

Name \_\_\_\_\_

- First time guest
- Returning guest
- Interested in baptism or membership
- Member

### New Contact Information

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Ways to Serve

#### OUTREACH

- Donate monetary funds to our Hygiene Bag ministry. Write "Hygiene" on the memo line of your check or on your envelope.
- Donate food and/or funds to Two Rivers Meal Site, Operation Safety Net and Little Free Pantry ministries.
- Volunteer on Saturdays at Meal Site, set up, serving, cleanup, or all of the above.
- Donate snacks for kids Sunday school class (goldfish crackers, fruit snacks, pretzels, etc.)

#### WORSHIP

- Liturgist** – Assist Pastor with readings and communion during worship.
- Video** - Work the camera in balcony to improve YouTube video
- 4th Sunday Ushers** —Open the church for Sunday worship and make coffee. Take offerings in bank bag to bank depository.



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

From the beginning of the Jesus movement, followers of Christ declared that there is no Jew or Greek, no slave or free, nor is there male and female. We, the people of Two Rivers United Methodist Church join in this movement of the Holy Spirit and declare that we celebrate the diversity of our neighborhood and the world.

We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual and affectional orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We believe that the body of Christ is more vital in its ministry when the whole diversity of the human family may enjoy full participation and leadership in the Church.

We welcome all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the Church and society, and acknowledge the pain caused by the history of exclusionary policies of the United Methodist Church. We will continue to work toward a more inclusive Church and invite you to join us in following Jesus Christ on the Way, marked by greater hospitality, kindness, justice, peace, understanding, and mutual respect.

### Announcements for March 8, 2026

**Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Classroom**  
**Advent Multi-generational Sunday School - 10:45 am in Fellowship Hall**  
**Adult Sunday School - 10:45 am in Asbury Parlor**

#### Discipleship Schedule

Monday Bible Study meets at noon in Epworth Hall. Wednesday Prayer & Devotion Time meets on Facebook Live and Zoom at noon every week. Zoom Meeting ID # for Wednesday is 961 006 728. The Zoom meeting can also be joined by phone simply by dialing 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

**The Chosen Lenten Study** This Lent, you are invited to experience the fifth season of *The Chosen* together on **Thursday** evenings at 5:30. We will begin with dinner, watch an episode while we eat, and then have a discussion afterwards. The first four seasons are available to watch for free at <https://www.byutv.org/the-chosen> or on *The Chosen* app.

**Easter Lilies** Be sure to order your Easter Lilies early this year. Our order deadline is fast approaching on Thursday, March 12th.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving



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**March 8, 2026 - The Third Sunday of Lent**  
**Matthew 26:57-75**

Those who arrested Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest. The legal experts and the elders had gathered there. Peter followed him from a distance until he came to the high priest's courtyard. He entered that area and sat outside with the officers to see how it would turn out.

The chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they could put him to death. They didn't find anything they could use from the many false witnesses who were willing to come forward. But finally they found two who said, "This man said, 'I can destroy God's temple and rebuild it in three days.'"

Then the high priest stood and said to Jesus, "Aren't you going to respond to the testimony these people have brought against you?"

But Jesus was silent.

The high priest said, "By the living God, I demand that you tell us whether you are the Christ, God's Son."

"You said it," Jesus replied. "But I say to you that from now on you'll see the Human One sitting on the right side of the Almighty and coming on the heavenly clouds."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He's insulting God! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, you've heard his insult against God. What do you think?"

And they answered, "He deserves to die!" Then they spit in his face and beat him. They hit him and said, "Prophesy for us, Christ! Who hit you?"

Meanwhile, Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant woman came and said to him, "You were also with Jesus the Galilean."

But he denied it in front of all of them, saying, "I don't know what you are talking about."

When he went over to the gate, another woman saw him and said to those who were there, "This man was with Jesus, the man from Nazareth."

With a solemn pledge, he denied it again, saying, "I don't know the man."

A short time later those standing there came and said to Peter, "You must be one of them. The way you talk gives you away."

Then he cursed and swore, "I don't know the man!" At that very moment the rooster crowed. Peter remembered Jesus' words, "Before the rooster crows you will deny me three times." And Peter went out and cried uncontrollably.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" - arr. Barbara Kinyon  
Two Rivers Handbell Choir

GREETING

LENTEN REFLECTION "Grief" by Maya Angelou

\*HYMN #378 UMH "Amazing Grace" vs 1, 2, 3, 6

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (adapted from a Prayer of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, seedbed.com)

All: O God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray and to concentrate my thoughts on you; I cannot do this alone. In me there is darkness, but with you there is light; I am lonely, but you do not leave me; I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help; I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience. I do not understand your ways, but you know the way for me. Speak to me in this moment. Breathe into me your words of life and grace.

*Pause for silent confession and reflection*

One: Through Christ we are restored to liberty. We are enabled to live now. We may stand before God and humanity as forgiven and freed.

All: Lord wherever this may lead us. Whatever this day may bring, your name be praised. Amen

\*PASSING THE PEACE

THE DIMINISHING LIGHT

One: We begin with six lights, and extinguish one for each Sunday during Lent. Today we extinguish the candles of anointing, agony, and denial.

All: Peter was hurt when Jesus said that he would deny him. Peter swore that he would remain with Jesus until the end, but in his time of trial,

One: Two different women stopped Peter, recognizing him as a Galilean and said, "This man was with Jesus."

All: "I don't know what you're talking about."

One: A short time later a third person said, "You must be one of them,"

All: This time Peter cursed and swore "I don't know the man."

One: The rooster crowed and Peter wept.

All: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRAYER SONG #2275 FWS "Kyrie Elieson" (which means "Lord have mercy")

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER  
*-please rise if you are able*

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

MUSICAL OFFERING "And the Crowd Cried Out" - Althouse  
Olinda Gunther, mezzo soprano and Nancy Schwegler, piano

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: O God, your word is a lamp before my feet, and a light for my journey. As we venture into the darkness of Lent, may your light illumine our path. Amen

SCRIPTURE – Matthew 26:57-75 (Common English Bible)

SERMON "I do not know the man" - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #159 UMH "Lift High the Cross" vs. 1, 2, 4

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

INTRODUCTION OF FAMILIES

\*OFFERTORY #163 UMH "Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know" v. 1-4  
*All are invited to place your offering and the detached part of the bulletin in the offering basin at the front as we sing*

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Anointed One, as we journey toward the Cross this Lenten season, we look deep into the heart of betrayal, denial, and shame. It is not an easy road, yet we trust that hope remains. Even as the darkness creeps, the light still shines, and the darkness will not overcome it. For this, we give you thanks.

These are the things we offer—a longing for renewal, an honest reflection, a restatement of our priorities, and a desire to remain steadfast.

Receive also this gift of prayers, presence, and treasure. They are our sincere and humble response to the magnificent glory that you offer to us.

In Christ's holy name, and with the sure and certain hope of Resurrection, we pray. Amen.

DOXOLOGY #95 UMH

\*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Lift High the Cross" -Sydney Nicholson/arr. Fred Bock  
*UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (red book) FWS = Faith We Sing (black book).  
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PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

March 8, 2026

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers for our Church and its ministry:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Prayers for people I know:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- I have permission to publish this prayer.
- I do not have permission to publish this prayer.

Prayers for the community/world:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Prayers for myself:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_