



United Church of Christ of California – California, MO  
Rev. Lina Eddy Pastor  
Mrs. Beth Dampf Organist  
Mrs. Connie Bestgen God's Singers Director

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The First Sunday in Lent  
February 22, 2026

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*\* All those who are able, please stand.*

The Bell

The Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

Chorale Opening

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship

Leader: The Spirit leads us into the wilderness

**People: Not to abandon us, but to meet us.**

Leader: In the wilderness, we face our hunger and our fears.

**People: And we discover what truly gives us life.**

Leader: In the wilderness, Jesus resists temptation.

**People: And shows us the way of trust and faithfulness.**

**All: Let us worship God, our strength and our sustainer.**

\*Hymn No. 432 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

\*Prayer of the Day

**Holy God, You are present in the quiet places and the hard places. As you led Jesus into the wilderness, lead us now into deeper truth. Strip away what distracts us, strengthen what is faithful in us, and speak your Word so that we may live – not by bread alone but by every word that comes from you.  
Amen**

\*Call to Praise

O Lord, open our lips!

**And our mouths shall show forth your praise!**

\*Act of Praise – “Gloria Patri”

Invitation to Children’s Time

Hymn for Children

“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hand” (*verse 1*)

Children’s Time

Puppets

Anthem “W.W.J.D.”

God’s Singers

Prayer for Illumination

Kris Ingram

**Holy God, speak to us in this season of Lent. As we hear your Word, give us clarity, courage, and trust that we may follow Christ in faithfulness. Amen**

Scripture Lessons

*First Lesson:* Romans 5:12-19 p. 980

*Second Lesson:* Matthew 4:1-11 p. 837

Message “**What is your Temptation**”

Hymn No. 353 “Be Thou My Vision”

*Christians, what do you believe?*

(Apostles’ Creed) **I believe in God the Father, Almighty...**

Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer (*debts and debtors*)

## Invitation to the Offering

\*Response *“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn No. 367 *“Oh Jesus I Have Promised”*

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response -

*“Oh, How He Loves You and Me” p. 335*

*Oh, how He loves you and me! Oh, how He loves you and me!*

*He gave His life, what more could He give?*

*Oh, how He love you, Oh, how He love me,*

*Oh, how He loves you and me!*

\*Postlude



*Ushers – Jay Bestgen and Tara Meisenheimer*

*Greeters – Philip and Amy Howard*

*Church office: 573-796-4885 Website: [www.calmo-ucc.org](http://www.calmo-ucc.org)  
[rhonda@calmo-ucc.org](mailto:rhonda@calmo-ucc.org)*

A **Nursery** is available in the upstairs hallway, just outside the sanctuary. The nursery attendant is **Emma Bestgen**. There are activity bags at the back of the sanctuary for children that stay in the worship service.

**Need some help with hearing?** See an usher at the back of the sanctuary to check out a hearing assisted unit for your personal use in the sanctuary and in the Friendship Hall. We have new units available.

**Notice the “Connection Cards” in the pews.** They are for our guests or anyone that has a prayer request or needs more information about the church. Please place it in the offering plate.

**Wednesday Evening Meal, Feb. 25th ~ 5:45pm**

**Lasagna, Vegetable, Salad and Breadsticks**

*Don't forget to sign up!*

*Please pray for these . . .*

Love & Justice in God's World

*Family and Friends of Ilene Matheny, Janette Reimler, Amanda Imhoff,  
Wanda Lachner*

**Confirmants:** Lena Bieri, Megan Carlock, Royce Everett, Logan Milligan and Meredith Wolford

**All Those Who Need Our Prayers, including:**

Anjanette Volkart, Charles Velazquez (Dolores Burger's brother-in-law), Diane (Henry) Jobe, Becky Zuidervaart, Jenine Baker, Alan Chambers, Courtney Cassil, Joyce Rohrbach, Jo Suggs, Judy Kilmer

**All Those Serving in the U.S. Military, including:**

Martin Knipker (*son of Kenny Knipker*)

Dwight Bowlin (*grandson of the late Jack & Carole Bowlin, Fort Campbell, KY*)

Dakota Meyer (*grandson of Billy Meyer, Ft. Carson, Colorado Springs, CO*)

Madelynn Perry (*granddaughter of Jan Anderson, army - Europe*)

Dylan Ash (*spouse- Jasmine Ash and son of Lanny & Ellen Ash, Great Lakes Naval Base, North Chicago, IL*)

Derek Meyer (*grandson of Elaine & Eldred Proctor, Army, Italy*)

Blake Street (*grandson of Jenine Baker, Army, Ft. Drum, NY*)

**Stained Glass Window Project**

The project is complete and the total was \$11,430. The windows that were repaired now have shiny flat metal straps that reinforce the glass in addition to the black ones that have been in place for years. The main repairs were on the south side of the church along Stella Street, the back of church on each side of the clock and the south tower.

