

Welcome to **OUR SAVIOUR'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
343 Scott Street, Ripon Wisconsin (920) 748-2544  
[www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com](http://www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com)

Season of Lent

March 12 & 15, 2026

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*\* All who are able please stand*

*L: Leader; P: People*

Prelude

Accompanists: Nicole Burdick

Words of Welcome and Good News.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** Some days, it's hard to recognize the signs, when what we have come to know and rely on is ablaze and everything looks like ashes. Do you not know what the Holy One can do with ashes?\*

**P:** Then the Earth-maker knelt down and formed humanity from the dust of the ground, and breath breathed new life. (Genesis 2:7)

**L:** Some days, it's difficult to believe the signs, when truths are erased and buried and there is nothing left to witness but the bare dirt. Do you not know what the Holy One can do with dirt?

**P:** Then the Pain-bearer spat in the dirt and made mud spreading it on the man's eyes and visions appeared of a new day rising. (Mark 9:6-7)

**L:** Some days, it feels impossible to embrace the signs, so we come together to pay attention, and seek, and be changed finding our grounding in the ashes, the mud that birthed our bones and breath.

**P:** Then the Life-giver who made safe ground in the middle of the sea said: See, I am doing a new thing. Do you not perceive it? and a way was made out of no way toward hope. (Isaiah 43:16-19)

**\*HYMN:** "If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee"

R295/Projected

**\*INVOCATION**

***ALL:*** Open unto us, hope for our despair. Open unto us, dreams for our dread. Open unto us, courage for our fear. Open unto us, vision for our skepticism. Open unto us, wisdom for our confusion. Open unto us, love for our hates. Open unto us, Your heart for our hearts. O God, our God, open unto us. Amen.

**\*RESPONSE & INVITATION:** "Savior, When in Tears and Dust" by Robert Grant  
Savior, when in tears and dust, low we bow to you in trust,  
When repentant, to the skies scarce we lift our weeping eyes,  
Mindful how you suffered pain that God's love in us might reign-  
Help us claim what we would be, hear our solemn litany.

WITNESS OF FAITH: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

WITNESS OF FAITH: Psalm 23

## CALL TO CONFESSION

L: When Jesus and the disciples encounter a man who was blind, the disciples ask Jesus, “who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” And Jesus replied, this is not a story about sin. Our Christian tradition, our churches, and our world are rife with stories where difference is mistaken for deficiency, inferiority, even sin, with dire consequences. These stories and histories of ableism, of racism, and so many other isms are testing us, challenging us to open toward new understanding and acknowledge with vulnerability where we have caused hurt and harm.

### \*CONFESSION OF SIN

L: For the ways we have been shaped by a culture that wants to place blame and find fault when we encounter differing abilities and embodiments, as if they mean wrongness or offense

**P: God, have mercy.**

L: For the times when we have used language that draws a line between disability and sin, using blind or deaf or lame as if they mean ignorant, doubting, unfaithful

**P: Christ, have mercy.**

L: For the moments we have disbelieved and disregarded the needs, stories, and experiences of those who are disabled as if access was a problem, a burden and we know better

**P: God, have mercy.**

L: Open us to new stories of disability from those who know them best.

**P: Turn us around, Holy One. Amen.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

L: Let your soul receive this rest: There is no story we can't unlearn, and no way of loving we can't learn anew. In Jesus, we are forgiven.

**P: Praise God, who forgives us and frees us and makes us a new creation.**

(Let us bless one another with the peace of Christ)

WITNESS OF FAITH: Ephesians 5:8-14

GOspel LESSON: John 9:1-41

A TIME OF LEARNING: Lenten Symbols

Projected

SPECIAL MUSIC: “The King of Love”

The Senior Choir

\*STATEMENT OF FAITH: United Church of Christ (1957)

Projected

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place  
I can feel God's mighty power and God's Grace**

I can hear the brush of angel's wings  
I see glory on each face  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER & 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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN: "Lead Me to the Cross" Hillsong United

Projected

MEDITATION: "Blind" - Thursday  
"Just Believe" - Sunday

Rev. Mundell  
Keith Mulder

HYMN: "Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound"

R277/Projected

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

[Offering options by the sanctuary entrances/social media/mail/office.]

L: Maybe you are emptied out, bent over, barely making it. Maybe you feel like dirt, dust, ashes. Beloved, do you not know what the Holy can do with dust? Even from spit and mud, God creates a new dreams and new visions. So let us discover what abundance emerges when whatever we have finds its way into the hands of grace.

