

## **Psalms 42**

Just like a deer that craves streams of water, my whole being craves you, God. My whole being thirsts for God, for the living God. When will I come and see God's face? My tears have been my food both day and night, as people constantly questioned me, "Where's your God now?" But I remember these things as I bare my soul: how I made my way to the mighty one's abode, to God's own house, with joyous shouts and thanksgiving songs— a huge crowd celebrating the festival! Why, I ask myself, are you so depressed? Why are you so upset inside? Hope in God! Because I will again give him thanks, my saving presence and my God. My whole being is depressed. That's why I remember you from the land of Jordan and Hermon, from Mount Mizar. Deep called to deep at the noise of your waterfalls; all your massive waves surged over me. By day the Lord commands his faithful love; by night his song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life. I will say to God, my solid rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why do I have to walk around, sad, oppressed by enemies?" With my bones crushed, my foes make fun of me, constantly questioning me: "Where's your God now?" Why, I ask myself, are you so depressed? Why are you so upset inside? Hope in God! Because I will again give him thanks, my saving presence and my God.

## **1 Peter 1:3-9**

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed! On account of his vast mercy, Christ has given us new birth. You have been born anew into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. You have a pure and enduring inheritance that cannot perish—an inheritance that is presently kept safe in heaven for you. Through God's faithfulness, you are guarded by God's power so that you can receive the salvation God is ready to reveal in the last time. You now rejoice in this hope, even if it's necessary for you to be distressed for a short time by various trials. This is necessary so that your faith may be found genuine. (Your faith is more valuable than gold, which will be destroyed even though it is itself tested by fire). Your genuine faith will result in praise, glory, and honor for you when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you've never seen God, you love God. Even though you don't see God now, you trust God and so rejoice with a glorious joy that is too much for words. You are receiving the goal of your faith: your salvation.



**"An Artist's Brush"**  
**February 1, 2026**

**Sunday February 1, 2026 9:00 am**

*\*Please stand if it is comfortable for you*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & GREETING

SONG OF BEGINNING

*For the Fruits of This Creation*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God has given us new birth into a living hope, like an artist lifting the brush to a blank canvas.

**People:**      **God is at work among us, painting mercy where there was emptiness, color where there was despair, and life where there was once only shadow.**

Leader:      Though we have not seen God, we love God. Though we do not see the finished masterpiece, we trust the Artist's hand.

**People:**      **Even in trials and uncertainty, God adds depth and beauty, refining our faith and shaping hope that will not fade.**

Leader:      So, let us worship the One who is still creating and still restoring.

**All:**          **Let us rejoice and worship God with a joy deeper than words.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 42

\*HYMN          *Hope of the World, vs. 1, 3 & 5*

No. 178

Red Hymnal

WITNESSING GOD'S LOVE TO OUR CHILDREN

Children Pre-K through fifth grade may go to Children's Church. Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade go to the Nursery and 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade go to classroom E-8.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*For All That Is*

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

SERMON

*An Artist's Brush*

\*HYMN          *My Hope Is Built, vs. 1-3*

No. 368

Red Hymnal

PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We will receive Communion at the front of the sanctuary. Once the meal has been blessed, you will be invited to come forward. You may put your hand out and a piece of bread will be given to you. You may then take a small cup from the tray. You may eat and drink as you receive the elements. Gluten-free bread is available at the center station. Bowls are at the sides of the sanctuary to collect the empty cups.

As you return to your seat, if you would like anointing with oil, you may stop to either side of the sanctuary where a pastor will be standing. Oil will be placed on your forehead in the sign of the cross and a prayer shared with you. Anointing is a way of opening yourself to God for a particular place in your own life or on behalf of someone else.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Song of Thanksgiving*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Doxology

No. 94 Red Hymnal

\*CLOSING BLESSING

\*SUNG RESPONSE      *They'll Know We Are  
Christians by Our Love,  
vs. 1 & 2*

No. 2223  
Black Hymnal

POSTLUDE

Participating in Worship:

Rev. Jenny Arneson, Pastor

Rev. Brad Mather, Preaching

Jeanne McAndrew, Reader

Daniel Taylor, Children's Time

Singing Churchmen & Pop-Up Choir, Music; Stephanie Klein, Director; Marilyn Silvester, Piano

Sue Lundeen, Organist

**INVITATIONS TO ACTION**

If you are not already receiving our Monday Devotional Word of the Week or our weekly Thursday email that outlines what is happening in the life of this faith community please reach out to the church office so we can get you on this email list at [office@sunprairieumc.org](mailto:office@sunprairieumc.org) or 837-5554.

**Winter Splash Today**

All ages are invited to join us following worship this Sunday in the Chapel for puzzles and a puzzle exchange. We will have different puzzles set up to work on and will have a table where you can switch out puzzles. Grab a cup of coffee and a donut and plan to join us.

**SouperBowl of Caring February 8th**

Sunday February 8th our middle and high school youth families will be collecting both monetary and food Donations for our SouperBowl of Caring. Donations will be given to the Sun Prairie Emergency Food Pantry.

**Super Bowl Watch Party and Potluck**

Bring a dish and the whole family to join us in Fellowship Hall as we gather to watch the big game on February 8th. Kickoff is at 5:30pm but you are welcome to come earlier. We will have games and activities for all ages. RSVP before February 4th by emailing Director of Family Ministry Daniel Taylor at [familymin@sunprairieumc.org](mailto:familymin@sunprairieumc.org)

**Lent Studies**

Our Lent Studies this year will use the book *Placed for a Purpose* by Chris and Elizabeth McKinney.

Many of us don't know our neighbors.

If we do know them, we aren't sure how to grow the relationship or talk about our faith with them. *Placed for a Purpose* provides a theologically rich framework for neighboring that helps people live missionally where God has placed them. Authors Chris and Elizabeth McKinney seek to provide a sustainable vision for the "low and slow" lifestyle of neighboring and supply practical tools that help people invest in their communities, value each step in the process, and build meaningful, gospel-motivated relationships with their fellow image-bearers right next door.

Lent Study Options will include:

- Sunday mornings at 10:15 am from February 22- March 29 facilitated by Director of Community Engagement Amanda Hinthorn
- Sunday evenings at 7 pm on Zoom from February 22- March 29 facilitated by Director of Community Engagement Amanda Hinthorn. (This class needs a minimum of 6 participants to happen.)
- Wednesdays at Noon February 25- March 25 facilitated by Pastor Jenny.
- Friday Morning Grace Café will also be sharing in the study.

Books cost \$5 and are available to be purchased in the church office. To sign up please contact the church office 608-837-5554 or [office@sunprairieumc.org](mailto:office@sunprairieumc.org).