

Together we reach, transform, and equip people for a lifelong relationship with Christ.

Welcome To Worship

Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church

May 11, 2025 ~ 9:30 am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Donna Eichelberger

CALL TO WORSHIP: Donna Eichelberger

Today we celebrate our mothers in the faith.

Thank you God for giving us mothers.

We remember with deep gratitude their love for us.

Thank you God for giving us mothers.

We honor them by sharing your love with others.

Thank you God for giving us mothers.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

*HYMN: "Come, We That Love The Lord"

Hymnal 732

Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
and thus surround the throne.

Let those refuse to sing
who never knew our God;
but children of the heavenly King
may speak their joys abroad.

The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heavenly fields,
or walk the golden streets.

Then let our songs abound,
and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
to fairer worlds on high.

PUBLIC READING OF THE SCRIPTURE: Linda Jenkins

Acts 9: 1-20

The Conversion of Saul

9 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to

him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' ⁵ He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.' ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' ⁷ The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' ¹¹ The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' ¹³ But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul Preaches in Damascus

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.'

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "Touching Stories Touch People" Pastor Jeff

ANTHEM: "The Gift of Love" Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Pastor Jeff

*OFFERING WITH OFFERTORY PRAISE Hymnal 95

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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: Donna Eichelberger

Holy God you are the giver of all good gifts. We give you thanks for your gifts of our mothers, who have shared their gifts with us. In thanksgiving for how they gave of themselves for us, we give of ourselves today. Accept these gifts and offerings as a ripple effect of our mothers' love. Use them to continue to reach out and touch people with your love. Amen.

HYMN: "He Touched Me" Hymnal 367

Shackled by a heavy burden,
'neath a load of guilt and shame;
Then the hand of Jesus touched me,
And now I am no longer the same.

Refrain:

He touched me, O, He touched me,
And O, the joy that floods my soul.
Something happened, and now I know,
He touched me and made me whole.

Since I met this blessed Savior,
Since He cleansed and made me whole;
I will never cease to praise Him,
I'll shout it while eternity rolls.

Refrain:

BENEDICTION: Pastor Jeff