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*ALL: Into a world desperate for signs of hope, let these gifts arrive as beacons. Into communities working for signs of freedom, let these gifts unlock shackles. Into hearts searching for signs of compassion, let these gifts offer tenderness. Into each breath yearning for signs of new life, let these gifts come as possibility. Amen.*

\*BENEDICTION: "Go Now In Peace"

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know he will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

\*Postlude



**OUR SAVIOUR'S**  
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 FAITH FAMILY FRIENDSHIP

**We welcome all visitors and guests and are glad you can join us for our services.**

*Large print bulletins and regular bulletins are available in the vestibule and online.*

**Join us for worship on Sunday at 9:00 am and Thursday at 6:30 pm**

Our Sunday Service is broadcast via radio at 10:50 am on WRPN, AM station 1600. If there is a problem with the broadcast, please let the Church Office know on Monday morning.

All worship services are livestreamed on our Social Media Platforms and are available to watch at your convenience. If you are viewing from one of our Social Media Platforms, please make sure to leave a comment or like our post to know you are worshipping with us! If there is an issue with the stream, or you have any feedback, please let the Church Office know.



<https://OurSavioursUCCRipon.com>



<https://bit.ly/OSUCCFacebook>



<https://bit.ly/OSUCCYouTube>



**Staff Contact Information**

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**OFFICE HOURS**

Our office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 AM till Noon. There is a drop box adjacent to the office door if you need to drop off items when the office is not open, or you can use the mail slot in the North Narthex if the building doors are all locked.

**COPYRIGHT LICENSES:** CCLI #: 938092; CCS Perform #:9734; CCS Worship #: 9734; OL: A-729567



***Katie Mace and Deborah Pollack Mar 14, Marlene Pinnow Mar 17,  
Sandra Fischer and Gary Lieske Mar 18***

### **ATTENDANCE AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR LAST WEEK**

Wednesday:	In-Person: 18	Livestream: 109	Total: 127
Thursday:	In-Person: 10	Livestream: 143	Total: 153
Sunday :	In-Person: 62	Livestream: 184	Total: 246

General Fund: \$1,928.00                      OCWM: \$105.00                      Capital Improvements: \$156.00

*Thank you so much for your continued support of in-person, mailed in, and online contributions.*

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP TEAM**

**A/V:** John Kwiatkoske/Phil Wepner                      **Liturgist:** Rorie Nitz                      **Musician:** Nicole Burdick

### **FLOWERS FOR EASTER**

Altar Guild is excited to share that they've found a new source for our Easter flowers! You will be able to purchase Tulips in orange, pink, purple, red, white, yellow - \$18; Daffodils -\$16; Hyacinth in blue, pink, purple, or white - \$16, or a traditional Easter Lily - \$22. All are in 6" pots.

March 22nd is the order deadline, and the forms are available in the church office, the East Narthex, or the counter across from the Church Office. Please be aware that you will need to pick your plant(s) up after the services; we can't donate plants any longer. Thank you!

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES**

Rev. Mundell, his family, and Sophie will all be in Florida on vacation over Easter Week. Maundy Thursday, we've partnered with Grace Lutheran on the Living Last Supper service, held at 6:30 pm at Grace, and includes communion.

The Ecumenical Good Friday worship service this year will be at Immanuel UMC at 6:30 pm.

### **LENTEN INITIATIVE**

Last year we became the 4<sup>th</sup> partner for Fond du Lac United Way's Ripon Area Food For Thought program. Each partner contributes \$2,500 for program support. This program ensures that any child in the Ripon School District whose family struggles with food insecurities receives a food pack each Friday containing enough food for that child to get through the weekend.

As of March 8<sup>th</sup>, you have generously donated \$1,811 toward our goal. Thank you so much!

## **2026 WCUCC ANNUAL MEETING**

This year's WCUCC Annual Meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Green Lake Conference Center. Our church can send two delegates to the conference and the agenda for both days is online now at <https://wcucc.org/annual-meeting/agenda/> OSUCC will pay for the conference registration and food ticket, just send an email to our church office and we'll set that up for you.

Also, there is a Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, full day workshop available from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm at Daycholah Center in the Ley Chapel. The workshop focus is on the ways we connect within congregations and beyond church walls in the local church. The day will explore two complementary dimensions of ministry: connecting within congregations through worship practices such as preaching, music, prayer, and the arts, and connecting beyond the local church through community ministries and justice initiatives. Call our church office to get the registration set up for you if you would like to attend.

## **RADIO BROADCAST MINISTRY SURVEY**

Our Sunday morning worship service radio broadcast has been an established ministry here at Our Saviour's for many, many years. While we know people are listening, generally from folks when there is a problem with the broadcast, overall it is a form of ministry that doesn't provide any insight into how many people are being reached.

To try to get an idea of outreach and impact, we're making a short survey available for anyone who would like to take it. You can fill it in for yourself or a family member, and it will also be available on Facebook. The survey is on the bulletin insert today.

If you are a listener but don't use the internet or are homebound, please feel free to call us during office hours at 920-748-2544 and we can fill one out with you over the phone.

Your help is greatly appreciated, thank you!

## **SAVE THE DATE - INSTANT HELP FOR INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY**

The Evangelism Committee will be in the East Narthex during coffee hour on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 29<sup>th</sup> to help you get started with Instant Church Directory on your phone or laptop. We think you'll love all the features of the online version!

