Prayer Concerns

First Responders Josh O.
Victims of natural disasters Ron W.
Those suffering from mental illness Nancy D.
Those affected by gun violence Lois D.

Those who are homeless Justin, lifted by Vann P. Those experiencing addiction Judy, lifted by Brenda F.

Carole B. Ray S.
Curtis, lifted by Reba Y. Keith A.
Greg, lifted by Sarah J. Judy F.

Karen, sister of Jeff R. Selene, lifted by David, lifted by Carole A. Steve, lifted by

Bob, lifted by Claudia & Paul T. Mary Ellen M.
Terry, lifted by Claudia & Paul T. Matthew F., USAF
Will & Sally S. Lt. Col. Bill G., USMC
Jane P. Christopher Y., USAF

This Week's Birthdays & Anniversaries

February 28 Philip Wolter March 1 Javier Gonzalez March 1 Judy Kaylor March 2 Gwen Hinckley

March 1 Sara Coast

February 29 Lisa and Ron Stroup

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

First Sunday in Lent February 26, 2023 + 10:30 am

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

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

P: And also with you!

Celebration of Ministries and Missions

Prelude Swing Low, Sweet Chariot Spiritual

*Call to Worship (Psalm 32)

Joel Chermonte

L: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.

P: Happy are those whose sins are cast away.

L: Rejoice in the Lord! Be glad!

P: Sing out! Shout for joy!

L: Rejoice in the Lord!

P: Rejoice! Amen!

*Old Testament Reading Psalm 32

*Unison Prayer (Genesis 2, 3; Psalm 32; Matthew 4)
Holy One, we are constantly bombarded with temptations and enticements. When we yield, when we fail, who will help us? You,

Lord, have come to our aid. You teach us, counsel us, and guide us in the ways we should go. We rejoice in your unfailing love. Amen.

***Hymn** Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days UMH 269

Prayers of the People

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Confession of Faith (Psalm 32)

We keep silent before you, Lord—we are afraid to confront our transgressions; we are terrified to face the reality of our sin; we feel as if the weight of the world were upon our shoulders; we no longer recognize ourselves or what we have become as we keep our failings and fears inside. Help us admit our sins and accept our imperfections. Why is that simple act so difficult for us? Why do we hesitate, knowing that you stand ready to wash away our guilt? You are the sanctuary where distress cannot reach us. In your steadfast love, forgive us. In your healing caress, cleanse us. In your Holy Spirit, restore us. In the name of our Savior, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance (Psalm 32)

When distress and anxiety surround us like an angry flood, our pleas are heard. The Lord hears the prayers of a faithful heart. God has become our hiding place, our refuge from trouble. No harm can touch us here. The Lord wraps us in the arms of salvation. Shouts of deliverance enfold us.

*The Lord's Prayer

Anthem

Invitation for the Offering

You are invited to give your tithes and offerings online (<u>www.noumc.org/donate</u>), by mailing a check to the church office, or in the offering plates that are passed during worship.

*Doxology Psalm 56 Heinrich Schultz

*Prayer for the Offering

Psalm 56 Heinrich Schultz

UMH 95

Gospel Reading Matthew 4:1-11

Hymn Just a Closer Walk with Thee TFWS 2158

Sermon "Keeping Focused" Rev. Hoyte L. Wilhelm

***Hymn** Lift Every Voice and Sing UMH 519

*Responsive Benediction

L: Though we were condemned, we have found pardon.

P: Though death held dominion over our lives, God's grace and gift of righteousness now lives and reigns within us.

L: We are free. We are forgiven. We are alive in Christ!

P: Amen!

Postlude Go Tell It on the Mountain Spiritual

Please be seated for the Postlude.

*Please stand as able.

Today's Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm Organist: Marlene Dirksen

Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez

Liturgist: Joel Chermonte

Greeters: Claudia & Paul Taller, Greg Lavelle

Usher: Judi Wagner

Audio Video Elements: John and Michelle Wolter, Phil Wolter