



United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak - ORDER OF WORSHIP
April 7th, 2024 – 2nd Sunday of Easter, Communion Sunday

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are donated by the Geis family; in remembrance of beloved long time church family member, William (Bill) Geis.

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: This is the good news which we proclaim to you.

P: Jesus Christ is raised from the dead!

L: Walk in the light of his love.

P: Live in the light of his teachings and healing mercies.

L: Come, let us worship the One Who overcame death.

P: Let us celebrate the triumph of our Lord. AMEN.

PRAISE & WORSHIP:

PRAISE SHARING

OPENING PRAYER:

Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: “Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain” – UMH #315

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 4:32-35 (NIV)
1 John 1:1-2:2 (NIV)

SERVICE of HOLY COMMUNION: *(children will be dismissed right after)*

HYMN of PREPARATION: “I Want to Walk as a Child of God“- UMH #206

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31 (NIV)

SERMON: Do you Have an Easter Faith?

1. Doubt is a Reality
2. Stepping Into Faith is a Challenge
3. Experience God’s Peace
4. Faith Results in a Changed Life

RESPONSE HYMN : Breathe on Me, Breath of God – UMH #420

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERTORY: “10,000 Reasons”

DOXOLOGY

CLOSING HYMN: “Thine be the Glory” – UMH #308

BENEDICTION:

Lord of mercy, be with us as we go from this place today. Fill our lives with your love. Help us to bring the good news of hope and peace wherever we go. Let us truly be people of the Resurrection - the Easter people! AMEN.

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/2534/worship-connection-april-7-2024>

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 4:32-35 (NIV)

³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all

³⁴ that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales

³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

1 John 1:1-2:2 (NIV)

¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.

² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.

³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

⁴ We write this to make our joy complete.

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

² My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

GOSPEL READING

John 20:19-31 (NIV)

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.

²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



We are proud, honored, and blessed to be hosting the Bishop, Thomas J. Bickerton, during his upcoming visit this Monday, April 8th. All are welcome! If you plan to attend please see the sign-up sheet breezeway or speak to Pastor

Sandy.

The itinerary for that evening 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



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.

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 22nd through the 27th. 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 6th, 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

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Will be meeting this Sunday, April 7th, following worship

THIS SUNDAY: April 7th, we will be doing Spring Clean-Up, (Indoors, and out as weather permits), at 1:30 pm. All volunteers are welcome!

APRIL 8th: We look forward to a visit from Bishop Thomas Bickerton, see details above.

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

YORKTOWN SPECIAL ELECTION: April 16th, the Parish Hall will be open for voting from 6:00 am – 9:00 pm

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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No Birthdays this week

Anniversaries:

James and Jaime Hoernes 4/13