



**Crooks Memorial  
United Methodist Church**  
February 25, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.  
Second Sunday of Lent

Serving In Worship Today

Ushers/Greeters: Kay O’Beirne & Janet Hunley

A/V Coordinator: Allen Conway

Stream Team: Jim Pile, Pete Prokup, Kasey Landis,  
Bill Diggs, and Mark Cooper

For Announcements and News

Refer to our weekly E-news, Church Website and/or Facebook page. You can subscribe to the E-news via the Connection Card or Church Website. If you do not have email access, contact the church office to be placed on our mailing list.



**Our Mission:**  
To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the  
Transformation of the World  
**Our Vision:**  
Making Space for God and Others  
**Our Values:**  
Worship ✝ Faith ✝ Family ✝ Hospitality

Rev. B. Sung, Pastor  
Rev. Sue Hauptert-Johnson – Bishop  
Rev. Charles F. Ledlum-Bates –  
Mission Rivers District Superintendent  
Betty Warren – Dir. of Music Ministries  
Rylee Rucker – Admin. & Comm. Assist.  
Kristie Brookshire – Finance Admin  
Katelyn Brennan – Nursery Coordinator

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www.crooksmemorialumc.org  
Office Hours: 9 – 3 Mon – Thu

**Welcome to Worship**

**Cell phone and electronic devices:**

Please set to silence.

**Connection Card:** Helps us know you are here and helps you engage. Please complete and place it in the offering plate.

**Hard of hearing or sight:**

Large print hymnals and listening devices are available from an usher.

**We love children in worship!**

Worship Bags and books are located in the narthex. However, if needed, our staffed nursery is available for those five and under. Ask an usher for directions.

**We record worship:** As a ministry to those unable to be present, our worship service is livestreamed, recorded, and posted to our website and social media sites.

**Bold print** indicates a congregational/unison reading.

**Song of Proclamation** “His Eye is on the Sparrow” C D Martin  
Adam Grace, Soloist

**Welcome** Vennie Lulofs

**Prelude** “It Is Well With My Soul” Spafford & Bliss  
Adam Grace, Soloist

**\*Hymn** “The God of Abraham Praise” UMH 116

**\*Call to Worship**

Lenten travelers, who is this Jesus that we follow?

**He is the Messiah.**

What kind of Messiah is Jesus?

**He is the Messiah who teaches that He will lose His life  
and who calls us to lose our lives in order to save our lives.**

How does it feel to follow a Messiah whose  
teachings and call are so hard and uncomfortable?

**Some feel fear and anger, while others feel  
uncertain and anxious, and still others  
feel resolute and ready to follow.**

Lenten travelers, we are not alone in our feelings  
about following Jesus as our Messiah. It is hard road.

The blessing is that we do not travel it alone.

**Thanks be to God that we share this journey with Jesus  
and one another as we lose our lives for the sake of the  
gospel to save our lives through Jesus, our Messiah. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer** Rev. B. Sung

**\*Hymn** “Lord of the Dance” UMH 261

**Scripture** Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Vennie Lulofs  
(Pew Bible O.T. 12-13)  
Romans 4:13-25 Vennie Lulofs  
(Pew Bible N.T. 145)

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** “Spirit Praise” Micheal Ryan

**Small Talk** Janet & Megan Jasewicz

**Scripture** Mark 8:31-38 Rev. B. Sung  
(Pew Bible N.T. 41)

**Message** “The Way of the Cross” Rev. B. Sung

**\*Hymn** “Where He Leads Me” UMH 338

**Offertory Prayer**

God of boundless goodness, we are reminded that our  
discipleship decision involves more than what we bring this  
day to the altar; it calls us to a place where a cross that is  
ours alone must be picked up and carried. This, more than  
anything else, is why we need the community of Your  
church. Strengthen us, we pray, not just to carry our own  
cross, but to help sisters and brothers carry their crosses as  
well. In the name of the One who bore His cross for us.  
Amen.

**Offertory** “The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power” Andrea Crouch  
Adam Grace, Soloist

**\*Doxology** UMH 95

**\*Benediction** Rev. B. Sung

**\*Postlude** “Soon and Very Soon” UMH 706

**Money Matters – From the Treasurer**

In January, 2024, our income from contributions was **\$18,367**  
and our expenses totaled **\$25,522**. In January, we spent **\$7,155**  
more than we received in contributions. **This means we are  
starting 2024 with a deficit.**

We continue to monitor our gains from investments. Current  
investments total \$664,000. However, unless we as a church  
(both members and visitors) do something differently, i.e.,  
increase contributions, decrease expenditures, or both, we will  
continue to experience monthly deficits.