

*Passing of the Peace

*Worship with Song

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus UMH, 277

To Breath God In

Reading of Scripture Luke 8.4-8, 11-15 (NRSVue)

Hymn of Preparation **The Wedding Banquet****

*I cannot come!
I cannot come to the banquet.
Don't trouble me now.
I have married a wife.
I have bought me a cow.
I have fields and commitments
that cost a pretty sum.
Pray, hold me excused. I cannot come!*

*A certain man held a feast on his fine estate,
in town.
He laid a festive table. He wore a wedding gown.
He sent invitations to his neighbors far and wide.
But when the meal was ready, each of the replied...
I cannot come!*

*The master rose up in anger,
called his servants by name.
Said go into the fields.
Fetch the blind and the lame.
Fetch the peasant and the pauper.
For this I have willed.
My banquet must be crowded*

*and my table must be filled.
I cannot come!*

*When all the poor had assembled
there was still room to spare.
So the Master demanded, Go search everywhere.
To the highways and the byways
and force them to come in.
My table must be filled
before the banquet can begin.
I cannot come!*

*Now God has written a lesson
for the rest of mankind.
If we're slow in responding,
He may leave us behind.
He's preparing a banquet
for that great and glorious day.
When your Lord and Master calls you,
be certain not to say...
I cannot come!*

Reading of Scripture Isaiah 55.10-13 (NRSVue)

Message **Parable of the Sower**
Rev. Dr. David Kersten

Worship with Music and Reflection
God Loves a Cheerful Giver**

Worship with our Tithes & Offerings

Musical Offertory **Don't Worry****

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Worship with Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

Hymn of Blessing: **Now the Green Blade Riseth**
UMH, 311

Benediction

Go Now in Peace, by Natalie Sleeth
*Go now in peace
May the Love of God surround you
Everywhere, Everywhere
you may go*

Thank You for Serving

Pastor: Rev. Dr. David Kersten
Liturgist: Anne Soles
Musicians: Jenny Lynn Girvan, Ken & Elaine Konyha,
Diane Larson, & Richard Saint Denis
Tech: Keith Danielson, Dan Girvan, & John Faas

**Parable songs by the Medical Mission Sisters



SUNDAY, April 7

- ⇒ 10:30 am, Worship, Sanctuary
- ⇒ Fellowship Time

MONDAY, April 8

- ⇒ 10 am, Senior Stretch, Wesley Room
- ⇒ 10:30 am, Finance & Operations Team, Music Room

TUESDAY, April 9, 10:30 am, Worship Team, Wesley Rm


WEDNESDAY, April 10

- ⇒ Community Dinner - Baked Chicken
- ⇒ 6:30 pm, Property Management, Wesley Room
- ⇒ 6:30 pm, Bell Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

THURSDAY, April 11

- ⇒ 10 am, Senior Stretch, Wesley Room
- ⇒ 7 pm, Transforming Grace, Zoom Study

**FRIDAY, April 12, 10 am, Prayers & Squares,
Wesley & Music Rooms**

 **Centenary United Methodist Church**
PO Box 111, 82 S Hancock Street
Pentwater, MI 49449
Rev. Dr. Vaughn W. Thurston-Cox, Pastor



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Be the Breath of God in Community

Our Vision: To be the Breath of God in Community
Our Values: Loving God, Serving Others, Welcoming All



*Centenary United
Methodist Church*

The Breath of God in Community

April 7, 2024
First Sunday after Easter

Parables - The Sower

We Gather Together

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

*Call to Worship

We are like seeds on the wind, set free by the Sower.

**The hand of God saves us from rocky
pathways and thorny ground.**

In Christ, we find good soil.

The Holy Spirit nourishes us as we grow.

Come! Let us worship the Sower,
Who plants us in the fields of life.

*Worship with Song

When Morning Gilds the Skies UMH, 185

* Please stand