## Activities Calendar: February 22, 2026 ~ March 1, 2026

### Sunday, February 22

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship

4:30 p.m. – Family Night- Chili and Soup cookoff

### Monday, February 23

7:00 p.m. – Brotherhood

### Tuesday, February 24

9:00 a.m. – Prayer Cell

### Wednesday, February 25

5:45 p.m. – Fellowship Meal

6:15 p.m. – Bell Choir

6:20 p.m. – God's Singers

7:00 p.m. – Worship – Sr. Choir practice after Worship service

### Sunday, March 1

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship- Rev. Lina Eddy- Communion

*Looking ahead.....*

*March 2 – Sunday School Teachers and Officers meeting at 6:30 pm*

*March 3 – Quilters-11:00 to 4:00 pm*

*March 4 - Ministerial Alliance Meeting at UCC at 9:00 am*

*March 5- UCC at California Care Worship at 9:30 am*

*March 6 – Men's Bible Study at Crossroads -6 am /World Day of Prayer at 1pm*

*March 8 – Ken Mathes and R.O.K. Sunday*

*March 9 – Consistory 6:00 pm*

### Wednesday, February 25th Lenten Service

**Statement of Faith- Meredith Wolford**

**Special Music- Brotherhood**

### **Office Hours for Rev. Lina Eddy**

*Wed., Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> 11am to 2 pm*

*Friday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> 10am to 12 pm*

Sunday School is sponsoring Family Night with a Chili and Soup cook-off on **TONIGHT** starting at 4:30, eating at 5:30 pm. Come join us and/or bring your favorite Chili or Soup for bragging rights!

Middle School and High School Girls only - Called To Be – **March 7, 2026 9am to 3pm @ The Crossing, Columbia, MO ~** Please contact Dyan Ingram by TODAY if you are interested in going.

Next High School Mission Trip Information Meeting **March 22<sup>nd</sup>** following worship service.

### **Community Connections Chili & Soup Dinner Fundraiser**

Join us **Saturday, February 28**, from 4:00 to 6:30 pm at Main Street Baptist Church (303 West Main Street) for an all-you-can-eat chili and soup dinner, desserts and beverages, plus a silent auction. Proceeds support individuals with disabilities and unmet needs in Moniteau County. To purchase Tickets: Contact Kristy Gatlin at 573-480-4221 or purchase at the door.

### **Food Pantry Items Needed**

Each month the Food Pantry is requesting a different food item. For the **month of Febuary, Soup** is the food item requested. Looking ahead for March, Tuna is the food item requested. There is a box in the downstairs foyer to place your food items.

The Worship Committee invites you to participate in praying for our fellow UCC members/families this upcoming Lenten Season. There is a basket in the back of the church with slips of paper with UCC families. Please pick up a slip and find time during this season of Lent to pass prayers for your fellow members. Every family is in need of prayers for something at any given time. Let's all take time to be intentional in prayer and lift these members up.

Dear Lord, Thank you for the gift of life today. We pray that you help us stay patient for you. Let us hold out for the grace you have planned for us. Let us not hastily take our own path or any shortcuts. Let us remain faithfully under your care and love. Let us not stray unto a path of destruction. Help us to trust in your timing. Help us stay focused on you as we wait on your grace. Amen

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

**Friday, March 6, 2026 ~ 1:00 p.m.**

**This year the theme is Nigeria. Guest speaker is Father Tony. Women's Guild invites you to come!**

## 2026 Easter Flowers Order Form

Please follow the instructions below if you wish to have an Easter Flower placed in the Sanctuary on **Easter Sunday, April 5th**. Easter Flowers may be taken home following worship on April 5th.

Cost per 6" Easter Flower listed below:

White Easter Lily- \$18.00

Tulip - \$13.50

Hyacinth - \$13.50

Orders are due no later than, **MONDAY, MARCH 16th**

Return this completed form to Rhonda in the church office along with cash or a check payable to United Church of Christ and put Easter Flower on the memo line.

Name of person(s) purchasing the Easter Flower(s).

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Type of Easter Flower you are ordering and how many:

Easter Lily \_\_\_\_\_

Tulip \_\_\_\_\_

Hyacinth \_\_\_\_\_

Is the Easter Flower in memory or in honor of an individual?

Yes: In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Yes: In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Yes: In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Yes: In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Yes: In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Yes: In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Owed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check out to United Church of Christ of California and write Easter Flower in the memo line.

