

# Salem United Methodist Church

Third Sunday in Lent March 8, 2026

WELCOME

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all who carry the weight of sin and guilt.

**People: Christ has taken up the sins of the world.**

Leader: Come, all who long for mercy and grace.

**People: God's love has nailed our debts to the cross.**

Leader: Come, all who seek a new beginning.

**People: By Christ's wounds, we are healed.**

**All: Let us worship the God of mercy, love, and forgiveness!**

\*OPENING MUSIC "O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done" #287

UNISON PRAYER (in unison): **God of life and love, by your Word made flesh, you broke the power of sin and death, and through your cross and resurrection you speak love stronger than fear. By your Spirit, open our hearts and minds, that we may hear Christ's voice, believe your gospel, and follow in the way of self-giving love. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM "Redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb" arr. David Wise

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison): **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 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.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Hebrews 10:10-18 NRSV

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison): **Merciful God, we confess that we have chosen selfishness over selflessness, darkness over light, and fear over trust. Too often we have ignored the message of the cross, forgetting that Jesus came not only to forgive our sins, but to save us**

**from them. Forgive us, Lord. Turn our hearts again toward your wondrous love, and reshape us by the example of Christ, who gave himself for us all. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

MESSAGE "O Love Divine"

\*DOXOLOGY #95

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison): **Gracious God, we thank you for your precious gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Remind us of the saving and redeeming power of His sacrifice. With grateful hearts, we offer to you ourselves, our gifts, and our shared ministry. May we take up our cross and follow Jesus daily. In Christ's holy name we dedicate this offering. Amen.**

\*CLOSING MUSIC "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed" #294

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Irish Blessing  
**May the road rise to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm on your face. The rain fall soft on your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.**

\*POSTLUDE

## **SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN THE WORLD**

*Live stream notice: We are blessed to be able to live stream and record our 10:45 a.m. worship service. Anyone in the sanctuary during that time may appear on camera as part of the service and consents to filming. Our camera is directed at the front of the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Stacey.*

Our Call to Worship, Unison Prayer, and Prayer of Confession are taken with permission from "Why Did Jesus Have to Die? The Meaning of the Crucifixion" resources from Resurrection Church.

Welcome to Salem United Methodist Church! Thank you for joining us today in worship.

Our Worship Leaders Today:

Karen Fisher, Liturgist

Mark Carter, Tech Team Director

Mark Hurley, Musician

Bryan Niles, Tech Team Producer

Rev. Dr. Stacey Nickerson, Pastor ([pastor@salemunited.org](mailto:pastor@salemunited.org))

**Junior Church** begins after the Children's Message.

**This Week** (see our website for details: salemunited.org)

*Monday 3/9* – No Aerobics

*Monday, 3/9* – 7 p.m. Pastor's Lenten Bible Study on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86945193408>

*Monday, 3/9 7:30 p.m.* – Alcoholics Anonymous (Parlor)

*Tuesday, 3/10 9:30 a.m.* – Sewing Samaritans (Sewing Room)

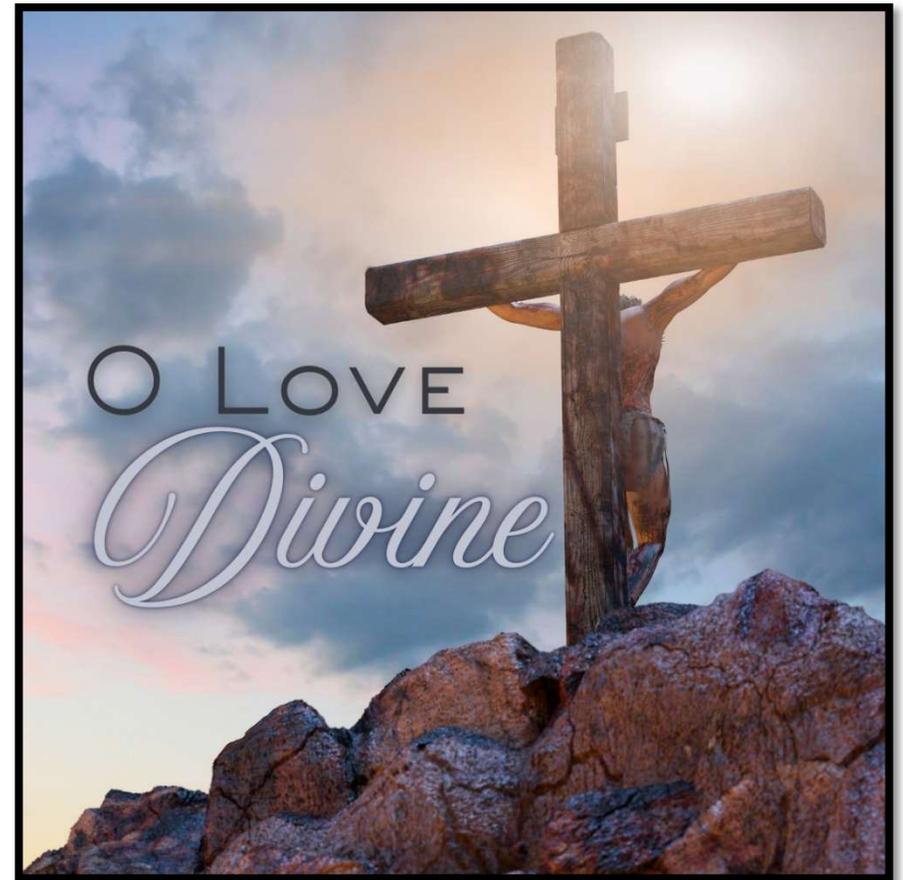
*Wednesday, 3/11 10:00 a.m.* – Morning Bible Study (Office)

**Upcoming**

*Wednesday, 3/25 7:00 p.m.* – Unified Leadership Board Meeting (Salem Room)

*Sunday, 3/29* – UWFaith candy order pickup (Hall; 15 minutes after each service)

**Lenten Offering:** Our special offering this year will benefit Manna House ([mannahouseinc.org](http://mannahouseinc.org)) and our general fund. "Manna House provides the homeless and poor of Baltimore City with the assistance and support to move towards independence and stability. We help transform people's lives by feeding them first. (Manna House Mission Statement)" One half of our Lenten Offering goes to Manna House and one half to Salem's general fund to help meet our ongoing operating expenses. Envelopes are available in the narthex or sanctuary or chapel; you may also give online at [salemunited.org/donate](http://salemunited.org/donate).



**SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**UPPER FALLS, MD**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026**

Salem United Methodist Church  
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