

First United Methodist Church

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

February 1, 2026  
8:15 & 10:30 a.m.



**GRACE THAT MEETS US WHERE  
WE ARE**

#### **Mission Statement**

“First United Methodist Church (FUMC) of Oneonta, NY is a congregation of faith and doubt. We commit ourselves to pursue justice, and pledge to stand with all our neighbors who are marginalized and oppressed, as Jesus did.” – Adopted by the Church Council on September 1, 2021



Pastor, Rev. Casey Bradley  
Organist, Leslie Bauer  
Choir Director, Carolyn McMaster  
Worship Technology, Randall Wilson

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

\* *Indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*  
**Bold** text *invites the congregation to speak in unison.*

*(As the prelude begins, please prepare your hearts for worship)*

### God Reaches Toward Us

Prelude

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”  
arr. Marilyn Arison © 1989 John W. Peterson Music Company  
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Welcome

#### Call to Worship

God of mercy, you meet us before we know your name,  
before we understand your ways, before our vision is clear.

**You come to us with grace upon grace.**

When our faith feels uncertain and our sight is incomplete,  
you do not turn away.

**You touch us again and again, until we learn to see.**

Come, all who see dimly and hope deeply. Come, all who trust that  
God is still at work.

**We come to worship the God whose grace meets us where we are.**

\*Hymn #339

“Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast”  
Words and music are in the public domain

Passing the Peace

### We Reach Toward God

Children’s Message

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 13:9-12

Margaret Parish  
Charles Sherrard

\*Hymn #2126

“All Who Hunger”

Words by Sylvia G. Dunstan. Music by William Moore © 1991  
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\*Gospel Reading

Mark 8:22-26

NRSVUE

Sermon

“Grace That Meets Us Where We Are”

Rev. Casey Bradley

Anthem

“Grace”

arr. Mark Hayes © 1993 Beckenhorst Press  
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### Responding with Transformed Hearts

#### The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Moment of Prayer

## Our Lord's Prayer

**Our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, 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.**

Offering

February Jingle – The Hunger Coalition

Offertory

“Aria”

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\*Doxology #94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

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Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn #2279

“The Trees of the Field”

(repeat 2x)

Words by Steffi Geiser Ruben. Music by Stuart Dauermann  
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Announcements

Benediction

Mission Statement

**We are a congregation of faith and doubt. We commit ourselves to pursue justice, and pledge to stand with all our neighbors who are marginalized and oppressed, as Jesus did.**

Postlude

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

arr. Paul Manz © 1999 MorningStar Music Publishers  
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*The placement of the votive candle on the altar started the year of our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014 of becoming a Reconciling Congregation. Each month we honored a different person(s) who answered the call to stand for full inclusion of all God's children.*

## PRAYER LIST

Recovering or in long term care (ask the church office for contact info):

Bhala Jones      Harry & Virginia Pence      Louise Van Buren

**Prayer Requests:** Prayer requests will be published for 4 weeks. If you would like to extend a request, please fill out one of the prayer cards located in the pew rack. **Please mark if you want your request to be public.**

Ryan M.	Robert S.	Andi S.	Rich B.
Joe B.	Margaret P.	Bonnie B.	Alysa
18 mo. old family member			

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: *Harry Pence* on February 4; and *Gary Stevens* on February 5.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: *Todd & Wendy Loucks* on February 7.

*Thank you all for your prayers, encouragement and support during my recent illness and hospitalization. I am truly grateful for the assistance I received from my church family.*

– Margaret Parish

## CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday services are accessible online. The 8:15 service is on Facebook. The 10:30 service is on YouTube or Zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/195736049> or call 1-646-558-8656. Meeting ID: 195 736 049).

