

Prayer Concerns

First Responders	Josh O.
Victims of natural disasters	Ron W.
Those suffering from mental illness	Barbara B. Nancy D.
Those affected by gun violence	Lois D.
Those who are homeless	Bill, Sarah J.'s brother
Those experiencing addiction	Justin, lifted by Vann P.
Bev, Deb. C.'s mother	Ray S.
Will & Sally S.	Keith A.
Greg, lifted by Sarah J.	Judy F.
Karen, sister of Jeff R.	Selene, lifted by
David, lifted by	Carole A.
Mary Ellen M.	Steve, lifted by
Jane P.	Mary Ellen M.
Bob, lifted by Claudia & Paul T.	Matthew F., USAF
Terry, lifted by Claudia & Paul T.	Lt. Col. Bill G., USMC
Judy, lifted by Brenda F.	Christopher Y., USAF
Carole B.	

This Week's Birthdays and Anniversaries

January 31	Emily Cooper	February 3	Ron Stroup
January 31	Darlene Owings		
January 30	Gwen and Dave Hinckley		

Today's Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm
Organist: Marlene Dirksen
Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez
Liturgist: Alice Walsh
Greeters: Claudia and Paul Taller, Greg Lavelle
Usher: Judi Wagner
Audio Video Elements: John and Michelle Wolter, Phil Wolter

North Olmsted United Methodist Church



Feeding the Community –
Body, Mind, and Spirit

4600 Dover Center Road,
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

440-779-6634 + www.noumc.org

Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm, Pastor

4th Sunday after the Epiphany January 29, 2023 + 10:30 am

Welcome and Greeting

L: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

Celebration of Ministries and Missions

Prelude

Air

G. F. Handel

***Call to Worship** (Micah 6, Matthew 5, 1 Corinthians 1) Alice Walsh

L: Come and hear the good news. No matter what is happening in your life, God's blessing and love is with you.

P: **Come and hear what God wants you to do:
live lives of justice and love and truth.**

L: Come and get courage and strength to be fools for Christ, embracing Kingdom values rather than those of the world.

P: **We're here, ready to listen, open to change,
expecting to be blessed by our time together.**

***New Testament Reading** 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

***Unison Prayer** (Micah 6, Psalm 15, Matthew 5, 1 Corinthians 1)

Loving God, we come this morning seeking to abide in your presence. Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom, that we may know how to live as your people. Open our hearts to your spirit of truth, that we may love all your people with a love that speaks of justice, kindness, and radical grace. May this time of worship be authentic and pleasing to you. Amen.

***Hymn** *Rejoice in God's Saints* UMH 708
(vv. 1, 3-4)

Prayers of the People

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Unison Prayer of Confession (Mic. 6, Ps. 15, Matt. 5, 1 Cor. 1)

Far too often, O God, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world. We have not spoken truth with our hearts. We have said and done hurtful things to our friends. We have forgotten our true identity, wandering into ways that are not yours. We have lost the path of true worship, focusing on form and words rather than deeds. We have forgotten what true discipleship is. And because of this, you have a quarrel with us. Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people you have created and called us to be: people of justice and love and truth and humility, and yes, even foolishness. May we be fools for Christ, embracing our true identity, even in the face of the world's scorn and derision.

Words of Assurance and Pardon (Micah 6, Matthew 5)

God has called us and blesses us when we live God's ways and not the world's. God's love embraces us even when we fall short of what God desires for our lives and actions. Know that the God of blessing loves and forgives us with a fierce tenderness. And in so knowing, may our lives and souls be transformed.

The 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 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.

Invitation for the Offering
Offertory *Epiphany* Gerald Peterson
***Doxology** UMH 94
***Prayer for the Offering**

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:1-12

Hymn *Blest Are They* TFWS 2155

Sermon "Blessed" Rev. Hoyte L. Wilhelm

Anthem

***Hymn** *Trust and Obey* UMH 467

***Responsive Benediction** (Micah 6, Psalm 15, Matthew 5)

L: Those who live lives pleasing to God shall not be moved.

P: **Go now to embrace the kingdom values—
values of love, justice, and truth.**

L: Go now with God's blessing,
to live those values through the power
of our challenging, faithful, loving, empowering God.

P: **Amen.**

Postlude *Praise to the Living God* Edward Broughton

Please be seated for the Postlude.