

March 5, 2023

Bringing Forth the Light

Prelude Jen Moser, Organist

Welcome and Announcements Pastor John

\*Responsive Reading (Psalm 71:1-3, 17) Bruce Bloch

One: I've taken refuge in you, O, Lord!

All: Don't let me ever be put to shame!

One: Deliver me and rescue me by your righteousness!

All: Bend your ear toward me and save me!

One: Be my rock of refuge.

All: Where I can always escape.

One: You commanded that my life be saved,

All: Because you are my rock and my fortress.

One: You've taught me since my youth, O, God;

All: And I'm still proclaiming your wondrous deeds!

\*Hymn "Rejoice, Ye, Pure in Heart" No. 160

\*Prayer of Affirmation and Assurance Bruce Bloch

Almighty God, it is prudent for us to always look to you before we speak or act, but we often move forward in haste without considering the wisdom and guidance that you provide. Help us to change our way of thinking and to consult with you first through prayer so that every decision we make will be informed and illuminated by you. In your Holy and Precious Name, we pray. Amen!

Prayer of Reflection Pastor John

Prayer of Illumination Bruce Bloch

Navigating through the darkness is never easy, but the Lord is always faithful and provides light to shine on the path He has set before us. May we be ever mindful of His presence and His desire to see to it that we remain on course. In His Blessed Name we pray. Amen!

Call to Confession Pastor John

Prayer of Confession Pastor John

As faithful disciples, we gather before you, Lord, in a spirit of humble contrition. We know of our wrongdoings, and we repent with a heavy heart. May you forgive and fortify us so that we will be better equipped to resist temptation and turn from evil. In your Gracious Name we pray. Amen

Prayer of Preparation for God's Holy Word Pastor John

First Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 31:6

Second Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:21-24

Third Scripture Reading: Hebrews 11:1,3

Response

One: Let us Rejoice in God's Holy Word!

All: For His Word brings us Light, Hope and Joy!

\*Gloria Patri No. 70

\*Hymn "Blessed Assurance" No. 369

Choir Anthem "Keeper and Sustainer"

Message "Changing Lanes" Pastor John

Sacrament of Holy Communion Pastor John

Our Morning Prayer Pastor John

Presentation of Our Gifts Pastor John

\*Doxology No. 95

\*Hymn "Now Let Us from This Table Rise" No. 634

Benediction Pastor John

Postlude Jen Moser

*\*=An Invitation to Stand in Body or Spirit*

## WHAT'S COMING UP?

### Lenten Services Schedule

Lent enables us to set aside time for additional prayer, reflection, and worship. Once again this year, we are partnering with several area churches for a series of Sunday afternoon Lenten Services (4-5 p.m.). We will also have a Maundy Thursday Service (6:30 p.m.) and a Good Friday Cantata (7:00 p.m.) as well as services for Palm Sunday (10:30 a.m.) and Easter Sunday (10:30 a.m.), all of which will be held here at Oak Chapel.

Please consider joining us for any of these services.

\*Mar. 5.....Oak Chapel United Methodist Church

\*Mar. 12.....New Pittsburg United Methodist Church

\*Mar. 19.....Church of the Cross United Methodist

\*Mar. 26.....Moreland United Methodist Church

\*Apr. 2.....Palm Sunday Service at Oak Chapel

\*Apr. 2.....Smithville United Methodist Church

\*Apr. 6....Maundy Thursday Service at Oak Chapel

\*Apr. 7.....Good Friday Cantata at Oak Chapel

\*Apr. 9.....Easter Sunday Service at Oak Chapel

### Chili Cookoff

Oak Chapel will host its 14th annual Chili Cookoff on Saturday, March 25, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the church's Fellowship Hall. There is no admission charge, but a free-will offering will be taken. The competition is open to people of all ages. If you wish to enter, please prepare a crockpot filled with your favorite chili recipe and deliver it to the church no later than 4:30 p.m. that day. Be sure to list your ingredients (but not your recipe) on a 3x5 index card. Those who attend will be given an opportunity to sample each of the entries and vote on your favorite. Voting will be held from 5:00-6:00 p.m., after which the winning entries will be announced. Cash prizes will be awarded for 1st (\$50), 2nd (\$30), and 3rd (\$20) place finishers.



Lord Jesus, we seek your guidance and your wisdom as we move forward in faith during these uncertain times. Help us to follow the path you have set before us, and hear our voices as we lift up the following praises and prayers...

**Praises**

\*For the revival at Asbury College and other colleges

**Prayers**

- \*For the family of Aria, who was struck and killed by a car
- \*For the driver of the vehicle that struck Aria
- \*For Judith, who is recovering from Covid
- \*For Megan as she battles Covid and other health issues
- \*For family and friends of Cliff Johnston who passed last week
- \*For Bella as she continues to recover following surgery
- \*For Jeannette, who is battling health issues
- \*For those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria
- \*For those affected by the train derailment in East Palestine
- \*For the Methodist Church as it confronts sensitive issues

Upcoming Worship Services	
March 12.....	Double-Edged Sword
March 19.....	Not a Peep!
March 26.....	Make it Easy on Yourself
April 2.....	Palm Sunday
April 6.....	Maundy Thursday
April 7.....	Good Friday Cantata
April 9.....	Easter Sunday

**Opportunities for Worship and Ministry This Week...**

Sunday 3/5	Sunday School Classes	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Youth Fellowship	6:30 p.m.
Monday 3/6	Revelation Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
	Art & Soul	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday 3/7	Retirees' Breakfast	8:30 a.m.
Wednesday 3/8	Choir	7:00 p.m.
Saturday 3/11	UMM Breakfast	8:00 a.m.

**Looking Ahead...**

Sunday 3/12	Sunday School Classes	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Young Adult Bible Study	11:30 a.m.
Monday 3/13	Revelation Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday 3/15	Choir	7:00 p.m.
	Acorn Deadline	



**Financial News:**

Financial News:  
 Tithes and Offerings needed each Sunday for budgeted expenses (January 2023): \$1,969  
 Received last month:

01/01.....	\$570.00
01/08.....	\$3,925.00
01/15.....	\$3,482.00
01/22.....	\$260.00
01/29.....	\$3,268.00

As of 1/31/2023, we received about 117% of our budgeted income for January. We are ahead of last year at this time, which was 70%. The positive bump is likely related to the weather over Christmas. The Food Pantry is in the black. We're still making a difference. Thank you Oak Chapel!

# Oak Chapel United Methodist Church

March 5, 2023



4203 West Old Lincoln Way  
 Wooster, Ohio  
 330-264-2537  
[www.oakchapelumc.com](http://www.oakchapelumc.com)  
 John Finn, *Pastor*

*Serving God and Community  
 through Love, Compassion,  
 Fellowship, and Caring*

Today's Message...  
**"Changing Lanes"**