

APRIL 6, 2025
5TH SUNDAY IN LENT
MISSION STATEMENT: TO BRING PEOPLE TO CHRIST
AND NURTURE THEM IN THE FAITH



Pastor: Rob Bacon
Lay Speaker: Carol Bacon
Rev. Jerry Swanberg, Emeritus
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MAXWELL METHODIST CHURCH

APRIL 5, 2025

PASTOR: ROBERT BACON; LAY SPEAKER: CAROL BACON

PIANIST: DEB MITCHELL

***PLEASE STAND IF ABLE**

NOTE CHANGE: OGRP OUR GREAT REDEEMERS PRAISE NEW HYMNAL

PRELUDE DEB MITCHELL

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE TEAM

WE WORSHIP WITH PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP: A PRAYER FOR LENT**

LEADER: GRACIOUS GOD, WE AS YOUR CHURCH, CONTINUE THE JOURNEY OF
THE SACRED SEASON LENT.

PEOPLE: WE ASK YOU TO SEARCH OUR HEARTS, REVEAL SINS,

LEADER: AND CONVICT US TO SINCERELY REPENT AND RETURN TO YOU.

**PEOPLE: LORD, GRANT US THE STRENGTH TO LIVE A NEW LIFE IN YOUR
GRACE.**

LEADER: OPEN OUR HEARTS TO SEE YOUR GOODNESS AND MERCY IN NEW
WAYS.

**PEOPLE: MAY WE EXPERIENCE THE DEPTHS OF YOUR LOVE IN WAYS BY
YOUR GRACE.**

LEADER: MAY YOUR LOVE FOR US FIND NEW DEPTHS.

PEOPLE: PENETRATING, PROMINENT, AND EXTENSIVE.

LEADER: MAY OUR LOVE FOR YOU FIND NEW DEPTHS.

PEOPLE: AND MAY OUR PRAISE AND WORSHIP OF YOU BE NEVER-ENDING.

ALL: IN JESUS' NAME, WE PRAY. AMEN

***CONGREGATIONAL SONG**

"LORD, WHO THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS" OGRP #223

WE WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER / PASTORAL PRAYER / THE LORD'S PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL SONG. . . "WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS?" . . . OGRP #233

WE WORSHIP WITH OUR GIFTS

Offering plates will be at both doors as you enter or leave and will not be passed.

***DOXOLOGY**

WE WORSHIP AS WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE MARK 1:1-12 (NIV)

JOHN THE BAPTIST PREPARES THE WAY

¹ THE BEGINNING OF THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS THE MESSIAH, THE SON OF GOD, ² AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET:

"I WILL SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY"—

³ "A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS,
'PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD,
MAKE STRAIGHT PATHS FOR HIM.'"

⁴ AND SO JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS, PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. ⁵ THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF JERUSALEM WENT OUT TO HIM. CONFESSING THEIR SINS, THEY WERE BAPTIZED BY HIM IN THE JORDAN RIVER. ⁶ JOHN WORE CLOTHING MADE OF CAMEL'S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST, AND HE ATE LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. ⁷ AND THIS WAS HIS MESSAGE: "AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE STRAPS OF WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND UNTIE. ⁸ I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."

THE BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS

⁹ AT THAT TIME JESUS CAME FROM NAZARETH IN GALILEE AND WAS BAPTIZED BY JOHN IN THE JORDAN. ¹⁰ JUST AS JESUS WAS COMING UP OUT OF THE WATER, HE SAW HEAVEN BEING TORN OPEN AND THE SPIRIT DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. ¹¹ AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN: "YOU ARE MY SON, WHOM I LOVE; WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED."

¹² AT ONCE THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS,

SERMON. "LENT: A SEASON OF REFLECTION" CAROL BACON

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN. "COME AWAY WITH ME"TFWS #2202**

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE.DEB MITCHELL**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS** : BY APPOINTMENT. ROB'S NUMBER 515-460-8885; CAROL'S NUMBER 515-460-8969
- **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**: PLEASE FORWARD BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS TO OFFICE@MAXWELLMC.ORG BY WEDNESDAY. THE BULLETIN IS POSTED ON THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE [HTTPS://WWW.MAXWELLMC.ORG](https://www.maxwellmc.org) UNDER THE BULLETINS TAB.
- **FELLOWSHIP SIGN-UP**: PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN UP TO BRING REFRESHMENTS FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME.
- **APRIL 13**: PALM SUNDAY
- **APRIL 13**: 5:15 – 7:00 PM YOUTH GROUP
- **APRIL 17**: MAUNDY THURSDAY
- **APRIL 18**: GOOD FRIDAY
- **APRIL 20**: EASTER SUNDAY
- **APRIL 27**: TBD YOUTH GROUP
- **BIBLE STUDY**: WILL BEGIN THE WEEK AFTER EASTER. MAX LUCADO'S "*WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.*" SEE SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE WESLEY CAFÉ.