

# United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

1176 E. Main Street, Shrub Oak, NY 10588

Pastor  
Music Director  
Organist  
Liturgists

Reverend Iwy Patel-Yatri  
Rob Gutowski  
Alex Shkoda  
Youth

December 24, 2017

10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

\*Congregation will stand, as able.

Please take time to greet and welcome each other in the name of Jesus Christ.

“Abide in Me”...“Love One Another”...“Bear Fruit”

## CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

### Parish Concerns, Announcements, and Praise

Please silence your cell phones during the worship service.

#### Opening Prayer (In Unison)

We bring our spiritual hungers to this place, O God, hoping to be fed. We bring our weariness, expecting to find rest for our souls. We bring our dullness, asking that we might be alerted to those things that you consider important. We come because we want the shattered fragments of our lives to come together in a meaningful wholeness. You have promised to be with us. Reveal yourself to us here, we pray in the name of One who came to share our common lot. Amen.

\*Opening Hymn: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” UMH #224

Scripture Reading: Romans 16:25-27 Hallie Robcke

\*Gospel Reading: Luke 1:26-38 Emily Grace

Liturgist: The Word of God to the People of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Anthem: “Birth of a King” Al Fennell

Offering of Gifts and Tithes Nick Aryee

The Offertory: “Away in a Manger” UMH #217

\*The Doxology UMH #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

Our best we give to you, loving God, for you have given your best to us in the mystery of the incarnation. May our offerings proclaim Jesus in ways that will be received with joy. Send your Word to the world in this season through our caring service. May we share it with one another in ways that help us all to grow. We are your servants. The gifts we dedicate are already yours. Thank you for all the ways you have provided for us. Amen.

Children’s Moment and Lighting of the Advent Candle: (Verses 1 - 4) FWS #2090  
(Rachel Ward-Pinto)

Reflection: Pastor Iwy

\*Hymn of Preparation: “The First Noel” (Verses 1 - 4) UMH #245

Children’s Christmas Pageant: \* UMCSO Sunday School

The Pastoral 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 and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

\*Recessional Hymn: “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

UMH #251

#### \*Commission and Blessing:

Inspired by God’s presence, spread Advent good news.  
Strengthened by the gospel, go out to serve.

**Our spirits rejoice in the Savior’s coming.**

**Our lives are blessed by a merciful God.**

God has granted a beautiful earth for our home.

God appoints us as care-givers of the land and its people.

**We are a covenant people, shaped by love.**

**Wherever God sends us, we will go.**

God’s steadfast love will go with you every day.

You will know the strength of God’s mighty hand.

**We will work with God to lift up the lowly.**

**We will share good things with those who are hungry. Amen. Amen.**

† † † † † †

Acolytes: Children of the Church

Coffee Hour Hosts: Worship Committee

Crib & Toddler Care: No crib & toddler care today

Greeters: Connie Vollmer and Mary Washburn

Ushers: Debbie Vesuvio, and Pat Golanec

Today: Christmas Pageant

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Monday: Christmas Day - Merry Christmas to all!

Tuesday: No Bible Studies

Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. Small Group 1

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. Small Group 2, 11-11:30 a.m. Prayer Group Chapel

Friday: 10:00 a.m. Crafts for a Cause GP Room

**\*Special thanks to Cory Casey for coordinating the pageant and to Dianne Benincasa and Jean Engel for creating the pageant costumes.**

We welcome all visitors and are happy you chose our church to worship. Please fill out the visitor card in the pews and indicate if you would like the Pastor to call on you. If you are interested in joining our church, please talk to Maxine Haigh, Pastor Iwy or call the office. **Attention, parents of young children:** On the back shelf, there are liturgical activity sheets for the children that are linked with morning worship. Please feel free to get one for your child.

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In case of emergency, Pastor Iwy’s Home Phone: (914) 245-3114