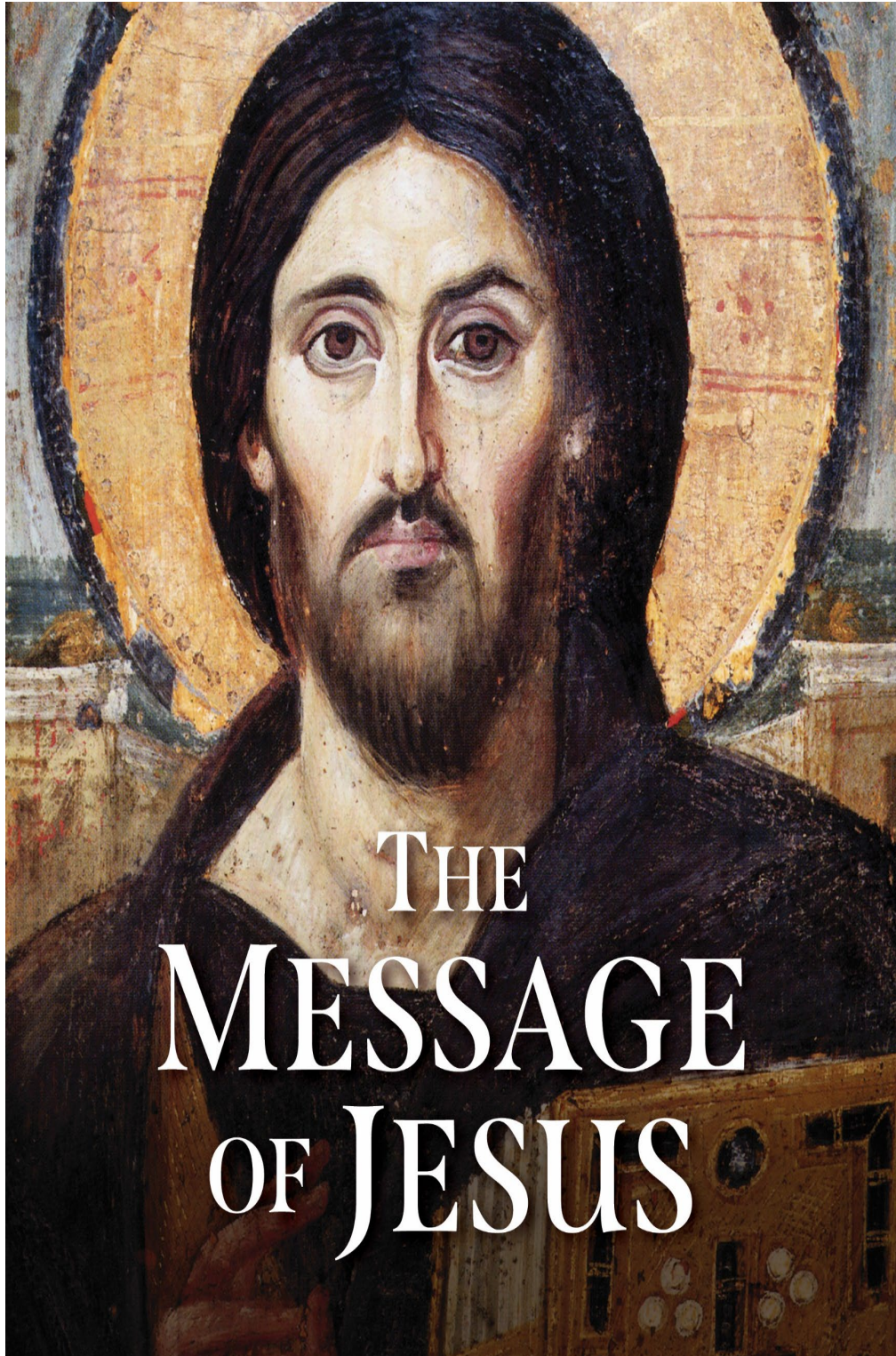


Waupun  
United Methodist Church  
March 16, 2025  
Sunday worship – 9:00 a.m.



**Welcome to worship.  
May you find the presence of God wherever you are.**

At the \* sign, please stand as you are able.

**Bold print** = Congregational Response

Prelude

Welcome

Musical Call to Worship

**\*Call to Worship**

We are the salt of the earth.

