



# Worthington

United Methodist Church

Christ-Centered. Engaged in Community.  
Sharing God's Love.  
10:00am Worship for March 23, 2025  
**3rd Sunday in Lent**

Prelude

*Nocturne op.55 #1*  
Narmina Aliyeva

Frédéric Chopin

*Joyeuse*  
Jubilee Ringers

Karen Buckwalter

Passing of the Peace\*

Call to Worship\*

Rev. Dom Short Mejia  
*\*Rise in body or in spirit*

Worship is a place to rest. We still our aching bones.

**We breathe deeply here. We sit in the quiet.**

We surround ourselves with music.

**Worship is a place to rest.**

Worship is a place to grow. We invite it to challenge us.

**We listen for God's word. We lean in with curiosity.**

We ask questions.

**Worship is a place to grow.**

So come into this space. Come rest and grow here.

**For where two or more are gathered, God is always there.**

Opening Hymn\*

*Take Time to Be Holy*

UMH #395

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dom Short Mejia

Holy God, there are days when we fail to rest.

**We stretch ourselves too thin. We say "yes" to every invitation. We run a million miles a minute. We ignore your command to rest.**

There are also days when we fail to act.

**We wait for someone else. We take the easy road. We find excuses and justify our inaction.**

God, forgive our imbalance.

**Remind us that birds rest, and they also fly. Show us how to do the same. Amen.**

*Pause for Silent Confession*

Words of Assurance

Family of faith, we have good news!

**God's grace is deeper than the ocean. God's love is wider than the sky. We are seen. We are claimed. We are forgiven. May this realization change and inspire us. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Children's Moments

Rev. Tad Grover

*After the conclusion of Children's Moments, children 4 years old-3<sup>rd</sup> grade are invited to attend Children's Church in South Fellowship Hall until the end of the worship service. Nursery care for ages 0-3 years is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please see an usher for assistance.*

Special Music

*Psalms 139  
Jubilee Ringers*

Fred Gramann

*Pew Pocket Prayer cards will be collected by the pastors during this piece.*

Season of Prayer

Rev. Dom Short Mejia

Silent Prayer  
Pastoral Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer

Offerings in Ministries and Gifts

Rev. Tad Grover

Offertory Music

*Your Love Defends Me*

Hannah Kerr/Matt Maher  
(CCLI #7064861)

Doxology\*

*A Lenten Doxology*

E. Broughton

**Praise God throughout these forty days. Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise. And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

Offertory Prayer

**O God our deliverer, as you led your people of old through the wilderness and into new life, now guide your people of the Church, that following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world and into abundant life. Grant that these gifts of prayer, presence, witness, service and material would shine as a beacon in the night, so that those who are despairing, hungry, exiled, or lost may encounter your love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, amen.**

Gospel Reading\*

Luke 13:1-9

Rev. Dom Short Mejia

Sermon

"Rest & Growth"

Rev. Dom Short Mejia

Closing Hymn\*

*What Does the Lord Require*

UMH #441

Benediction\*

Rev. Dom Short Mejia

**May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you  
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.  
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.  
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.**

Postlude

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name  
Narmina Aliyeva*

arr. D. Bish

## Announcements

**Altar Flowers:** The altar flowers are from Wayne & Faye Tyler in celebration of their 55th anniversary.

**Livestreamed Service:** The 10:00am service is being livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

**Events today:** Early service (Potter Chapel) 9:00am • Lenten Class (Library) 9:00am • Worship service (Sanctuary) 10:00am • Jubilee Ringers (Fellowship Hall) 11:30am • Acolyte Training (Library) 11:30am • Columbus Rings (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm

**Weekly Offering (electronically):** Scan the QR code or go to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z2ZG/home>



**Acolyte Training:** Today at 11:30am in the Library we will have Acolyte Training. Worthington United Methodist Church will be reinstating acolytes into our worship services, welcoming both young people and adults to participate. An acolyte in the United Methodist Church is a person of any age who helps lead worship by lighting and extinguishing candles. They symbolize bringing the light of Christ into the service and taking it out into the world.

