

unny Side United Methodist Church
Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2026

We are so glad you are worshipping with us this morning! We hope you feel the love and peace of Christ in this place! If you have a prayer request or are a first-time guest, please complete a card from the pew rack in front of you and put it in the offering plate.

Gathering Music

Tom Robinson

Welcome

This Week's Theme (based upon *Gifts of the Dark Wood*, Eric Elnes)

"In the Dark Wood, even those who are lost themselves can be gift-bearers to others seeking their way in the dark. Perhaps we are looking for blatant signs when the subtle nudges of the Spirit are already right there. Our Lenten journey invites us to get quiet and open ourselves to the Holy Spirit's nudges."

Prayer

Loving God, whose love is given unconditionally, help us to show the world that it is not ourselves we trust, but you. Then our failures will not turn others against you but enable them to see more clearly how completely full of love you are, so that they may come to you in faith themselves, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

***Bringing in the Light of Christ**

Choral Call to Worship. "There's a Path," by Bell and McFee

There's a path though it winds its way through darkness.

We would choose to avoid it if we could.

We awake to an unexpected calling

God says, "Come... there are gifts in the Dark Wood."

Prelude

***Hymn:** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

89

Litany of Confession, Assurance, and Peace

For plunging ahead without listening to You,

Forgive and restore us, O God.

For not recognizing your still small voice within us,

Forgive and restore us, O God.

For forgetting to ask for assurance- your greatest gift,

Forgive and restore us, O God.

Offer your silent prayers of confession.

Hear these words of assurance:

You are not lost to God. God is with you, forgiving and restoring you to faithful and wholehearted living. Seek the Holy Spirit's guidance, as you continue along this transforming journey of faith. May the peace-filled presence of the Holy Spirit be with us all!

Glory to God! Amen!

Hymn: "Spirit of the Living God" (sing twice)

393

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

***Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

Choir Anthem: "Blessed be the Name," arr. by Joe E. Parks

O for a thousand tongues to sing,

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

The glories of my God and King,

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Jesus, the name that calms my fears,

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

'Tis music in the sinner's ears,

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Blessed be the name, Blessed be the name,

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Scripture: from 1 Samuel 3 and Psalm 42

Message: "The Gift of Getting Lost"

Rev. JoAn Kinrade

***Hymn:** "Here I Am, Lord"

593

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

There's a path and it leads us out together

To the wood, where the darkness hovers still.

We are sent and the Spirit goes before us.

God says, "Go...Be my presence in the world."

***Postlude**

*You are invited to stand at this point in the service, as you are able.

Please silence cell phones during the worship service.

Pastoral Care: Rev. JoAn Kinrade, joan.kinrade@georgiaumc.net

Prayer Requests: Sylvia Avery, Janice Meadows, Loretta Gregg's brother-in-law Danny and the family of her cousin David Thompson, Nancy Locke's niece Kelsi, Don Smith, Matthew Henry and family, Sharon Roderick, Bennie Watson, Wanda O'Neal, Lois Head, Carl and Rosalyn Hayes, Susan and Bob Francis, Judith and Richard Crowther, Dave and Carol Sparks

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES:

Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion, **April 2, at 7pm at Hampton UMC**

Good Friday, **April 3 at 12noon, at Sunny Side UMC**

Easter Sunrise with breakfast following, Sunday, **April 5, 7am**

Easter Resurrection Celebration, **April 5, 11am**

For your calendars:

Tue, March 17 Midwest Truck Delivery, **12noon**

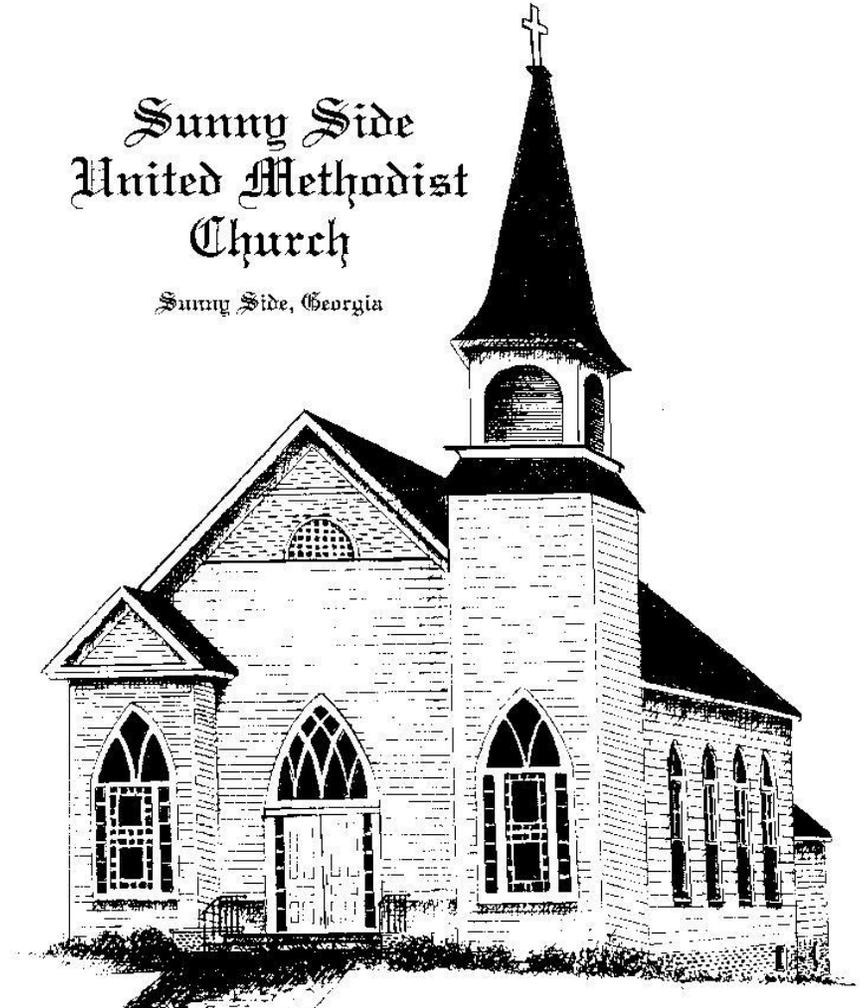
Wed, March 18 Food Pantry, **9am**

Bible Study, **5pm**, Choir Practice, **6:45pm**

Wed, March 25 Bible Study, **5pm**, Choir Practice, **6:45pm**

**Sunny Side
United Methodist
Church**

Sunny Side, Georgia



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<u>GIVING REPORT (Mar 8, 2026)</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$ 2,657.20	\$26,528.60
Budget	<u>\$ 3,557.42</u>	<u>\$35,574.23</u>
Difference	\$ -900.22	\$ -9,045.63