

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak - ORDER OF WORSHIP
March 10th, 2024 – Fourth Sunday In Lent

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given by Asha Dias, "In loving memory of my Dad. May his soul rest in peace."

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: We gather to share in our love of God.

P: Lord, open our hearts and let us share your Good News

L: We gather to share our witness to God's goodness

P: Lord, let our lives bear witness through service to your people.

L: We gather to praise God whose love is eternal.

P: Lord, open our hearts today to sing your praises. AMEN.

PRAISE & WORSHIP:

PRAISE SHARING

OPENING PRAYER:

Lord, as we gather here, on this day of sharing, remind us that you have shared with us your most precious gift, our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to model our lives after his messages of compassion and service to you and to all your world. In Christ's Name, we offer this prayer. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: "To God Be The Glory" – UMH #98

PRAYER of CONFESSION:

God of mercy and patience, help us to remember that the gifts we give go to help many people in need. Remind us again that our lives are meant to be gifts to others, for healing, hope, comfort, peace and love. Forgive us when we get so caught up in the details of living and when we become so overwhelmed by our current economic woes that we neglect to help others. Enlighten us again with your spirit and your words of healing love. Caring and sharing are the hallmarks of discipleship with Jesus Christ. Heal and forgive us. Give us hearts for joyful caring and sharing; for it is in Jesus' name, we offer this prayer. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS of ASSURANCE:

Hear the Good News:

Let God's love and mercy wash over you as the spring rains wash over the earth, bringing promise of new life and hope. Be at peace. In the Name of Christ you are forgiven. Thanks be to God. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING: Numbers 21:4-9 (NIV)
Ephesians 2:1-10(NIV)

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS (*children will be dismissed right after*)

HYMN of PREPARATION: "God Will Take Care of You" - UMH #130

GOSPEL: John 3:14-21 (NIV)

SERMON: "Live With Gratitude and Hope"

1. God Will Take Care of Us
2. We Are God's Masterpieces
3. Believe in the Lord

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY: "Search Me, O God"

DOXOLOGY

CLOSING HYMN: "Because He Lives" – UMH #364

BENEDICTION:

As God has shared the best with you, now you are challenged to go forth to share your blessings with others. May the peace and love of God go with you always. AMEN.

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/2446/worship-connection-march-10-2024>

SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 21:4-9 (NIV)

⁴ They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way;

⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”

⁶ Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died.

⁷ The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.”

⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

Ephesians 2:1-10

2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,

⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—

⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

GOSPEL READING

John 3:14-21 (NIV)

¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,

¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.

¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.

²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Coins For Lent



During Lent, many of us are reminded once again to examine our lifestyles and ask, "What can we do for others?" Part of faith formation at any age is compassion and offering a serving heart to our neighbors. These past few years have been challenging when trying to find ways to serve our neighbors while remaining physically distant. This time has also reminded us that we need to demonstrate compassion to others now more than ever. Lent is a good time to commit to giving money to a project that helps those in need. One way to involve the whole family is to collect coins during the season of Lent and then following Easter, donate the money. Follow our [Coins for Lent Giving Calendar](#) , posted below, as a guide.

February 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Ash Wednesday A coin for every lamp.	15 A coin for every light switch.	16 A coin for every candle.	17 A coin for every flashlight (include your smartphone).
18 Pray today, thanking God for the gift of light. Pray for those who live in darkness.	19 A coin for every box of cereal.	20 A coin for every can of soup.	21 A coin for every type of bread.	22 A coin for every jar of jelly.	23 A coin for every bottle of salad dressing.	24 A coin for every jar of peanut butter.
25 Pray today, thanking God for the food you enjoy. Pray for those who have no food this day.	26 A coin for every ball cap or hat.	27 A coin for every pair of shoes.	28 A coin for every t-shirt.	29 A coin for every sweatshirt.		