**Easter Flowers:** Easter Flowers are available to order! Please submit your order to the Easter Flower Table or the Church Office with payment, no later than April 6th.

**Easter at WUMC:** Please take the postcard and invite friends and family to all of our Holy Week services and events.

**April 13th—Palm Sunday Services** at 9:00am & 10:00am, followed by the Easter Egg Hunt and Potluck at 4:00pm on our front lawn. Please RSVP to the Easter Egg Hunt.

**April 17th—Maundy Thursday Service** at 7:00pm in the Potter Chapel.

**April 18th—Good Friday Service** at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary.

**April 14—19th Praise and Prayer** at 8:00am every morning in the Dixon Lounge.

**April 20th—Easter Sunday Services** at 9:00am & 10:00am

**VBS Fundraiser:** Our annual M&M fundraiser has started! If you took a tube of M&M's over the last few Sundays, now is the time to eat the candy and use the container to fill with change over the course of Lent! You can drop off the tubes to the church office anytime between now and Easter. All donations collected will be used towards Vacation Bible School this summer!

**Summer Camp registration is open!** VBS, Explorations, and ReachOut registrations are now open! **VBS** is offered for children 3 years (must be potty trained)-incoming 3rd grade, and will happen at the church 5:30pm-8pm the week of June 9-13! **Explorations** is an outreach-focused day camp for students who will be incoming 4th grade-incoming 7th grade, and will be the week of July 28th-July 31st, meeting 10am-2pm each day. Details and registration for both camps can be found at <https://worthingtonumc.com/childrens-programs>. If your child is an incoming 8th grader through a graduating senior, we attend **ReachOut** church camp as a youth group in Lakeside, Ohio. ReachOut is July 13-19, and you can find more details and registration at their website, [reachoutcamp.com](http://reachoutcamp.com). For questions on any of these camps, please contact Ashley Gerard at [ashley@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:ashley@worthingtonumc.com)

**UMCOR Sunday:** On March 30th, we as a congregation will be participating in a United Methodist Special Sunday. That is UMCOR Sunday. UMCOR stands for United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR is that arm of our denomination that provides aid to areas of our country and the world that have been hit by natural disasters, war, famine, and so forth. March 30th will be our opportunity to contribute to the work of this group. We invite you to make a generous contribution on that Sunday. Correction from last week: Our collection on March 30 will be used to support UMCOR's administrative costs, not actual projects as previously described. Advance specials are the typical means of funding specific relief efforts.

**Next Week's Lectionary:** Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**Keep us in the loop!** Please contact our pastors with pastoral concerns, including hospitalizations, births and deaths. Contact Dom at [dominic@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:dominic@worthingtonumc.com) or Tad at [pastorTad@worthingtonumc.com](mailto:pastorTad@worthingtonumc.com)

Greeters: Kelly & Pete Wegley, Linda Karr, Eleanor Meekins, Tanna Stewart, Lesly Wade, John Wolters, Lois Yoakam

Ushers: Randy & Beth Gabel, Mike Jones, Dick Ollila, Ron Payne, Ralph & Pam Vaughn, Don Wheat

Audio & Visual Team: Brian Wingerter, Kent Koch, Ken MacFarlane, Eric Hess, Craig Kramer

### **Worthington UMC Staff**

Pastoral: Rev. Tad Grover, Rev. Dominic Short Mejia, Ashley Gerard

Administrative: Mindy Go, Danielle Wright

Facilities: Eddie Jarrell, Kelvin Poole

Music: Jarod Ogier, Tim Byrer, Emily Campbell, Emily Stuart, Narmina Aliyeva

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### **Worthington United Methodist Church**

600 High Street, P. O. Box 307, Worthington, Ohio 43085

Telephone (614) 885-5365 office@worthingtonumc.com

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