

March 1, 2026

Bringing Forth the Light

Prelude Jen Moser

Welcome and Announcements Pastor John

Opening Prayer Pastor John

***Responsive Proclamation (Psalm 82:3-4) Pastor John**

Pastor: Give justice to the weak and the fatherless;

People: Maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.

Pastor: Rescue the weak and the needy;

People: Deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

***Apostles Creed Jean Haghiri**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.

On the third day, He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father

Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic

church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Passing of the Peace Jean Haghiri

***Hymn "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" No. 315**

***Prayer of Assurance Jean Haghiri**

Great and Powerful God, guide us out of the darkness and

into the light so that we may do likewise for others,

showering them with the abundant grace, infinite mercy, and

unconditional love that you show to us. May your message

reach all people, and may conflict give way to reconciliation

and peace. In Your Always Benevolent Name, we pray.

Amen!

Call to Confession Pastor John

Prayer of Confession Pastor John

Lord of love and compassion, we bow before you in humble contrition, acknowledging our unrighteousness and seeking your forgiveness. May you cleanse our soul and restore our relationship with you, so that we may pursue a life in which evil gives way to goodness and hatred is conquered by love. This we pray with great confidence in your Merciful Name. Amen!

Prayer of Preparation Pastor John

Scripture 1 Isaiah 9-2 Pastor John

Scripture 2 2 Corinthians 4:6 Jean Haghiri

Scripture 3 Ephesians 8:8-10 Jean Haghiri

Scripture 4 Matthew 5:14-16 Pastor John

Response

Pastor: Let us rejoice in God's Holy Word!

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

***Gloria Patri**

***Hymn "Jesus, the Very thought of Thee" No. 175**

***Anthem "Keeper and Sustainer" Chancel Choir**

Message "Reach Out in Darkness" Pastor John

Sacrament of Holy Communion Pastor John

Our Morning Prayer Pastor John

The Lord's Prayer

Presentation of Our Gifts Pastor John

***The Doxology**

***Prayer Over Our Offerings Pastor John**

***Hymn "Shine, Jesus, shine" Insert**

Benediction Pastor John

Postlude Jen Moser

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

WHAT'S COMING UP?

Campus Support

If you would like to support Madeline Thompson in her role as the representative for InterVarsity at The College of Wooster, she can be reached by e-mail, madeline.thompson@intervarsity.com, or phone, 740-971-8161.

Lenten Worship Series

Our Lenten Afternoon Worship Services continue TODAY 4:00 p.m. followed by light refreshments and fellowship.

March 1 Moreland Pastor John

March 8 Smithville Rev. David Rittgers

March 15.. New Pittsburg Rev. Amiee Hare

March 22 Oak Chapel Rev. James Lance

March 29 Wooster Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh

April 3..... Oak Chapel Cantata, combined Choirs

Bible Study Continues

Monday morning Bible Study continues tomorrow with an examination of the Book of Judges. We meet from 9:30-10:30 a.m. each week. All are welcome!

Come Meet the Bishop

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung is coming to our area March 12 and would like to meet YOU! Bishop Jung will have a quick tour of Oak Chapel from 1:00-1:15, then Pastor John will take him to New Pittsburg for conversation, visit and prayer, about 45 minutes, with both churches together. Church leadership should plan to attend. Everyone is welcome to join us at New Pittsburg UMC at 1:30 p.m.

Last Week's Attendance: 44 in person....36 online

Last Week\$2791



Praises and Prayers

Almighty and Everlasting God, we give you thanks and praise for the light you provide in our lives. We ask that your hear our voices as we lift up our praises and prayers before you at this time.

Praises

- *For Bruce Bloch’s leadership in Christian Education
- *For Cindy Duby, whose headaches have subsided
- *For Tom Rife, who is home after a recent hospitalization
- *For Madeline Thompson’s InterVarsity leadership
- *For Oak Chapel’s ministry at Danbury Assisted Living
- *For Oak Chapel’s Sunday School and Bible Studies
- *For the gift of patience in times of adversity
- *For the hospitality shown to all who worship with us
- *For those in our congregation who reach out and help others
- *For the commitment of our prayer warriors
- *For health and healing
- *For the presence of God’s Holy Word in our church
- *For safe passage for those who travel

Prayers

- *For Doug Patton’s father, who has entered Hospice Care
- *For Joyce Varns, who is dealing with a foot injury
- *For the family of Joe Kobilarsik, who passed last week
- *For Tina Braucher, who is recovering from a hospital stay
- *For Keri Merickle, who is recovering from pneumonia
- *For Cyndi Boyer’s friend, who is dealing with health issues
- *For Jyotsna Harris following the passing of her mother
- *For Trudy and Patty who are dealing with health issues
- *For the family of Eric Dane following his passing
- *For the Guthrie Family in their search for their mother
- *For travel mercies for Stuart and Cindy Mykrantz
- *For those who lack shelter during the cold winter
- *For those who are dealing with family struggles
- *For the shooting victims in our nation and around the world

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry This Week...

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|------------|
| Sunday 3/1 | Sunday School | 9:30 a.m. |
| | Worship | 10:30 a.m. |
| | Lenten Service | 4:00 p.m. |
| | Moreland UMC | |
| Monday 3/2 | Bible Study | 9:30 a.m. |
| | Art and Soul | 6:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday 3/3 | Retiree’s Breakfast | 8:30 a.m. |
| | Girl Scouts | 6:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday 3/4 | Men’s Bible Study | 6:30 p.m. |
| | Choir Rehearsal | 7:00 p.m. |

Looking Ahead

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|----------------|---------------------|------------|
| Sunday 3/8 | Sunday School | 9:30 a.m. |
| | Worship | 10:30 a.m. |
| | Worship at Danbury | 2:30 p.m. |
| | Lenten Service | 4:00 p.m. |
| | Smithville UMC | |
| Monday 3/9 | Bible Study | 9:30 a.m. |
| Tuesday 3/10 | Evangelism Team | 1:30 p.m. |
| | Days for Girls | 2:00 p.m. |
| | Girl Scouts | 6:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday 3/11 | Acorn Society | 11:30 a.m. |
| | Men’s Bible Study | 6:30 p.m. |
| | Choir Rehearsal | 7:00 p.m. |
| Thursday 3/12 | Bishop’s visit | 1:30 p.m. |
| | New Pittsburg UMC | |
| | 4-H | 7:00 p.m. |
| Saturday | Day on the District | 11:00 a.m. |

Acorn Society—a group of women who like to eat together! Gather at Moxie’s, 700 Medina St. Lodi 44254, on March 11, at 11:30 am. All women and girls are welcome.

Upcoming Worship Services

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|----------------|-------------------|
| March 8..... | Good Thing Going |
| March 15 | Let’s Make a Deal |
| March 22..... | Running on Empty |

Oak Chapel United Methodist Church



Today’s Message
“Reach Out in Darkness”

March 1, 2026

4203 West Old Lincoln Way
Wooster, Ohio
330-264-2537

John Finn, *Pastor*

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