

**United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak - ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**April 21<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** The flowers on the altar are given by the Beverly R. and Joseph W. Emsley; “In loving memory of the late Stewart J. and M. Marguerite Smith Reynolds on their anniversary.”

**GREETING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: Come, walk with the Lord this day.

**P: We seek places of peace and rest from the stresses of our lives.**

L: The Shepherd will lead you to places where your soul may be restored

**P: We come, sometimes fearful of the hostilities of the world.**

L: In the midst of all the turmoil, The Shepherd will provide for your needs abundantly.

**P: Surely these wonders will heal and restore our spirits. AMEN.**

**PRAISE & WORSHIP:** He Knows My Name – The Halos

**PRAISE SHARING**

**OPENING PRAYER:**

Thank you, loving God, for bringing us to this time of worship. Refresh us and heal us again. Remind us of the many ways in which you have blessed our lives with your abundant love and your presence. Guide our hearts and our spirits that we may hear your words and our souls may be stirred into active service to your people. In the name of the Good Shepherd, who leads us to life, we pray. AMEN.

**OPENING HYMN:** “I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” – FWS #2151

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Forgive us when we, by our attitudes and language, our thoughts and actions, have gone against your will. You are with us, Lord. You lead us daily in right paths and offer to us the bread of life. You stand with us in times of trial and in the presence of those whom we fear, giving us your abundant love. And then you offer to us a place in your eternal home. How

can we doubt your presence? Help us to trust you. Help us to praise you and remember that you have called us to be your witnesses and workers in this world. Give us strength and courage, joy and peace for all the work that you have for us to do. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life for us, his sheep, we pray. AMEN.

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

Hear the Good News: In the midst of all that you fear, God is with you. God will not abandon you. Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, laid down his life for you and offers you hope and peace. AMEN.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Psalm 23 (KJV)

1 John 3:16-24 (ESV)

## **CHILDREN'S MOMENTS**

**HYMN of PREPARATION:** "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"- FWS #2258

**GOSPEL:** John 10:7-18 (ESV)

**SERMON:** Steps to the Abundant Life

1. Acknowledge We Are Sheep In Need
2. We All Need a Shepherd
3. Trust The Good Shepherd

## **PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY:** "Awesome God" - FWS# 2040

## **DOXOLOGY**

**CLOSING HYMN:** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" – FWS #2129

## **BENEDICTION:**

The Good Shepherd leads us forward, from this place, into the world to serve God's people, to witness to God's love in all that we do. Go in peace and God's peace will go with you. AMEN.

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/2640/worship-connection-april-21-2024>

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

### **PSALM 23** (KJV) – In Unison

23 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

<sup>3</sup> He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

## **1 John 3:16-24** (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

<sup>17</sup> But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

<sup>18</sup> Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

<sup>19</sup> By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him;

<sup>20</sup> for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

<sup>21</sup> Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;

<sup>22</sup> and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup> And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

<sup>24</sup> Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

## GOSPEL READING

### John 10:7-18 (ESV)

<sup>7</sup> So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.

<sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.

<sup>9</sup> I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

<sup>11</sup> I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

<sup>12</sup> He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.

<sup>13</sup> He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,

<sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.

<sup>16</sup> And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

<sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again.

<sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

# RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

**Saturday, May 25, 2024**

Volunteers are needed for bake sale items and anyone interested in gathering to bake pies can contact Sarah Alliston to make arrangements. Also needed are volunteers to help with:

Set Up (8:30 – 10:00am), Helping Day Of (10:00 am - 3:00 pm), and Clean Up (3:00- 4:00 pm) Sign up sheets are posted in the breezeway.

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## HEALTH KITS

OUR COOPERATIVE PARISH WILL BE MAKING HEALTH KITS THAT WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE THIS YEAR.

ALL 10 CHURCHES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR AN ITEM.

UMCSO WAS ASKED TO COLLECT FINGER NAIL AND TOE NAIL CLIPPERS. GOAL IS 200.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE, PLEASE JUST PLACE YOUR DONATION IN THIS BOX.

ANY QUESTIONS.... PLEASE CONTACT DIANNE @ 914-736 7666.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS PROJECT.

The  
Collection Box  
for these  
items is in  
the  
breezeway.

## Why Attend Vacation Bible School ?



VBS stands for Vacation Bible School, and it is a summer church outreach focused on giving kids a fun and creative place to learn about the Bible and to build relationships with other kids and churches in the area. VBS offers the church fun and creative methods of teaching kids and youth Christ-like values and

relationship-building skills. It is an excellent outreach tool into the community—a way to invite those who do not normally attend to come into the church, get involved, and build relationships with others and with Jesus Christ. Churches generally run VBS for a week, and each program has its own theme (medieval castles, water parks, the Old West, etc., for example) that children can explore. A week of VBS usually includes games, snacks, crafts, skits, and, of course, Bible lessons! There is always a connection between God and the theme, allowing kids to discover God in a creative way and it offers a variety of ways for the entire congregation to become involved.

We invite you to come join us the week of July 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>. It begins with a light supper from 4:30 - 5:00 and then VBS from 5:00-7:30 pm.

Watch for further details coming soon!

## **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, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am

### **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

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



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** Will be meeting this Sunday, April 21st, following worship, and resume on May 12<sup>th</sup> following Pastor Sandy's vacation.

**RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE:** Preparations for the Rummage and Bake Sale on May 25<sup>th</sup> are in full swing! Donated items can be left in the breezeway (as long as they're out of the way of foot traffic) Please see the sign-up sheets in the breezeway if you are led to help out.

**THE COOPERATIVE PARISH:** will be making health kits that will go to the Annual Conference. Our church has been asked to contribute fingernail and toenail clippers. There is a collection box in the breezeway for these items.

**THIS JULY:** Vacation Bible School is making a comeback this July 22-27<sup>th</sup>. See details above and watch for further info coming soon.

### **REACH US ON FACEBOOK**

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

<https://www.facebook.com/Blessedassurancetoday>

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

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