March 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 A coin for every pair of jeans or pants.	2 A coin for every coat.
3 Pray today, thanking God for clothing that protects you from the elements. Pray for those who lack clothing to keep them warm and dry.	4 A coin for every ball or piece of athletic equipment.	5 A coin for every electronic video game.	6 A coin for every smart device (phones, tablets, etc.).	7 A coin for every television.	8 A coin for every doll or stuffed animal.	9 A coin for every board or card game.
10 Pray today, thanking God for how you can enjoy entertainment in your home. Pray for those who would be grateful for just one of these items.	11 A coin for every box of band-aids.	12 A coin for every bottle of vitamins.	13 A coin for every box of tissues.	14 A coin for every bottle of hand sanitizer.	15 A coin for every toothbrush and tube of toothpaste.	16 A coin for every cough drop in your house.
17 Pray today, thanking God for your health. Pray for those who are sick.	18 A coin for every room in your home.	19 A coin for every electrical outlet in your home.	20 A coin for every chair in your home.	21 A coin for every desk (virtual work/school) in your home.	22 A coin for every bathroom.	23 A coin for every bed.
24 Palm Sunday Pray today, thanking God for shelter. Pray for those who have no place to sleep at night.	25 A coin for every Bible.	26 A coin for every book of hymns or sacred songs in your home.	27 A coin for every cross in your home.	28 A coin for every prayer you say today.	29 A coin for every story of Jesus you can tell.	30 A coin for every person in your family.

31 Easter Sunday Pray, thanking God for Jesus and for the many ways we can gather and worship God. Pray for those who will receive the coins collected that they would see God's presence through them.

UMCSO SCHEDULE

Zoom links are included in Mailchimp. Please contact us with your email (umcso.ny@gmail.com) or call 914-245-4682 if you would like to receive Mailchimp emails.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP Monday, 7:00 pm, (ZOOM)

MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday 10:00 am (In Person)

EVENING BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday 7:00 pm (ZOOM)

SMALL GROUP 1: Wednesday, 1:00 pm (ZOOM)

PRAYER GROUP: Thursday, 11:00 am (Chapel)

EVENING BIBLE STUDY: Thursdays, 7:30 pm with Pastor Sandy (ZOOM). (See link below).

SMALL GROUP 2: Friday, 10:00 am (phone 1-267-807-9495; 656355452#)

CRAFTS FOR A CAUSE: Friday, 11:00 am - 12 noon (various homes)

MEN'S GROUP: Saturday 8:00 am (ZOOM)

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 am in the GP room (In person)

SMALL GROUP LEADERS MTG: Saturday, March 16, 2024, 9:30 am

MISSIONS MEETING: This Sunday, March 10th following worship

Pastor Sandy Mantz invites you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bible Study

Date/Time: Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2610447551?pwd=MXVIUGgvOFRrS3RZNVB2a0plRi8rUT09>

Meeting ID: 261 044 7551

Passcode: 246240

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,2610447551#,,, *246240# US

+16465588656,,2610447551#,,, *246240# US (New York)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Will meet this Sunday, March 10th, following worship.

MISSIONS MEETING: This Sunday, March 10th following worship.

THIS JULY: UMCSO is bringing back vacation Bible School! Watch for further details.

APRIL 8th: We look forward to a visit from Bishop Thomas Bickerton. His Schedule will be as follows:

4:00 pm: Cooperative Parish (Coordinators Only)

5:00 pm: Rest of clergy joins Q&A

6:30 pm: Laity arrival and dinner

7:30 pm: Worship rally experience;

Keynote Speaker: Bishop Bickerton

9:00 pm: Departure

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REACH US ON FACEBOOK

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

<https://www.facebook.com/Blessedassurance.today>

There is a link to the Church's website
Pastor Sandy will post inspirational verses regularly.

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This week's B'days:

(no anniversaries this week)

Matthew Spina 3/12

Joe Spina 3/15

Dan Hoernes 3/16