Easter lily orders are due by March 15th. Order forms can be found outside the sanctuary. Please make your payment separate from any other tithes or offerings.

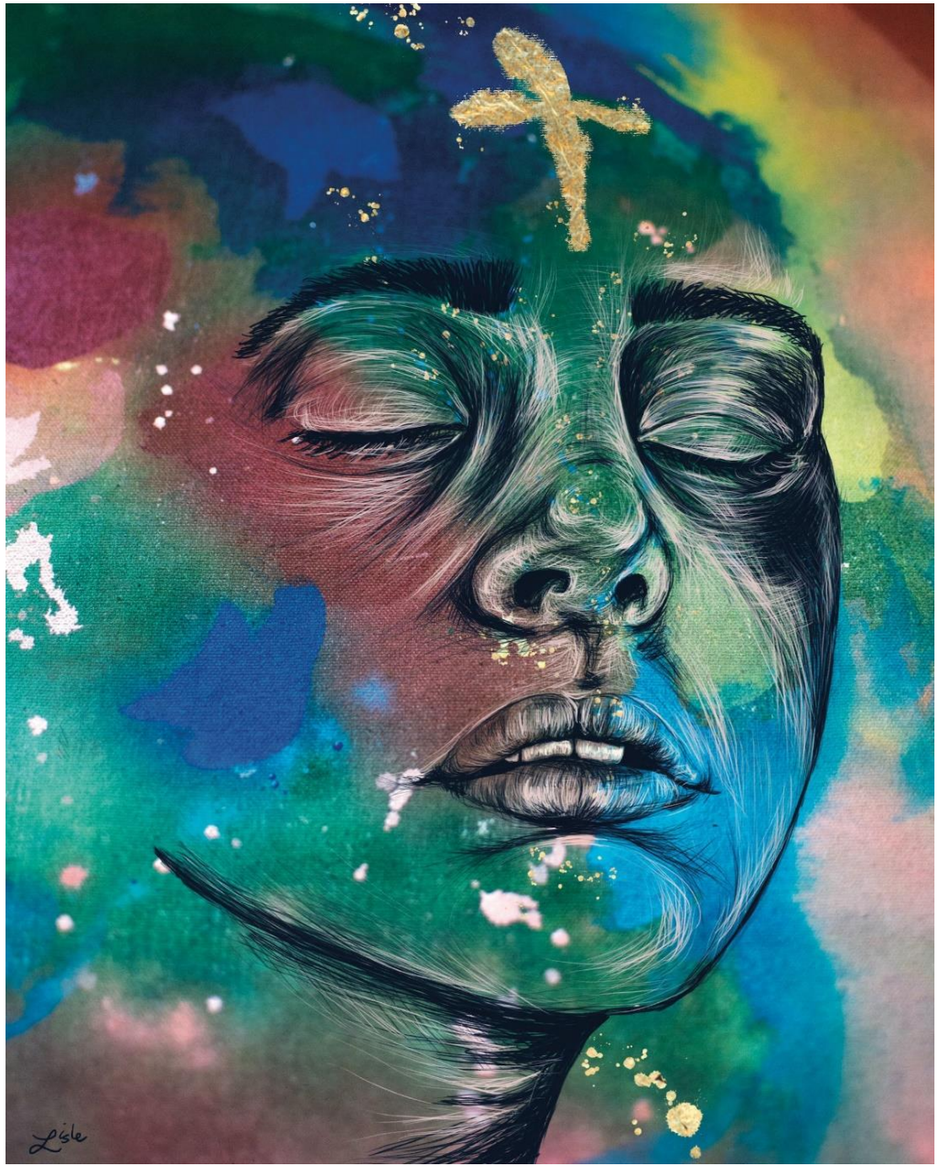
Prayer Requests

Martha Barnett
Arthur Cummings
Mary Cummings
Libby Davenport
Richard Davenport
HJ Fleming
Rick Gray
Vickie Gray
Brian Handell
Cathy Hanks
Art Hartzog
David Holder
W. Ashley Long
Carolyn O'Dell
Rita Petoskey
Jerry Reitzel
Linda Seifert
Sheila Worley

Scan for our website

Church Office Hours
Monday – Thursday: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Friday: 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Brad Gray *Executive Pastor*	Megan Gray *Pastor of Discipleship & Belonging*	Chad Deetz *Youth Minister*	Adam Rollins *Youth Ministry Assistant*
Dale Fischer *Director of Music*	Jana Mathis *Director of Children's Ministries*	Jennifer Bartless *Children's Ministries Assistant*	Kristine Lee *Organist*



"Stardust" by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

To all who are weary and need rest; To all who are burdened and need relief; To all who are lonely and need friends; To all who are looking for something that only God can provide; To all who sin and need a Savior; To whosoever will come, Bethel UMC, the House of God, opens her doors, and in the name of Jesus Christ says, "Welcome!"

A Service of Worship for Ash Wednesday

Prelude *"Ah, Holy Jesus"* Mary McDonald

Gathering

*Call to Worship
We gather together at the edge of a new season.
We stand together on the cusp of something new.
Will we wade into self-reflection?
Will we invite honesty to reside in us?
Will we listen for God's invitation?
Will we seek deeper faith?
What kind of fast do we choose? What kind of faith do we build?
We gather together at the edge of a new season.
Listen, God is speaking.

*Opening Prayer

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

Scripture Lesson Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Anthem *"Wondrous Love"* arr. Eric Thiman
Sanctuary Choir

Prayer for Illumination
God,
We want to hear your voice.
Shout loudly; don't hold back.
Move in our spirits the way you moved over the waters of creation.
We are beginning a new season today, God,
and we don't want to begin anything without you.
So speak to us today – through silence, through scripture, through song.
Speak to us as you spoke to the Israelites so many moons ago.
Speak to us like a gentle breeze or a loud trumpet.
We don't care how, we just long to hear your voice.
So don't hold back.
We are here. We are listening.
Amen.

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 58: 1-12

Sermon

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

Thanksgiving Over the Ashes

*Imposition of Ashes

Confession and Pardon

Prayer of Confession
Merciful God,
How many times in a day could we choose love?
How many times could we choose justice?
How many times could we speak kindly to ourselves"
How many times could we offer grace?
How many times, God? And how often do we miss it?
Forgive us for choosing the path you did not travel.
Forgive us for hitching our horse to the world's measure of goodness, instead of yours.
Return our hearts to you, and guide us continually, even in the parched places.
With gratitude we pray,
Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn *"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"* UMH 301

*Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude *"Verset"* Leon Böellmann

**Please stand if able*