

# SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION

March 22, 2026



*The purpose of Groce United Methodist Church is to build the family of God through praising God, bringing others to Christ, teaching the faith, strengthening the fellowship, and sending forth in service.*

**Groce United Methodist Church**  
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**Email: [gumcadmin@groceumc.org](mailto:gumcadmin@groceumc.org)**  
**Website: [www.groceumc.org](http://www.groceumc.org)**

**Jill Rhinehart—Pastor**  
**Becky Wilburn—Music Director/Organist**  
**Debbie Ross—Handbell Director**  
**Gayle Decker—Administrator/Treasurer**  
**Mariah Wright—Secretary**  
**Kelley Woehl—Youth Director**  
**Tammy Peek—Custodian**

**\* Where indicated, stand if you are able.**

CHIMES OF THE HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE

“There is a Balm in Gilead”  
*Arr. Wilson*

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jill Rhinehart

CENTERING WORDS

Jennifer Prince

Leader: In the quiet, we wait for you, O God. We hope for your transforming love. In the darkness of despair, we trust that you are here.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Cry out to God.

**People: God listens to us.**

Leader: Hope in God.

**People: God forgives us.**

Leader: Wait for God.

**People: God’s love is faithful.**

Leader: Let us pray. Come, Spirit of God. We wait for your presence. We trust in your abiding promises. Breathe the breath of your power into us this day, that we may experience the power of new life, the promise of forgiveness, and blessing of community. Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN #340**

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

ANTHEM

“If with All Your Hearts”  
*Mendelssohn*  
*Performed by Julian Fields*

CHILDREN'S CHANGE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

SCRIPTURE Luke 14:1-24  
NT pg. 77

MESSAGE "Open Invitation"

RECEIVING GOD'S GIFTS Ushers will come forward

OFFERTORY "The Rebuke Hath Broken His Heart/Behold, and See if There Be Any Sorrow"  
Handel  
Performed by Julian Fields

\*DOXOLOGY

CLOSING HYMN TFWS #2129 "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

CHIMES OF THE HOLY TRINITY

POSTLUDE "To God All Glory Given"  
Sawyer

*Our worship service has ended.  
Now, our worship through service begins.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*The first four pews on both sides are fragrance-free.\***

**The Flowers on the Altar** are given by **Alice Magee** in memory of **Jim Magee**.

**Sunday's Ushers:** Thank you to our Ushers, **Joe Early, Michelle Troxell (steward), Jerry Kirschner,** and **Pat Kirschner!** Thank you to our Nursery Volunteer **Terri Kilmer!**

**Easter Lilies**—The Altar Guild and Flower Girls invite the congregation to help decorate our Altar this Easter with Easter Lilies. If you have a loved one you would like to honor or remember this season, please fill out a **Lily form** (located at the back of the Sanctuary) and submit your **\$9** to the office no later than March 31.

**Apportionment Special Offering**—We are collecting a special offering for our 2025 Apportionments **TODAY**. Please prayerfully consider giving to this important fund that keeps our church doors open!

**Bake Sale**—Sarah Circle is hosting a bake sale both before and after the Palm Sunday service on **March 29th**. Stop by and get some delicious goodies!

**Holy Week Services**—Our Maundy Thursday Service will be held on **April 2nd at 7pm**. Our Good Friday Service will be held on **April 3rd at noon**, with a luncheon in Asbury Hall immediately following. On Easter Sunday, **April 5**, we will have a Sunrise Service at **7:30am** (breakfast served afterwards), as well as an Easter Service at our regular **10:30am** Worship time.

A Celebration of Life Ceremony for **Kris Aldrich** will be held on **April 4 at 1pm**. Drinks and desserts to follow in Asbury Hall.

**United Methodist Men** Schedule change—April meeting changed to **April 1 at 6:30pm**.

**Perennials Needed**— We need perennials for our gardens! To donate, contact Carolyn Cutlip (731-420-8295) or Sandra Justus (828-230-5568). \*\*\* But please, no day lilies! \*\*\*

**Newsletter:** If you or your group would like to advertise an upcoming event in next month's newsletter, please email your group/ event name and brief description to Mariah *no later than March 25.* [gumcadmin@groceumc.org](mailto:gumcadmin@groceumc.org).

**Church Directory Update**—We will be printing a new church directory in April. If you believe that we may have incorrect information for you, please contact the office 828-298-7647 or email [gumcadmin@groceumc.org](mailto:gumcadmin@groceumc.org).

**Welcome Table Desserts:** The weekly Welcome Table is in need of two volunteers a week to bring desserts for their meal. If you are interested, please see the signup sheet located on the bulletin board outside the front office. We currently have very few volunteers signed up.

**CHURCH CALENDAR: MAR 22-28**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>9:00:</b> Agape Sunday School Class	<b>11:00:</b> Prayer Group	<b>11:00:</b> Out-reach	<b>10:00:</b> Balance	<b>10:30:</b> Isaac Group	<b>6:00:</b> Quintet	<b>10:00:</b> Guitar League
<b>10:30:</b> Worship Service	<b>3:00:</b> Hand-bells	<b>11:00:</b> Lenten Book Club	<b>11:30:</b> Tables of 16	<b>1:30:</b> Tai Chi		
<b>4:00:</b> Confirmation	<b>6:00:</b> TL3	<b>1:30:</b> Crafters	<b>4:00:</b> BCAE	<b>5:00:</b> Welcome Table		
<b>5:00:</b> Youth	<b>6:00:</b> Girl Scouts	<b>1:30:</b> Tai Chi	<b>5:30:</b> Choir			
<b>5:00:</b> HCCA Potluck		<b>6:00:</b> Basket Guild	<b>6:00:</b> AA			
		<b>7:00:</b> SMBB	<b>7:00:</b> Men's Chorus			