

Asbury United Methodist Church

143 Ann Mary Brown Drive, Warwick, RI 02888

401-467-5122 asburyumcri@gmail.com

Worship Leader: Patricia Smith-Disu

Chancel: Kerri Dorsey

* Please rise in body or in spirit

“The High Way”

Week Two

March 1, 2026

WE GATHER

Meeting One Another on The Way

Prelude “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” Hanna Noh

Welcome and Announcements

Preparing Together

Threshold Moment

“A Wilderness Wandering People”

Leader: Today, we continue our worship series called “The Way” that invites us to a spiritual journey during this season. Today we come to the table to be sustained for the road ahead. In our society, we are taught that everything costs. But our ways are not God’s ways, as we will hear in scripture. We are all invited to the table of Jesus without price. This is the abundance of God’s grace. This is the higher way that we are invited to embody for the sake of the world. The “rich food” that we are invited to partake is the richness of life when all have enough—not simply to survive—but to thrive. Hospitality is the way—even though we do not agree on everything, we are still one family at one table.

[sung]

**We are a wilderness wandering people
on a journey of the soul.**

**May we find our destination
in our longing to be whole.**

Our Holy God is calling to us.

**With Jesus by our side
may compassion be our compass;
may the Spirit be our guide,
on The Way,**

on The Way,
on The Way.

Prayer for the Path

God of Grace,
we know you are with us on The Way.
But we need sustenance in order to make the journey.
As we come seeking peace and a place at the table,
we find that you have already prepared and were expecting us.
Help us to set tables of abundance
for all who travel this journey of life,
just as Jesus did.
Amen.

Opening Hymn “Come, We That Love the Lord” vs. 1 & 4

Greeting Each Other

Leader: The best part of having companions on The Way is the sharing that we get to do that makes us feel just a little less alone. During this series, we will share answers to a common question with each other. I invite you to turn to someone you did not come to church with and answer this question: “What is your favorite dish at a meal (or potluck)?” As we do this, I invite the children to come to the front for some time together.

WE PROCLAIM

Discovering Ourselves on The Way

First Reading Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Choir Anthem “Amazing Grace”

Sermon “God’s Heart” Rev. Kwan Kim

WE RESPOND

Opening to the Holy on The Way

Sharing Joy and Concerns

Prayers for Getting Out of Our Own Way

Leader: Prayer is a kind of “pitstop” along our journeys—a time when we pause in the stillness and reassess and remember to breathe. Let us take this moment to rest deeper into the guiding presence of The Giving One.

In this season of Lent, we will begin our prayers with a simple ritual of confession, a moment of personal reflection, and then we will lift our concerns and joys before God.

UMH #488 Jesus, Remember Me

Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom. (x2)

Confession at the Cross

Leader: As we continue our Lenten pilgrimage, we return to God again and again. In a moment, I invite you to come forward, as you are able, and take a ceramic shard. Hold it in your hands, and in the silence, offer your confession to God. Then place it upon the cross near the chancel—an outward sign of an inward turning, and a witness to our trust that God is still at work among us. In Christ, even our brokenness is gathered, formed, and reformed into something beautiful: a mosaic cross of grace. If you prefer to remain seated, you are invited to remain in prayer where you are.

Ritual of Return

Communal Prayer of Confession

Leader: Let us pray.

All (or Leader/People):

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned—
in what we have done, and in what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may walk in your ways
and live in your love. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news: No matter whether you pause in gratitude for the gifts of God or not, God never stops giving. We can begin a higher way at any time. Whether or not you know it, believe it, or feel it, Jesus is with you now because Jesus promised to set the table along our journey of life over and over again. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

Response Song: Be Still and Know That I Am God by Christopher Walker, Paule Freeburg, DC

[sung together]
Be Still and Know That I Am God
You are my chosen one to whom I love
I give my life is yours in you
Be Still, Be still
And know that I Am God

Praying for Others Along the Way (Pastoral Prayer)

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion

For the Beauty of the Earth: A Sung Communion Liturgy
Tune: DIX, 77.77.77 ("For the Beauty of the Earth," UMH 92)

Gather, friends, from far and near
Gather, friends - you are welcome
Come to the table, join the meal
God invites us, every one.

Sing together, voices raise to our God this song of praise.

Lift your hearts up to the Lord!

God, we lift our hearts to you.

Give to God your thanks and praise.

It is right to give our thanks.

Sing together, voices raise to our God this song of praise.

God, you made us out of love,
Each one different, yet like you
We're one people, all the earth
Many nations, many-hued

Sing together, everyone! Tell the world what God has done!

Though we are one, we've built up walls,
Nurtured fears and pain and strife,
In our anger, turned away
From the gift of God-breathed life.

Holy God, we turn to you. We repent and start anew.

So you sent your holy child,
Come to share your reign on earth
Breaking all our barriers down

Teaching us our sacred worth
Jesus Christ, God's gift of grace! At the meal we take our place.

Jesus shared a meal with friends
Took and blessed and shared the bread
"This, my life, I give to you
Remember when you eat again"
We remember, we give thanks, for the meal of love and grace.

Jesus took a cup of wine
Shared with friends fruit of the vine
"In this cup forgiveness find,
Gift of mercy, gift divine."
We remember, we give thanks, for the meal of love and grace.

Pour on us your Holy Breath.
Pour your Spirit on these gifts.
Make them into Christ for us.
Make us Christ for the whole world.
God of all, to you we raise this our song of grateful praise.

WE GO FORTH

Continuing with Jesus on The Way

Offering "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Doxology

[Tune: Old 100th]

**Praise God, Creator of us all,
Praise Christ, by whom we hear our call,
Praise Spirit, that which sets us free,
Our awe is yours, the One-in-Three.**

Offering Prayer Rev. Kwan Kim

Closing Hymn UMH 664 – Sent Forth by God's Blessing vs. 1 & 2

Benediction **Rev. Kwan Kim**

Postlude "How Great Thou Art" Hanna Noh

Announcements

1. The worship leader for Sunday, March 8th is Jan Jones.
2. Thank you to Rev. Kwan Kim for leading the evangelism seminar yesterday and for sharing God's message with us today.
3. Daylight Saving Time begins next Sunday - please remember to set your clocks forward one hour Saturday night.

Birthdays

- 3rd Linna Buono
4th Jim Pratt
6th Sue Gibbs & Cary Weigner
7th Dixon Disu & Tiffany Lucini

Flowers The flowers on the altar this week are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joseph and Ruth Grantmeyer by their loving daughter Caren.