



the good news is..

great love for
God & neighbor

Second Sunday In Lent
March 1, 2026

** Accessible Hearing Devices and Large Print Bulletins
are available from the ushers.

Welcome to Arnold Mills United Methodist Church, and welcome to the season of Lent.

Whether you are here every week or stepping through these doors for the first time, whether you come certain in your faith or full of questions, you are welcome here. We are a community learning how to follow Jesus together: imperfectly, honestly, and with hope.

Lent is the season that leads us toward Easter, forty days and six Sundays, to slow down, reflect, and return to the heart of our faith. Long ago, Lent was a time when new believers prepared for baptism by learning what was most essential about Jesus' life and teachings. In that same spirit, this year we are asking: What is the good news, really? What makes it good? Can we trust it, even when it stretches us?

Our Lenten theme is "Tell Me Something Good." Each week, we will revisit teachings and stories that may be familiar, listening for the ways God is still speaking. The good news of Jesus is not stale or small. It is extravagant and surprising. It roots us in what matters most: loving our neighbors, caring for the vulnerable, pursuing justice and mercy, and resting in God's unending grace.

Children are not just welcome here; they belong here. Their curiosity and honesty help us hear the gospel with fresh ears. Crayons and coloring sheets are available at the back if that's helpful. Children are welcome to receive communion.

So come as you are. Participate as you feel comfortable.
Sing, pray, question, listen, or simply rest.

May this season root us again in what is most true.
May it ground us in good news.
And may that good news lead us to live differently in the world.



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In a World That Needs Good News

Welcome

Call To Worship

Tell me something good!
God loves you more than you could imagine.
Tell me something good!
God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.
Tell me something good!
God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not
alone.
This is good news indeed!
Let us worship our compassionate God.

Hymn | Gather Us In | 2236
The Faith We Sing

Listen for the Good News of Christ

Prayer for Illumination
Good News | Luke 7: 36-50 (NT P. 62)
This is the good news.
So good it surprises us.
Thanks be to God.



Hymn | I Come With My Devotion

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, did we see you hungry and give you something to eat? Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? Did we see you alone and offer you compassion? Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes? Did we come up with every excuse in the book? God, we long to be people who love our neighbors with the same overwhelming love that you have for them. But we must admit, we have a long way to go.

Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again.

With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Faith family,
even when we act with judgment,
even when we are guided by fear,
even when we turn our back on a neighbor in need,
God does not turn God's back on us.
So join me in this good-news declaration:
We are seen.
We are forgiven.
We are invited to try again.
Thanks be to God for this unending love.



Good News | Matthew 25: 35-40 (NT P. 27)

I Come With My Devotion

ANGEL'S STORY 7.6.7.6 D ("O Jesus I Have Promised")

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: Arthur H. Mann (1881)



I come with my de - vo - tion to love and serve
I hear my Sa - vior's call - ing to serve the lost
God made us in God's im - age each per - son whom



my God Whose lov - ing cos - mos formed me
and least The hun - gry and im - pris - oned,
we meet Ex - tra - va - gant - ly lov - ing



be - fore I e - ver sought The glo - ry of the
the bro - ken ones like me For in each act of
all of hu - man - i - ty So I'll re - turn the



hea - vens or praise on earth be - low So ev - ery
kind - ness it's Christ for whom we care All wor - thy
love which has formed me from the start — Lov - ing



gift I have now I lay be - fore the throne
of our love — since it's God's face we bear
my cre - a - tor, my - self, and ev - ery heart

Anthem

Message: The good news is... great love for God and neighbor.

Practice the Good News

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
It sounds like welcome
and feels like home.
It sounds like laughter
and feels like mercy.
It sounds like love
and feels like a seat at the table,
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
I have seen it alive in the world.
And even when my heart aches,
even when wars rage,
even when mercy feels out of reach,
I remember the one who
welcomed the children
and led with nonviolence.
I remember the one who
cared for the vulnerable
and inspired those around him.
I remember that the good news really is good news,
for I have seen it alive in the world.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sharing Life's Joys and Sorrows
Prayers of the People

The Prayer Jesus Taught

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.

Invitation to Give & Announcements

Collecting the Offering

Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, 95 UMH

Offering Prayer

Children's Time

We Feast at God's Table

All are welcome to receive. There are no faith, belief, age, or goodness requirements.

As the ushers direct, please come forward to receive gluten-free bread and a small cup of grape juice. You are then invited to move to the kneeling rail for personal prayer, and you can leave your communion cup in the rail.