TODAY	8:15 am Worship in person & on Facebook 9:25 am Sunday School, Digging Deeper (adult class) & Parent's Cafe 10:30 am Worship in person, via Zoom & on YouTube
MON. 2/2	10:00 am Book Group (Embury Room) 5:00 pm Yoga (Embury Room) 6:30 pm GRACE Group (Embury Room)
TUES. 2/3	7:00 pm Patrick Committee (Art Room)
WED. 2/4	9:15 am Buckingham Bell Ringers 6:00 pm Beginner Bell Choir 7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir
THUR. 2/5	12:00 pm Lectio (Embury Room) 5:30 pm Oneonta Hooks & Needles (Embury Room) 6:00 pm Faith at the Table (Alfrescos)
FRI. 2/6	10:00 am Worship Team (Coke Room)
SAT. 2/7	11:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday's Bread (Fellowship Hall)
SUN. 2/8	8:15 am Worship in person & on Facebook 9:25 am Sunday School, Digging Deeper (adult class) & Parent's Cafe 10:30 am Worship in person, via Zoom & on YouTube

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### February Jingle – The Hunger Coalition

Each month, the “jingle” of loose change in the offering plate goes to a different organization that serves the local community. This month’s Jingle will go to The Hunger Coalition of Otsego County (HCOC).

The Coalition is a non-profit collaborative alliance of organizations and individuals dedicated to supporting services in our communities to assure that everyone can receive food assistance. The Coalition primarily supports local food pantries, meals sites, and food distribution; offers networking and educational programs; and models cooperative efforts within Otsego County, New York.

The Coalition recognizes that by pooling resources, expertise, and networks, HCOC can amplify our impact beyond what individual organizations might achieve alone.

### Selah Circle – No Meeting This Week

Selah Circle will NOT meet this week. The group will resume on February 10.

## **Faith at the Table – Thursday, February 5**

This month's Faith at the Table dinner and conversation will be on Thursday, February 5 at 6 pm at Alfrescos. The topic is "Does God Play Favorites?" Please RSVP with the church office (secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org or 607-432-4102) by Monday, February 2.

## **Camp & Retreat Ministries Special Offering Next Week**

The United Methodists of Upper New York operate five camps across the state (<https://www.unyumc.org/about/crm>). Camping ministry provides people of all ages an opportunity to connect with nature and God. Our camps are a jewel of our Conference, but they need your help.

On February 8 we will have a special collection for Camp and Retreat Ministries. These camps help shape the next generation of leaders in our local church and across the United Methodist connection. Your gifts help support the vital work of our camping ministry.

## **UWF Tea Postponed**

As most of you know by now, our building was opened this past week to anyone people needing shelter during this bitter cold and snowy weather.

In consideration of this pressing need, the UWF Tea originally scheduled for this afternoon has been indefinitely postponed. We look forward to reinviting everyone when we reschedule in early Spring!

Please remember all our unhoused brothers and sisters in your prayers.

## **Third Thursday Dinner – February 19**

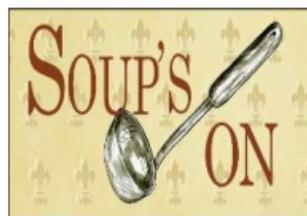
Our next Third Thursday Dinner will be on February 19 at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

We're planning a Creamy Cheesy Ditalini dish, prepared by Danielle DeLuca. It is vegetarian but does use dairy. Please come and enjoy togetherness (the meal is free, but we welcome donations to help cover the cost).

We already have a salad, but if anyone would like to coordinate a second dish or other sides, please contact Max MacKenzie at 740-833-5169.

## **Be Green, Be Just**

Hang heavy curtains or thermal drapes to add insulation to windows, keeping heat inside during cold nights.



## HOMEMADE SOUP TO GO

at

ELM PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
401 Chestnut Street Oneonta NY  
Corner of Ceperley and Chestnut Streets

EACH WEDNESDAY  
From 3:30-5:15 pm

Beginning January 21st, 2026  
Through March 25th, 2026

WE INVITE EVERYONE TO STOP BY  
TO GET SOME SOUP TO GO!

There is NO age, socio-economic, or church  
membership requirement.  
It's just because you are our neighbor.

NOTE\* - No deliveries - No sit down meal.