**We preserve what is good and just.**

We arrest the decay that seeks to destroy what is good and right and just.

**We are the light of the world.**

We penetrate the darkness with God's life and love.

**We make known what is hidden and shine God's light in the shadows of our hearts.**

We are called to lives of righteousness.

**Our lives are to be marked by humility, grace and peace.**

By our fruits shall the world know we belong to Christ.

**We are salt! We are light! We are righteous! Let us live to the glory of God! Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn**

**Black #2155**

on supplement

**"Blest Are They"**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, you call us to be salt and light and to live as your righteous, holy people. We want to, Lord, but we fall short! We confess that there is good and bad, light and dark within our own hearts.**

**We want to do what is right, but our fears and anxieties lead us to self-protection rather than vulnerability, to hoarding rather than freely sharing, to self-righteousness rather than compassion.**

**Forgive us, O God. Restore us by your mercy that having received the gift of your infinite love, we might turn to our neighbor and give your love away. For the sake of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance**

God's forgiveness is freely extended to all who in faith repent. Hear and believe the Good News: Jesus Christ forgives all your sins!

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

Message from/for the Children

"Congratulations!"

**Prayer for Illumination**

(based on Hebrews 1:1-2; John 6:68-69)

**Eternal God, who spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways,**

**and who has spoken to us by your Son:**

**Open our ears and hearts by your Holy Spirit to welcome your Holy One's words of eternal life, that we may rejoice in your rule and walk after him in your ways. Amen.**

Bible Reading

on supplement

Matthew 7:21-23

Video Reflection

Refiner's Fire/Purify My Heart

Bible Reading

on supplement

Matthew 5:1-16

Pastor's Message

"The World's Most Important Sermon"

**Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe Jesus Christ brought God's Kingdom near, calling all people to repent and believe the good news.**

**We believe his death on the cross exposes both the reality of human sin and the depths of God's selfless, sacrificial love.**

**We believe his resurrection is God's ultimate victory over sin, hate, evil, and death.**

**We believe that through the Holy Spirit, Jesus still calls us and all to repent and believe the gospel, yielding our hearts to God alone, embodying in our lives the justice, mercy, and love of God's rule.**

### **Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Song of Thanksgiving**      on supplement      **"Give Thanks"**  
**\*Prayer of Dedication**

### **Prayers of the People**

**Joys, Praise and Concerns**      Pastoral Prayer      **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Announcements**

**\*Closing Hymn**      **Black #2140**      on supplement      **"Since Jesus Came Into My Heart"**

### **\*Blessing**

May the heavenly Father who makes the sun rise and the rain fall on all people,  
the Lord Jesus Christ who fulfills the Law and the Prophets,  
and the Holy Spirit who is at work to make us holy  
bless you and keep you, now and always. **Amen.**

Today's Worship Ministers:	<b>All of us – wherever we are</b>
Tech Operators:	Brady Bronson and Val Dolgner
Worship Music Leader:	Sue Rens Guell
Worship Leader/Preacher:	Pastor Steve Miller
Fellowship Host(s):	Pat and Jan Nickel
Counters:	Dan Dolgner and Mary Vande Zande

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tuesday, March 18:

Elizabeth Circle – 1:30

Wednesday, March 19:

The Message of Jesus Bible study – 6:00



March – Canned fruit

### **INTENSIVE PRAYER LIST**

Katie Boegh   Christopher Nord   Lois Bentley   Joyce Brown  
Tammy Kasuboski   Bob Bradley   Ray Dolgner   Ryan Giese   Jerry Kok  
Those impacted by war in Ukraine      For peace in the Mideast

#### **Remember our homebound:**

Hillside Manor, Beaver Dam: Joyce Berry  
Home in Waupun: Dean and Karen Starks  
Prairie Place, Ripon: Elaine Stanton  
Prairie Ridge, Waupun: Phyllis McDowell, Loni Wendt  
Waunakee: Janette Ruck

#### **Waupun United Methodist Church**

Church phone: 920-324-9721

Church website: [waupunumc.com](http://waupunumc.com)

Church e-mail: [waupunumc@gmail.com](mailto:waupunumc@gmail.com)

Pastor's e-mail: [waupunumcpastor2019@gmail.com](mailto:waupunumcpastor2019@gmail.com)

Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-697-9045

Church Facebook page: United Methodist Church-Waupun

