free and open to all (donations will be accepted). This is a wonderful opportunity to get involved and support this effort to reach out into our community and build relationships with our neighbors and be fulfilled in sharing the love and grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Come one, come all to help, support, or just have breakfast and fellowship. If you have questions, please contact Bill Bess at 740-360-3965.

**Noisy Collection** will be on **Sunday, March 23**, for the Salvation Army Food Pantry.

We will collect for the **Salvation Army Food Pantry** on **Sunday, March 23**. 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 **Marion Music Club** will be performing in our sanctuary **Sunday, March 23**, at 3 p.m.

**Campaign For Kindness** Yard signs are on sale through **Sunday, March 23**, for \$15.00 a sign. Please use the order form in each pew.

The Jackson Area Ministries needs to have their seed supply replenished this year for their area wide gardening projects. The UWIF sponsored **Seed Tree** is in the main hallway through **March 30**.

**Wesley Scholarship** - Now is the time to pick up the application for the Wesley Scholarship that our church gives out every year. You must pick up the application at the church and complete and submit it to the church by **April 15**. You can also call Erika and she can mail an application to you! There is scholarship money waiting for somebody.

Please add to your newsletter **military prayer** list Anita Baker's granddaughter, Kaitlyn Crosby. Kaitlyn is in the Navy and is stationed in California.

**Special Music during Lent** – If you would like to provide special music during the offertory in Lent, please sign up in the choir room. The sign-up sheet is in front of the choir boxes.

**Pastor Josh** is in the office Tuesday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Call the church office if you would like to set up a time to see him or just come on in!

The **Flower Calendar** for 2025 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.

**Serendipity Sunday School Class** – They meet across the kitchen in the basement.

**New Beginnings Sunday School Class** – They meet in the basement right off the elevator.

**Faith Builders Sunday School Class** – They meet in the Upper Room.

**Teen Sunday School Class** - They meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the youth room.

**Elementary Sunday School Class** – They meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.

**Upper Rooms** Devotional Booklets for March/April 2025 are on the table inside the main entrance to the sanctuary. Small - \$1.20 Large - \$3.50

**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!

**Attendance March 2:** Sunday School – 33 Worship Services – 26/78

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