



@cheshire.umc

Lisa Moran, *Sexton*

# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

10:00 A. M.

PRELUDE

Mara Weed

OPENING PRAYER

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Pastor

♦CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: Jesus went up the mountain, sat down, and began to teach.

**People: He did not begin with commands, but with blessing.**

Leader: Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, those who long for justice and peace.

**People: God sees what the world overlooks.**

Leader: Blessed are the merciful, the peacemakers, the ones who keep showing up with honest hearts.

**People: God's kingdom is already drawing near.**

Leader: Come, not because you have it all together, but because God's grace is already leaning toward you.

**All: Let us worship the God who names us blessed.**

♦OPENING HYMN # 407

“Close to Thee”

♦PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

Holy and gracious God, we praise you not because we are strong, but because you are faithful. You are the One who sees us as we are—before we are polished, before we are certain, before we are put back together. We adore you for your surprising mercy, for your nearness to the grieving, for your promise to those who hunger for justice. You are the God who does not wait for perfection but speaks blessing into fragile lives. You gather the overlooked, you strengthen the gentle, you entrust your future to peacemakers. Receive our praise this day—not as a performance, but as a grateful response to a love that has already found us. We worship you, O God, who names us blessed and calls us into your life-giving way. Amen

♦ CHILDREN'S HYMN “I've Got the Love of Jesus, Love of Jesus Down in My Heart”

CONVERSATION WITH THE CHILDREN & THE LORD'S PRAYER

“Jesus Loves Me”

*(ushers collect green prayer cards)*

THE FIRST LESSON (p.816 OT)

Micah 6: 1-8 (responsive)

◆THE GOSPEL LESSON (p.4 NT) Matthew 5: 1-12 (responsive)

SERMON “BLESSED ALREADY: WHEN GOD NAMES OUR LIVES”

CHORAL ANTHEM “Offertory” John Ness Beck

HYMN OF PREPARATION #621 (Tune: Old 100<sup>th</sup>)

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE #17-18

JUBILATE RINGERS “Communion Medley” Jason W. Krug

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY

◆Doxology #94, Prayer of Dedication and Altar Call

◆CLOSING HYMN # 547 “O Church of God, United”

◆THE BENEDICTION

◆PASSING OF THE PEACE

◆Stand, if you are able

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*Usher:* Creighton Myers

*Ambassador:* Jim Jackson

*Fellowship:* Dee Popolizio

*Member Outreach:* Dot Mattson

*Nursery:* Barbara Heafy, Jen Roeder

*Sunday School:* Sarah Champagne

*Communion Assistants:* Carolyn Kelly, Sue Trumbo

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*Visual Arts Creator:* Carl Strand

*Visual Arts Engineer:* Mark Gilleylen

*Livestream Tech:* Natalie Missakian

*Counters:* Michele Bloom, Dave Wendt

*Prayer Cards:* Susan King

*Lector:* Carolyn Kelly

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## Announcements.

The **altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Dee Popolizio in celebration of the children in our congregation and the joy they bring to us.

The **Trustees** will meet on Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

The last day for the **Valentine’s Day** candy collection is Friday, 2/6. There is a box in the Narthex labeled “**Campus Candy**” for donations.

**Chicken Pot Pie making** will take place on Saturday, 2/7, at 9:00 a.m. Please see Dot Mattson for more information

# *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.

## *Welcome!*

We are a Welcoming and Reconciling congregation. Rooted in God's love, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person and seek to live Christ's call to compassion, justice, healing, and wholeness. We welcome people of all races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, nationalities, abilities, family structures, and social or economic backgrounds into the full life and leadership of the church. We believe we can love alike even when we do not think alike, and we invite all to share in worship, ministry, fellowship, and the sacraments as we grow together in faith and love.

## *Who We Are . . .*

We are a church family that welcomes all, regardless of political views or Christian perspectives, because we belong to the one family of God. Though we may not always agree, we commit to loving, forgiving, honoring our differences, and serving together as we live out the Gospel of God's love revealed in Jesus Christ. Guided by Micah 6:8, we strive to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.