Your login will be your email address, so please make sure we have that on file or call the church office to double check.

If a print copy of the directory is what you want, please RSVP on the signup sheet in the East Narthex so we know how many to print and bind. Thank you so much!

## PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY



Are you in need of special prayers? Feel free to use our prayer chain ministry by contacting Caroline Retzlaff, 920-748-2367.

***IN OUR PRAYERS:*** *Sharri Dailey, Nancy Henning, Tara Koller, Emily McGuire, Elaine Mortenson, Ron Prellwitz, Mark Sabel, and 16 Unspoken.*

## 2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The 2026 Scholarship applications are available in the East Narthex by the presentation monitor, in the church office, or at the countertop directly across from the church office door. OSUCC offers scholarships to our member high school graduates and post high school adults who will be attending college, trade/technical school, or continuing adult education (seminary, etc.)

Applications must be submitted to the attention of the Scholarship Committee by Wednesday, April 1, 2026, either by mail or by dropping them off in our church office. Thank you!

## MISSIONS FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

We provide donations to both the Ripon Area Food Pantry and the Ripon Community Food Pantry. The items you donate are divided between the two.



*Suggested items for March are:* Canned tuna, chicken, salmon; peanut butter; oatmeal; rice; pasta; pasta sauces; single serve cereals, apple sauce, etc.; dried fruits; instant potatoes; protein bars; crackers; canned stew, beans, chili, chicken, tuna, Manwich style sauces; Hamburger Helper; Mac & Cheese; shelf-stable milk; flour; white sugar; condiments; salad dressings; cooking oil; pancake syrup. Thank you for your support of our local area food pantries!

## CHRISTIAN ED AND EVANGELISM MEETINGS FOR MARCH

Committee members, please remember that both committees decided you weren't going to meet in the month of March. Your next full committee meeting will be April 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!



### QR CODES FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Please feel free to use either of these two scannable QR codes with your Smart Phone.



## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

- Thur. Mar. 12 9:00 am - Mind, Body, Soul Clinic with Nurse Emily  
9:30 am - Called to Care Meeting  
5:15 pm - Senior Choir Practice  
6:30 pm - Worship Service in the Chapel  
6:30 pm - Lego Multiverse Team
- Sun. Mar. 15 9:00 am - Worship Service in the Sanctuary - UCC One Great Hour of Sharing Collection  
10:00 am - Altar Guild Meeting  
10:15 am - Sunday School  
10:30 am - Adult Christian Ed  
6:30 pm - Lego Multiverse Team
- Mon. Mar. 16 4:00 pm - Worship Committee  
5:30 pm - Christian Ed - No Meeting, see you in April  
6:15 pm - Puppet Practice  
6:30 pm - Evangelism - No Meeting, see you in April
- Tues. Mar. 17 5:30 pm - Mission Meeting  
5:00 pm - Sharing Table Community Meal - Immanuel UMC
- Wed. Mar. 18 6:30 pm - Lenten Worship Service

## NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

- Thur. Mar. 19 9:00 am - Mind, Body, Soul Clinic with Nurse Emily  
5:15 pm - Senior Choir Practice  
6:30 pm - Worship Service in the Chapel  
6:30 pm - Lego Multiverse Team
- Sat. Mar. 21 April Messenger Article Deadline
- Sun. Mar. 22 9:00 am - Worship Service in the Sanctuary  
Spring Flowers for Easter Order Deadline  
10:00 am - Instant Help for Instant Church Directory  
10:15 am - Sunday School  
10:30 am - Adult Christian Ed  
6:30 pm - Lego Multiverse Team
- Mon. Mar. 23 6:15 pm - Puppet Practice
- Tues. Mar. 24 5:30 pm - Sharing Table Community Meal - 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational
- Wed. Mar. 25 6:30 pm - Lenten Worship Service

**OUR SAVIOUR'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**RADIO BROADCAST MINISTRY SURVEY**  
**MARCH 2026**

Please complete this survey only one time. You can complete a survey for a family member if they are not able to do so for themselves. If you choose to give us your name that's fine. It's also fine if you would prefer to remain anonymous.

We appreciate you helping us gain more insight into our Radio Broadcast ministry, thank you!

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- I listen to OSUCC's Sunday worship service broadcast on WRPN, AM station 1600:
  - Every Sunday
  - A few times a month
  - A few times a year
  - I don't listen to the broadcast
  - I didn't know about the broadcast
  
- My family member or friend listens to OSUCC's Sunday worship service broadcast on WRPN, AM station 1600:
  - Every Sunday
  - A few times a month
  - A few times a year
  - Not applicable
  
- The reasons I/my family member/my friend listen to the radio broadcast are (choose all that apply):
  - I/they are homebound
  - I/they don't have Internet access where I/they live
  - I/they don't have access to a computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone
  - I/they don't know how to watch the service online
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_