Become the Good News

Sending Song | Take My Life and Let it Be | 399

United Methodist Hymnal

Benediction

Postlude

Tell Me Something Good

Lent 2026 | February 18 — April 4

Lent invites us to practice integrity, to tell the truth about who we are, what the world is like, and what we need from God and one another. It's a season for honest reflection and faithful living, grounded in the deep, challenging, and life-giving good news of Jesus: love of neighbor, justice, mercy, and grace.

We don't walk this season alone. Lent is also a season to practice of deep community, showing up together, asking real questions, and trusting that even when the good news stretches us, it is still, truly, good.

A devotional journal and daily devotional cards are available in the church co-troom and library, along with other Lenten resources.

Coming this season...

Online Bible Study, Wednesday at 7pm, March 4—April 1

Led by Rev. Dr. Adama Brown

Together, we'll consider the upcoming Sunday's scripture, listening deeply, speaking honestly, and growing in faith side by side. We'll meet on Zoom.

Palm Sunday: March 29, 10am Worship, Onsite and Online

Holy Week Labyrinth, (Meditative Prayer Walk) March 31-April 4

Tuesday-Friday, 9am-1pm

Wednesday –Friday, 5pm-8pm

Holy Thursday: April 2, 7pm, Bishop Tom Bickerton will be preaching Rhode Island United Methodists at Shepherd of the Valley United Methodist Church

Good Friday: April 3, 7pm Worship, Onsite and Online

Easter Sunday: April 5, 10am Worship, Onsite and Online

Worship Notes

1. "Tell Me Something Good," worship series, cover art and liturgy designed and created by A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.
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PRAYERS

Holding our neighbors, community and world in God's love
God in your mercy, hear our prayers.

Answered Prayers:

- Paul Roeber's brother-in-law is home and recovering.

-Glenn and Sarah's friend and colleague, Heather, is in complete remission from her tonsil cancer. She will, to her delight, return to the classroom after February break. Please pray for strength as she adjusts to being back in the classroom.

Please pray for:

- Comfort for the Mendes family after the sudden loss of their son Steven. He is the father of our eldest granddaughter Lola.

Please continue to pray for:

-All who are grieving, afraid, traumatized by the shooting incident at Pawtucket, Rhode Island ice rink

-the loved ones of Amado Caraballo, Emma Caraballo's father. He died last Saturday. Please hold Emma and Sammy Burgos, their family and all who grieve in prayer.

- the family of Cynthia McGrady, who passed away on January 23 - one day shy of her 83rd birthday. Cyndie and her family were members of AMUMC for many years, before relocating to southern Rhode Island. The family said they have such fond memories of the church and the parishioners.

-All who are being targeted by ICE

- Alex Kithes' Aunt Helena

- The people and leaders of Iran, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon and Egypt, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine and Russia, and Venezuela

-District Superintendent, Rev. Wanda Santos-Perez and the churches of the Seacoast district

-Bishop Tom Bickerton and the New Hope Episcopal Area.



Submit a new prayer request or update us. We love to hear about answered prayers.

Scan the QR code, or text or email Pastor Heather.

LIVING OUR VALUES

Integrity
Teamwork
Deep Community
Belief
Justice

Teamwork

Thank you for your support of our work helping Our Unhoused Neighbors by supporting Operation NOD (No One Dies), a ministry of the RI State Council of Churches. Five Providence faith communities, including Mathewson Street UMC and Open Table of Christ UMC, are operating as overnight warming centers for unhoused neighbors. Through your generosity we were able to contribute blankets, pillow cases, socks, underwear, as well as warm hats

and gloves to our unhoused and dishoused neighbors.

Thank you for your generosity! Questions? Contact Chip Thurlow or Cindy Mauch

Integrity & Deep Community Celebrating 200 Years! 1827-2027

Sign up to get involved

We are forming teams to work on various aspects of our 200th Anniversary celebration.
Sign up now to get involved!

Rededication event (February 2027)—a planning committee is needed to develop the program and details of this important event, marking the opening of the church in February 1827.

Merchandising—join this committee to generate ideas and manage production of merchandising such as T shirts, banners, and memorabilia. We hope to have some items produced in time for our Holiday Fair later this year.

Cook Book—lets have some fun creating a 200th Anniversary Cookbook! We need YOU to contribute your favorite recipes and to coordinate the assembly of the cookbook.

Additional teams will be formed later this year as we consider having a float in the 2027 July 4th parade, a summer 2027 picnic, and a Rally Day 2027 celebration.

Sign up posters are in Cargill Hall, and emails are being sent out with links to sign up for these teams.

Please contact Cindy Mauch, Lay Leader, with any questions you may have.

Belief

What is Lent?

Lent is a season of preparation for Easter that lasts for 40 days, not counting Sundays, that spans from Ash Wednesday until Easter each year. As you might imagine the number of days being set at 40 is not a coincidence at all. The 40 days of Lent is set up as a reminder of the 40 days that Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness in preparation for His time in ministry to the world...