Thank you!!!

# Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - grim through this  
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, Whence the heal - ing  
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but Thou art might - y;  
stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
fears sub - side; Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

Hold me with Thy pow'r-ful hand; Bread of heav - en,  
Lead me all my jour - ney through; Strong De - liv - 'rer,  
Land me safe on Ca-naan's side; Songs of prais - es,

bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no more,  
strong De - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and shield,  
songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to Thee,

Feed me till I want no more.  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.  
I will ev - er give to Thee. A - men.

# Be Thou My Vision

*Unison*

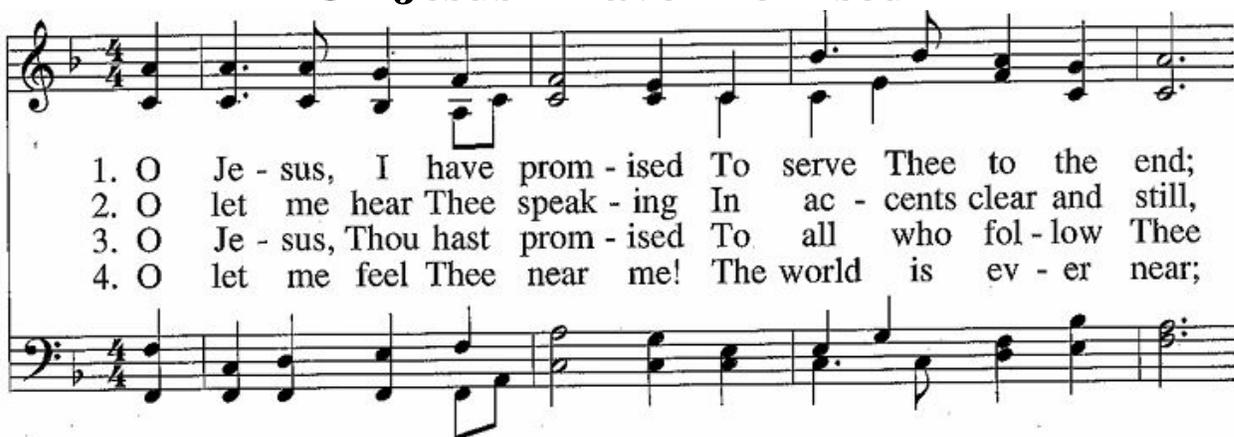
1. Be Thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2. Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word;  
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,  
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—  
I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
May I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!

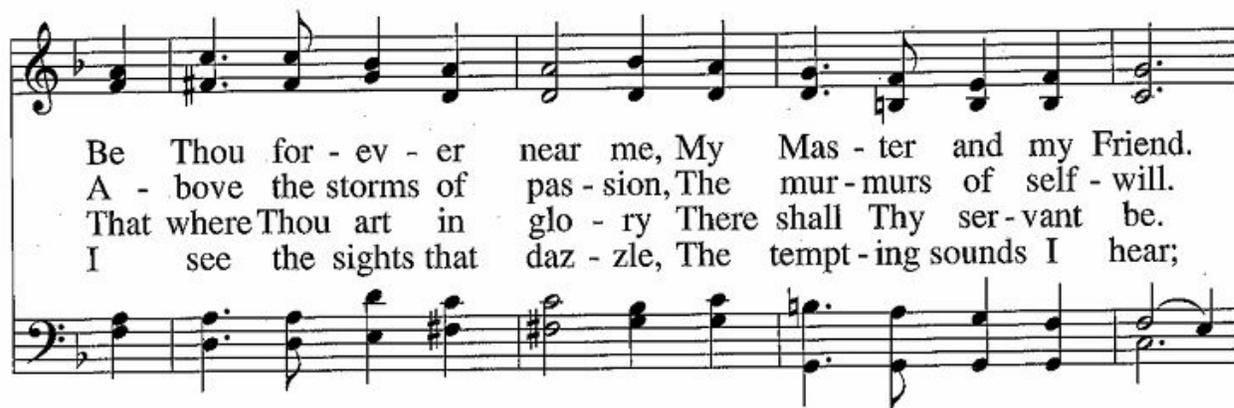
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son,  
Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.  
Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee one.  
High King of heav - en, my treas - ure Thou art.  
Still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all. A - men.

