

First Sunday Of Lent

February 22, 2026

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – Pastors Emeritus

PRELUDE “The Glory Of These Forty Days” harm. JS Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today, we follow Jesus into a wilderness full of isolation, fatigue, hunger, thirst, and temptation.

People: We follow, trusting in God’s mercy.

Leader: We witness Jesus resist then siren calls of sensationalism, notoriety, and misuse of power for selfish gain.

People: We recognize God’s mercy at work in the face of temptation.

Leader: We notice the angels who tend Jesus, messengers of care in a harsh and lonely place.

People: We pay attention to God’s merciful presence that did not abandon Jesus and does not abandon us now.

Leader: We come to the wilderness together, clinging to the truth that we are not alone-God is with us.

People: We gather to worship God, whose unfailing mercy journeys with us into the wilderness of our lives. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” UMH 269

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH UMH 881

*GLORIA PATRI UMH 71

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word

proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 4:1-11 NT – page 3

ANTHEM (11 A.M. only) “I Believe” Chancel Choir M. Miller
Soloists, Nancy Lee Newell and Maribel Strachan

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH as we sing:
I’m gonna sing when the spirit says sing, (repeat x3)
And obey the Spirit of the Lord. UMH 333

SERMON “Here It Comes” Reverend Ed Priestaf

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE WORSHIP IN TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory “Lament” P. Bryan

* DOXOLOGY No. 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.**

*HYMN “Sunday’s Palms Are Wednesdays Ashes” TFWS 2138

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION SONG (8:45 A.M. only)

POSTLUDE “Jesus Lover Of My Soul” arr. E Childs

*Please Stand As You Are Able

THE ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Carolyn Talbert by her family.

THIS WEEK AT LONG MEMORIAL UMC:

Sunday: 8:45 A.M. - Early Church - Chapel

11:00 A.M. – Worship – Sanctuary

Monday: 10:00 A.M.- Circle 4 – Harris Hall

4:00 P.M. – Circle 2 – Library

6:00 P.M. - Missions Committee - Library

Tuesday: 7:00 P.M. – Security Meeting – Harris Hall

Wednesday: Noon – Lenten Lunch & Devotion – H. Hall

5:00 P.M. – DYW – Harris Hall

Thursday: 10:00 A.M. – Bible Study - Library

Friday: 12:30 P.M. – Special Community Lunch – H. Hall

Handbell Choir Wednesday 6 P.M.

Chancel Choir Wednesday 7:00 P.M.

PRAYER LIST: Norma Sabiston, Jim Owen (new visitor), Maxine Galloway, Lois Winstead, Linda & Eddie Bridges, Phyllis Tuck, Jean Andrews, Mike Wrenn, Bob Morningstar, Nancy Hall (Claudia Berryhill's aunt in hospice).

A nursery (located in front of the church office) is available. Parents – please set your phones on vibrate and leave your cell number with the nursery attendants so that if you are needed you can be reached.

Church Staff:

Rev. Ed Priestaf, Pastor

Charles Higgins, Director of Music

Peggy Wade, Church Secretary

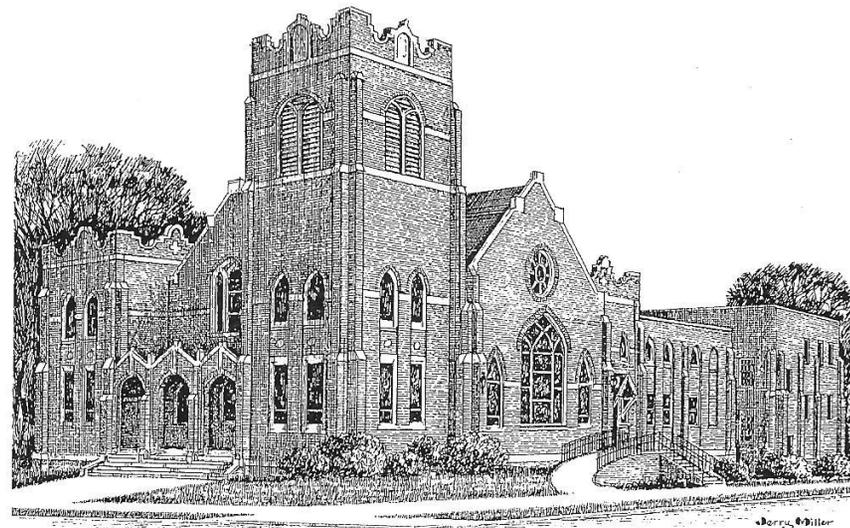
Pam Day, Preschool Director

Billie Oakley, Church Treasurer

Autumn Gentry, Children & Youth Ministries' Director

Sherry Clayton & Kayla Brown, Nursery Attendants

Wilbur Brann & Hunt Fitzgerald, Audio Technicians



LONG MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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We are on the web at: longmemorialumc.org
Like us on Facebook: Long Memorial United Methodist Church

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.
John 3:16

*Our Mission Is To Make Disciples Of Jesus
For The Transformation Of The World*

**Leader: This Is The Day The Lord Hath Made
People: Let Us Rejoice And Be Glad In It.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
We welcome you to Long Memorial United Methodist Church! It is our sincere desire that your worship time with us will be enjoyable and edifying. If you are interested in learning more about our community please see the "visitor" section of this bulletin.