



## **Order of Worship**

Sunday, Mar. 8, 2026, 11:11 a.m.

*Third Sunday in Lent*

*This worship experience will be livestreamed and recorded.*

### **Welcome**

Dan Lee, Director of Youth Ministries

### **\*Call to Worship**

### **\*Gathering Songs**

*How Good It Is*

*He Is (with Precious Lord Take My Hand, Hymnal 474)*

### **Scripture Readings**

*Ezekiel 34:1-6, 11-16, \*John 10:1-16*

Bonnie Wheaton

### **Kid's Church!**

### **Reflecting on the Word**

*I Am: The Good Shepherd*

Pastor Mary Zajac

### **Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance**

### **\*Reflection Song**

*God of the Poor*

### **Time for Giving**

### **People's Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

### **\*Sending Song**

*Sent Out in Jesus' Name (The Faith We Sing 2184)*

### **Responsive Blessing and Fellowship Time**

*\*You are invited to stand in body or spirit.*

# Announcements

---

## **This morning, Sun., Mar. 8, at Gary Church:**

- **In-Person Worship:** 9 and 11:11 a.m. Assisted listening devices and large print hymnals are available by asking an usher. Livestream and recorded worship are available at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).
- **Sunday School:** 10 a.m. for all ages.
- **The God We Can Know:** 10:10 a.m., Anderson Room. This study will build on Rob Fuquay's *The God We Can Know*, aligning with our Lenten preaching series exploring the "I Am" sayings of Jesus. Books are available for \$10, but reading is not required to attend the class.
- **Special Blend Fellowship:** 10 a.m., Commons. The Green Team invites you to bring your own small reusable cup with a lid.

**Prayer squares for Lent:** The Gary Knitters knit prayer squares for our congregation. Take a square from a basket in the Commons. Hold it in your hands when you pray, and know that it was knit with love.

**A new song at 11:11 a.m.:** As we look forward to Easter, we continue to sing to God, with a brand-new song by Chris Tomlin, *How Good It Is*. Listen to the recording on [YouTube](#) for a sneak preview. You can also access Collective Joy's playlist at [garychurch.org/ministries/music](http://garychurch.org/ministries/music).

**Semimonthly men's breakfast:** Second and third Saturdays of the month, 7:30 a.m., Egg'lectic Cafe, 145 N. Hale St., Wheaton. All men are invited. RSVP at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).

**Dream of spring!** Plants with a Purpose, a fundraiser for Gary's ministries, is now taking orders for Sat., May 2 delivery. Order by Sun., Mar. 15 at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org), or pick up a paper form in the Commons.

**Cultivating a Resilient Faith in a Turbulent World:** Wednesdays through Apr. 1, 7 p.m., on Zoom, led by Pastor Mary Zajac. Join this Lenten study over Zoom to learn spiritual practices that can serve as our guide-rope through turbulent times. No book needed. Participants will be asked to stay current with the news and engage in a practice during the week. Register at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).

**Chili Cookoff and Auction items/soup needed:** Sun., Mar. 15, 5 p.m., Commons (after the musical). Do you think your soup or chili has what it takes to win the *Golden Ladle* trophy or have an item or service to donate? Register by today, Sun., Mar. 8, at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org). If you have any questions, contact Dan Lee ([dlee@garychurch.org](mailto:dlee@garychurch.org)).

**Fired Up musical/Chili Cookoff and Auction:** Sun., Mar. 15, 4 p.m., Activity Center (musical), 5 p.m., Commons (cookoff/auction). Enjoy the musical and then eat yummy soups and chilis. Bid on auction items and vote for your favorite soup and chili. Proceeds support this summer's youth mission trip.

**Exploring Membership:** Sun., Mar. 22, 10 a.m., Chapel. Get better acquainted with pastors and staff, learn more about what it means to be United Methodist and about the history of our Gary Church congregation. Contact Jennifer Castino ([jcastino@garychurch.org](mailto:jcastino@garychurch.org)) if you plan to attend.

**Easter egg donations needed!** Please donate candy-filled Easter eggs by Fri., Mar. 27. Donations can be dropped off in the bin near the Missions bulletin board.

**Flowers for altar:** If you'd like to give flowers on a Sunday, fill out the form on the registrations page at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org), or contact the Church Office ([office@garychurch.org](mailto:office@garychurch.org)). Cost: \$35.

# Holy Week and Easter

## Palm Sunday

March 29, 9 a.m. and 11:11 a.m., Sanctuary

A week before Easter, Palm Sunday marks the “triumphal entry” of Jesus into Jerusalem. We remember that he was welcomed as a king but then, by week’s end, betrayed and crucified. We reflect on both our faith and faithlessness with vibrant worship services at 9 a.m. and 11:11 a.m., including waving palms.

## Maundy Thursday

April 2, 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Gary Commons

On this holy night we remember the Last Supper and the new commandment or “mandatum” that Jesus gives to the disciples after he washed their feet: to love one another, just as he loves them. This worship service will take place in the Gary Commons. We will enjoy a soup supper, Holy Communion and an opportunity to wash each other’s hands or feet as a sign of our humble service to others. **Register for the soup supper at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).**

## Good Friday

April 3, 7 p.m., Sanctuary

All are invited to observe this solemn day commemorating the crucifixion and death of Jesus with a Tenebrae (“shadows”) worship experience. Together we will meditate on the sacrifice of Jesus through Scripture and song as we slowly extinguish the lights of the church, leaving in relative darkness and silence until we meet again on Easter morning.

## Easter Sunday

April 5, Outdoor sunrise worship at 6:30 a.m.

Sanctuary worship at 9 a.m. and 11:11 a.m.

## “Christ Is Risen; Christ Is Risen Indeed!”

All are welcome to an outdoor sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. on the lawn between the Main Street doors and the Wesley Center. This brief service of word and song will include Holy Communion.

Worship in the Sanctuary will have nearly identical services at 9 a.m. and 11:11 a.m., featuring wonderful music and a joyful Easter message.

At 10:15 a.m., everyone is invited to the annual Easter egg hunt in Memorial Park.



## Worship Notes

---

A decorative border at the bottom of the page featuring a repeating pattern of stylized stained glass designs. The designs include red and blue geometric shapes, green leaf-like motifs, and yellow accents, all set against a dark background.

At Gary Church, our mission through Christ is to grow in joyful faith and serve all in love.  
224 North Main Street, Wheaton, IL 60187 630-668-3100 [www.garychurch.org](http://www.garychurch.org)