



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church
LEARNING AND LIVING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 22, 2026, 10:00 AM

WE GATHER TOGETHER PRAISING GOD

Greeting
Introit
Welcome

Call to Worship

Drew Damme

One: Welcome to the weary and the worn.

All: Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.

One: Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.

All: Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.

One: Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.

All: Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.

One: Welcome to the sinners and the saints.

All: This is God's house.

One: You can make yourself at home here.

All: Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!

*Opening Hymn

Sung to the tune of "Morning Has Broken"

"We Are Called"

**Come live in light shine, love the creator,
Called to the heavens, city of God.
Called unto justice, called unto service.
Love one another, praises and laud.**

**Open our hearts God, show us your mercy,
Hope for the hopeless, freedom our plea.
Called unto justice, called unto service.
Love one another, your face we'll see.**

**Sing now a new song, sing of the great day,
When we will be one, comfort in thee.
Walk with our sisters, walk with our brothers,
Families united, transformed we'll be.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we love to live our lives by the rules. We love clear answers. We love right and wrong. We love swift justice. We love to pick up stones, but you show us another way.

**Please stand as you are able*

This service is being livestreamed.

Credit for liturgical elements: Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.; Abingdon Worship Annual 2026 (adapted)

You welcome shades of gray and nuanced conversation. You prioritize mercy over legality. You prioritize people over tradition. You prioritize love over everything. Forgive us for losing sight of what truly matters. Forgive us for clinging tighter to laws than to each other or to you. Forgive us. Soften our hearts. Root us in mercy, justice, and love. With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Leader: Church family, Jesus saw a crowd ready to throw stones and invited them to choose another way. Jesus offered them grace, mercy, and compassion, and the same can be said for us. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

People: Our God is a God of mercy. Our God is a God of compassion. Our God is a God of grace. We are forgiven, loved, and invited to choose another way. Thanks be to God for yet another second chance. Amen.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ #2186

“Song of Hope” *Sing Twice*

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.**

Refrain:

**Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
Working for a world that’s new, faithful when we hear Christ’s call.**

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Children’s Time

Diane Nelson

Scripture:

John 8:2-11 and Matthew 23:23

Message:

The Good News Is... Rooted in Justice, Mercy and Faithfulness

Rev. Lori Leopold

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S LOVE

Song of Prayer #2160 & 2161

“Into My Heart” Vs 2; “To Know You More” Vs 1

Choir and congregation join in:

**Out of my heart, out of my heart, shine out of my heart, Lord Jesus;
Shine out today, shine out alway; shine out of my heart, Lord Jesus.**

To know you in all of your glory, to love you with all that I am.

With all of my heart, Lord, this is my prayer: To know you more.

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

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Invitation to the Offering/Offertory

*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Maker, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Source of justice and mercy, we give these gifts as a sign of our gratitude and as an expression of our faith. Work through this offering to bring your gifts to the world: righteousness and peace, love and kindness, hope and joy. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #530

“Are You Able?” Vs 1, 2 & 4

**"Are you able," said the Savior, "to be crucified with me?"
"Yea," the sturdy dreamers answered, "to the death we follow thee."**

Refrain:

**Lord, we are able. Our spirits are thine.
Remold them, make us, like thee, divine.
Thy guiding radiance above us shall be
A beacon to God, to love, and loyalty.**

**Are you able to remember, when a thief lifts up his eyes,
That his pardoned soul is worthy of a place in paradise? *Refrain***

**Are you able? Still the Savior whispers down eternity,
And heroic spirits answer, now as then in Galilee. *Refrain***

*Benediction

As you leave this place, when you meet anger, speak with love. When you meet fear, speak with hope. When you meet pain, speak with gentleness. But no matter what, speak this good news. For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all. It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms. The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speaking. For if you won't, then who will? Thanks be to God for this good, good news. Amen.

*On Eagle's Wings #143

**And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of God's hand.**

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Assisting in Worship Today

Worship Leader: Drew Damme; Head Usher: Ken Brown; Greeter: Ben Martinez

Volunteer Media Technicians: Isaac Spence, BL Wild, Bruce Trumbo, Karen Riggs-Saberton

Coffee Hour Coordinator: Dick Ver Steeg



Thank you for worshipping with PB UMC today! You make this gathering richer, brighter, and better by your participation. **All** are welcome at PB UMC!

Our flowers are in celebration of Lois Adams' 98th birthday today from her son, Tim.

Our second arrangement is in honor of Kathy Wong's birthday last Sunday from her friends at PB UMC.

Sign up for weekly PBUMC emails to hear what's happening! Go to pbumc.org/news to sign up for weekly updates, the monthly Beach Breeze newsletter, the prayer chain and more.

For those who would like to be a member of PB UMC...you are welcome! New Member Information Forms are available on the whiteboard out front and on the table in the church entryway. They can be filled out and placed in the offering plate or given to Pastor Lori anytime. For those who would like to learn more about the church, what United Methodists believe and how we serve God in the community and world, you are invited to a quarterly Belonging Gathering. **Our next Gathering will be held on Sunday, June 14th.**

For pastoral support or spiritual conversation, please contact Pastor Lori at the church office or by visiting pbumc.org/contact.



To financially support the ministries of PB UMC in this community and beyond, please go to pbumc.org/give or scan the QR code.

PB UMC Staff

Lead Pastor: Rev. Lori Leopold; Music Director & Organist: Ron Jessee

Director of Technical Arts: Michael Beu; Asst. Director of Technical Arts: Brian Kaplan

Church Secretary: Susie Virgilio; Campus Maintenance Coordinator: Troy McGarrity

Church office: 858-274-6573; www.pbumc.org/contact

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