How do You Observe Lent?

One of the beauties of Lent is that there is not a rule book to follow. The point of Lent as mentioned earlier is to prepare your heart for Easter where we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. Jesus spent those days in the wilderness fasting, that is denying himself the comfort of food. With that in mind, many Christians choose to observe Lent by fasting from something, like a specific food or drink, or from habits like social media or television watching. During Lent, the idea is that we die to ourselves by giving up those things we desire. In addition, instead of fasting from something, other disciples take the opportunity of Lent to add or increase a spiritual discipline such as prayer, bible reading, or others. Remember there isn't a formula to be successful in how you observe Lent.

—excerpt from article by Chris Lynch, Discipleship Ministries, United Methodist Church <https://www.umcyoungpeople.org/lead/what-is-lent-and-why-do-we-observe-it-a-crash-course-for-youth-workers>

Justice

You Can Make a Difference! FREE Mental Health First Aid Training

Join the Rhode Island State Council of Churches at the Bradley Learning Exchange (East Providence) April 16, 2026 | 8am–4pm

Learn how to recognize signs of mental health and substance use challenges, listen without judgment, and connect people to appropriate help. Mental Health First Aid isn't about being a therapist. It's about being informed, compassionate, and ready to respond.

Free when you register through RISCC.

Contact Rev. Tracey Griffing at tgriffing@councilofchurchesri.org

Register by April 7.

Bring lunch and a pen. Certificate valid for 3 years provided.

Together, we can strengthen our community with one conversation, one moment of courage, or one act of compassion at a time.

What's Happening at AMUMC - March 1-8 , 2026

*Sunday, March 1—Communion Sunday

9:00 AM – Coffee and Tea Available in the Kitchen

9:15 AM – Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

10:00 AM – Worship in the Sanctuary & Livestreamed on Facebook.

10:00 AM – Children's Sunday School begins in the classrooms

11:00 AM – Coffee Fellowship - Cargill Hall

Monday, March 2

7:00 PM – Troop 1 Boys/Girls Scouts - Cargill Hall

7:00 PM - Church Council - Library

Tuesday, March 3

6:30 PM – Pack 1 Scouts - Cargill Hall

6:30 PM – Prayer Meeting - Zoom

Wednesday, March 4

10:00 AM - Prayer Shawl & Crafts Ministry - Library

11:00 AM - Meet Pastor Heather - Apothica Cafe

7:00 PM – Bible Study - Zoom

Thursday, March 5

7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal - All singers welcome!

*Sunday, March 8

9:00 AM – Coffee and Tea Available in the Kitchen

9:15 AM – Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

10:00 AM – Worship in the Sanctuary & Livestreamed on Facebook.

10:00 AM – Children's Sunday School begins in the sanctuary

11:00 AM – Coffee Fellowship - Cargill Hall

11:00 AM – SPRC Meeting

*Recording of livestream available after 10:30 AM www.amumc.org.

	March 1	March 8
Greeters	Margaret Waterman & David Raymond	Craig Emerson & Pat Coogan
Acolyte	Michael Emerson	Pam Thurlow
Liturgist	Cindy Mauch	David Raymond
Ushers	Craig Emerson & Jean Clark	Chip Thurlow & Ron Blais
Coffee Hour	Nora Parent & Joni Robert	Karen Oswain



1. Here in this place new light is stream-ing,
 2. We are the young — our lives are a mys - t'ry,
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter,
 4. Not in the dark of build - ings con - fin - ing,



now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way,
 we are the old — who yearn for your face,
 here we will take the bread of new birth,
 not in some heav - en, light - years a - way, but



see in this space our fears and our dream - ings,
 we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day. _____
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race. _____
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth. _____
 now is the King - dom, now is the day. _____



Gath - er us in — the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in — the
 Gath - er us in — the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in — the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in — all peo - ples to - geth - er,

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. It contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes.

here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It maintains the same musical notation and structure, with the upper staff carrying the vocal line and the lower staff providing the accompaniment.

host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The third system of music concludes the piece. It features the same musical notation as the previous systems, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are completed with 'host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.'

Take My Life, and Let It Be

1. Take my life, and let it be con - se - cra - ted,
 2. Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly,
 3. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no

Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments and my days;
 for my King. Take my lips, and let them be
 long - cr mine. Take my heart, it is thine own;

let them flow in cease - less praise. Take my hands, and
 filled with mes - sag - es from thee. Take my sil - ver
 it shall be thy roy - al throne. Take my love, my

let them move at the im - pulse of thy love.
 and my gold; not a mite would I with - hold.
 Lord, I pour at thy feet its trea - sure - store.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.
 Take my-self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.