

## Announcements |

**It's A Soup-athon!** Please remember to bring your soups each Sunday. The shopping cart is in the narthex to collect the soups for MUST Ministries.

**Second Annual Soup Cook-Off on Feb. 11:** Who will win the Golden Ladle this year? Be thinking of your best soup recipe to enter. If you would like to help beyond bringing a soup, we need help with the following: setup, clean-up, bringing rolls, crackers and desserts. A Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Varsalona, h.varsalona@gmail.com, or 678.467.6469.

**Ash Wednesday:** Our Ash Wednesday worship service will be at 6PM on Feb. 14.

**Lenten Bible Study:** Our next bible study will discuss the seven deadly sins using William Willimon's book: *Sinning Like a Christian*. The study will start on Feb 21 and run on Wednesday nights for 8 weeks. Books can be purchased online or through the church office. Sign up for the study in your connect card.

**SPARK After Dark:** Meets on Sundays from 5-7 pm. See Rachel for more details or to volunteer.

**Adult Sunday School:** Adult Sunday School will begin meeting on each Sunday starting in February. The class will be discussing Angels and will meet at 10 am.

**2024 Office Hours:** Starting in January the church office will be open Monday, Tuesday Wednesday from 8 am till 12 pm. You may always reach out to Josh on his cell phone or by email.

## Church Staff |

Rev. Josh Roberts, Pastor	josh.roberts@ngumc.net (cell 770-891-2578)
Rachel Harmeyer, Children's Director	sparkmaumc@outlook.com
Annie Cook, Director of Music	anniesongs@comcast.net
Kim Shurling, Accompanist	kimshurling@mindspring.com
Linda LeCroy, Office Administrator	mapleavenueumc@gmail.com
Pat Holcomb, Bookkeeper	patholcomb@bellsouth.net

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January 28, 2024  
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDE | *His Eye Is On The Sparrow*

By Charles H. Gabriel

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN 3016 | *I What A Mighty God We Serve*

**What a mighty God we serve.  
What a mighty God we serve.  
Angels bow before you,  
heaven and earth adore you.  
What a mighty God we serve.**

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *The Apostle's Creed* (881)  
**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.**

MORNING PRAYER

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.**

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offerings to Maple Avenue can be left in the Narthex. You can also give by texting any dollar amount to 833-315-0263. You can also scan this code to give online.



## OFFERTORY | *Jesus, What a Wonderful Child*

Maple Avenue Ladies  
African American Spiritual, arr. Lloyd Larson

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### \* HYMN 2040 | *Awesome God*

**Our God is an awesome God  
He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom pow'r and love  
Our God is an awesome God**

## SCRIPTURE LESSON | 1Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge, but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists" and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge the weak brother or sister for whom Christ

died is destroyed. But when you thus sin against brothers and sisters and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never again eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

## *My Faith Has Found a Resting Place/The Solid Rock*

Tisa Schuurman  
Norwegian Folk Melody/William B. Bradbury, arr. Brant Adams

## SERMON | *Your Example*

### \* HYMN 507 | *Through It All*

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE | *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

By Graham Kendrick

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\* Please stand as able  
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SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT | If you are interested in learning more about your personal spiritual gifts, consider taking the Spiritual Gifts Assessment. A link can be found at [www.mapleavenuechurch.org/spiritualgifts](http://www.mapleavenuechurch.org/spiritualgifts) or by following the qr code.



## PRAYER CONCERNS |

Brock Warwick, Joseph Becker, Family of Arthur Leslie, Sandra Bedelle, Mark Webreck, Family of Johnny Potter, Glenda Dudley, Family of Jerry Hedgecock, Tommy Bell, Yvonne Bell, Mary Joe Mills, Sandy Lynn, Baby Gaines Law, Jas Medina, Baby Briggs Weeks, Todd Senter, Anne King Shaw, Alan Greene, Barbara Olinyk