

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
“Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People”

February 8, 2026

9:45 a.m.

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

PRELUDE (*Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*)

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

WELCOME – *Hearing assistance and large print materials are available. Please see an usher.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (**Please rise in body or spirit.*)

Leader: We are called to bring a new understanding of God: that God so loves the world.

People: **We are the salt of the earth.**

Leader: We are called to bring a new hope in God: that God gives us new life.

People: **We are the light of the world.**

Leader: We are called to follow the commandments and the law.

People: **The Law of God is to love God and to love one another.**

Leader: Come, let us be the salt of the earth, the light of the world.

People: **Come, let us love one another with the love of God. Let us join together in our love of God to worship and follow Jesus.**

(written by Rev Mindi, and posted on **Rev-o-lution** <http://rev-o-lution.org>)

CHOIR ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 112: 1-10

Praise the Lord. Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands. ²Their children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. ³Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever. ⁴Even in darkness light dawns for the upright, for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous. ⁵Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice. ⁶Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever. ⁷They will have no fear

of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord. ⁸Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. ⁹They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor, their righteousness endures forever; their horn will be lifted high in honor. ¹⁰The wicked will see and be vexed, they will gnash their teeth and waste away; the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY** UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***BLESSING THE OFFERING**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** UMH 889

There is one God, and there is one mediator, Christ Jesus, who came as a ransom for all, to whom we testify. This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: That Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, and was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory. Great indeed is the mystery of the gospel. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** UMH 71

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

UMH 175

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:13-20

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. ¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

MESSAGE God's Promise of Guidance

***HYMN Here I Am Lord**

UMH 593

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION Jesus, Name Above Red Folder 2071**

EXTINGUISHING OF ALTAR CANDLES

POSTLUDE



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**St. John's United Methodist Church
312 East Main Street P. O. Box 236
Fruitland, Maryland 21826**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH DIRECTORY – We are in the process of updating directory information. Please take a moment to verify and update information as needed when the form is passed to you. Initial by your name so we know you have checked the information.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Join us after the service to enjoy a variety of soups, chili, and stews and vote on your favorite to win the 2026 St. John's Wooden Spoon Award! All proceeds benefit projects supported by the Missions Team.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE – February 18 at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST FOOD BANK – Requests include soups, syrup, pancake mix, canned vegetables (corn, green beans, mixed), and macaroni and cheese.

PRAYER CHAIN – Call or text Pat Kern at 443-783-6423

NEWSLETTER – Submit information to Paul Nelson at pnelson37@gmail.com by the 23rd of each month.

SOCIAL HOUR – See Buddy Pennewell or Cathy Grim to help.

Music Director: Mike Nelson
Videographer: Roger Vandegrift
Liturgist: Cathy Grim

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