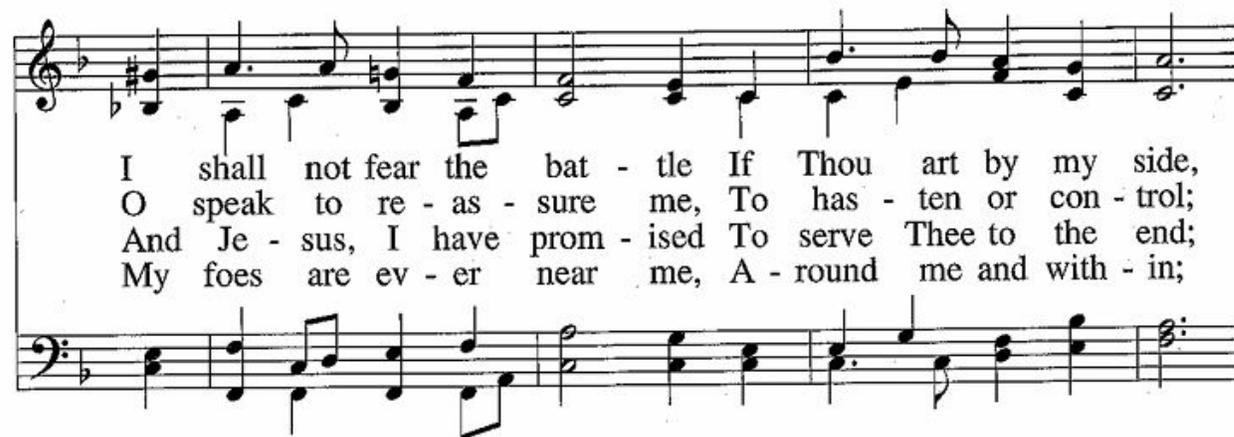
# Oh Jesus I Have Promised



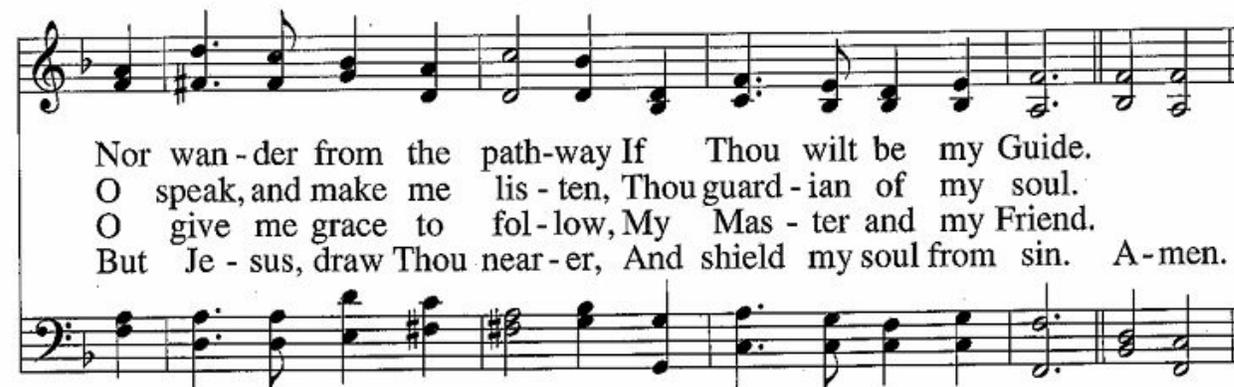
1. O Je - sus, I have prom - ised To serve Thee to the end;  
2. O let me hear Thee speak - ing In ac - cents clear and still,  
3. O Je - sus, Thou hast prom - ised To all who fol - low Thee  
4. O let me feel Thee near me! The world is ev - er near;



Be Thou for - ev - er near me, My Mas - ter and my Friend.  
A - bove the storms of pas - sion, The mur - murs of self - will.  
That where Thou art in glo - ry There shall Thy ser - vant be.  
I see the sights that daz - zle, The tempt - ing sounds I hear;



I shall not fear the bat - tle If Thou art by my side,  
O speak to re - as - sure me, To has - ten or con - trol;  
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised To serve Thee to the end;  
My foes are ev - er near me, A - round me and with - in;



Nor wan - der from the path - way If Thou wilt be my Guide.  
O speak, and make me lis - ten, Thou guard - ian of my soul.  
O give me grace to fol - low, My Mas - ter and my Friend.  
But Je - sus, draw Thou near - er, And shield my soul from sin. A - men.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son,  
our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy  
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead,  
and buried; he descended into hell; the  
third day he arose again from the dead; he  
ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the  
right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the  
quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the one  
Holy universal Christian Church; the  
communion of saints; the forgiveness of  
sins; the resurrection of the body; and the  
life everlasting. Amen.



## GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.

## 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 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 for ever. Amen.



## DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings  
flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.



## KYRIE

*Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.*  
**Congregation: Lord, have mercy upon us.**  
*Minister: Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
**Congregation: Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
*Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.*  
**Congregation: Lord, have mercy upon us.**