Welcome! We are glad you have chosen to worship with us. This is the Lord's house, and all are welcome here. We practice open hearts, open minds, and open doors. If you are able, please stand while speaking or singing when indicated by an asterisk\*.

Gathering "Shout to the Lord" **TFWS 2074** 

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King. Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands, forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand. Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

Welcome and Announcements

Rafferty Cleary

Prelude and Receiving the Light of Christ

Jill Jones-Lazuka & Acolyte

\*Call to Worship by Lisa Hancock Rafferty Cleary

Leader: We come to worship, remembering God's goodness that has carried us and sustained us to this present moment.

**People:** We remember the days when God covered us in love and filled us with joy.

Leader: We come to worship, weary from stress, heavy with grief, and wondering when

relief will come.

**People:** We long for the days God covered us in love and filled us with joy.

Leader: We come to worship to remember and remind one another that God's love has never left us, and God's joy cannot be extinguished.

People: God, restore us that we know your love and your joy once again.

Leader: We come to worship to remember and become the Body of Christ; a community

called to restore the world around us.

People: God, empower us to be your restoration people who fill the world with love, laughter, and abundant life. Amen.

\* Hymn of Praise

"To God Be the Glory" You may be seated

**UMH 98** 

Prayer of Confession Rafferty Cleary

Like Judas, God of new things, we like to complain about your generous ways, rather than living in your grace. The poor are always with us, we believe, which justifies our ignoring them. In our memories, we focus on a perceived golden past, and so we ignore the new things you do in our midst. We are so enamored with our achievements that we are not willing to throw them away in order to follow Jesus. Forgive us, Restoring God, and help us to notice the kingdom springing forth in our midst. By your grace, may our fears turn to faith, our seeds of grief produce a bumper crop of joy, and our tears turn into torrents of tenderness as we journey with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to Jerusalem.

Hymn of Preparation "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

\* Scripture Reading John 12:1-8 **Pastor Fabian** 

**UMH 103** 

Mary anoints Jesus for his burial

12:1 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead.

- 12:2 There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him.
- 12:3 Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus's feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.
- 12:4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said,
- 12:5 "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?"
- 12:6 (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.)
- 12:7 Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial.
- 12:8 You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

"Fill Me with Your Presence" **Pastor Fabian** Message \* Hymn of Response "Take My Life, and Let It Be" **UMH 399** 

Choir "Remember, Remember Me" Anthem

Thanksgiving & Communion **Pastor Fabian** 

Offertory Prayer Rafferty Cleary

Loving God, source of all joy, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude. As Mary poured out her love for Jesus with costly perfume, so we pour out our gifts before you, seeking to honor you with all that we have. During this reflective Lenten period, may our offerings remind us of the abundance you've poured into our lives. Help us to give extravagantly, not out of duty, but from hearts filled with joy and gratitude. Bless these gifts and use them to bring your hope to the world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Offertory Music Jill Jones-Lazuka

\* Congregational Response **UMH 94** "Doxology"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\* Sending Forth "Shalom" Jill Jones-Lazuka & Acolytes

Farewell, dear friends, stay safe, dear friends, have peace, have peace. We'll see you again, we'll see you again, have peace, have peace.

\* Blessing and Benediction Pastor Fabian

## Prayer Updates 3/30/2025

There was no prayer request this week.

#### **This Weeks Anniversary**

April 11 Phillip & Sharon Choate

### **Messages & Other Notes**

The Monterey Garden Club will meet on Tuesday, April 8th, at 10:30am at the One Bank Loan Operation building. This building is located at 110 W. Commercial & you can enter at the front or the back of the building. The meeting will be upstairs & there will be signs with directions to the meeting room. We look forward to seeing you there!

Join the Lunch Bunch on Monday April 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am for their Easter Celebration.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with our upcoming Vacation Bible School, we will be having our 1<sup>st</sup> planning meeting on Monday April 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm here at the church.

There will be an Administrative Council meeting on Monday April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

## Weekly Giving for 3/30/2025

Weekly Budget needs: \$2439.15 Weekly Giving received: \$1207.85

Budget Giving: Over/Under: (\$1231.30) under

My loving Lord,

It's so hard to love the world sometimes and to love it the way Jesus did seems impossible. Help me to be inspired by his love and guided by his example.

Most of all, I want to accept that I can't do it alone, and that trying is an arrogance of self-centeredness.

I need you, dear God, to give me support in this journey.

Show me how to unlock my heart so that I am less selfish.

Let me be less fearful of the pain and darkness that will be transformed by you into Easter joy.

# **MONTEREY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

124 North Holly Street ♣ Monterey, TN 38574 church@montereyumc.com ♣ Facebook @Monterey United Methodist Church

April 6, 2025 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

The Mission of Monterey United Methodist Church is to be servants of God, by responding to the needs of the Monterey community in such a way that everyone in Monterey knows the transforming love of Jesus.



## **Fabian Valtierra, Pastor**

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**Debbie Roberts**, Admin. Assistant **Frances Eldridge**-CLM, Music Director **Linda Jensen**, Greeter **Jill Jones-Lazuka**, Pianist **Rafferty Cleary**, Liturgist Usher Leader

Sundays	Small Group	9:45 a.m.	-	10:45 a.m.
	Worship	11:00 a.m.	-	12:00 p.m.
	Choir Rehearsal	12:00 p.m.	-	1:00 p.m.
	AA Group	6:00 p.m.	-	7:00 p.m.
Mondays	Lunch Bunch	11:30 a.m.	-	12:30 p.m.
Fridays	Lunch Bunch	11:30 a.m.		12:30 p.m.