

**United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak - ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Thanksgiving Sunday/Christ the King Sunday**

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** The flowers on the altar are given by Cory Casey, “In loving memory of Edna Klausman.”

**GREETING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: Come, let us celebrate the wondrous gifts that God has given us.

**P: Throughout all our lives, God has blessed us with love and hope.**

L: Praise be to God who provides for us.

**P: May our hearts be truly grateful, and may we show our gratitude by the ways in which we live and care for others.**

L: Hallelujah!

**P: AMEN.**

**PRAISE & WORSHIP**

**PRAISE SHARING**

**OPENING PRAYER:**

Lord of bounty and blessing, we come to you this day in gratitude for all that we have been given. We are grateful for the blessings and for the opportunities to be of service to others in your holy Name. Bless each of us here, that we may truly become blessings to others. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

**OPENING HYMN:** “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” – UMH #694

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Patient Lord, we are rushing headlong into the holiday season, forgetting that the word “holiday” is actually comprised of two words: “holy and day.” Forgive us when we treat the “holiday” as a task and a burden, when we load ourselves down with tasks that do not enhance this day. Help us move past the busyness of the day into the attitude of gratitude we should display for all the many wonders and blessings you have poured on us. Cause us to be people of Passion about the love you have given to us and about the joy of serving you by helping others. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

#### **Hear the Good News:**

Though hosts encamp around you, uttering messages of fear and dread, place your trust and hope in God who lavishly provides for you and who calls you beloved. Rejoice, for God is with you. AMEN.

### **STEWARDSHIP MOMENT FROM DOUG GAYLOR, Finance Chair**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Joel 2:21-27 (NIV)  
Psalm 126 (NIV)

### **CHILDREN'S MOMENTS:**

**HYMN of PREPARATION:** "We Gather Together" – UMH #131

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 6:25-33 (NIV)

### **SERMON: Count Your Blessings!**

1. Be Glad!
2. Be Filled With Songs of Joy!
3. Do Not Worry

**RESPONSE:** "His Eye Is On The Sparrow" – FWS #2146

### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY:** "We Come To Worship"

### **DOXOLOGY**

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

**CLOSING HYMN:** “Now Thank We All Our God” – UMH #102

### **BENEDICTION:**

Beloved of God, place your whole trust in God's absolute abundant love. Feel the powerful presence of God in your life and know that God's blessings are with you. Go in peace, and may God's peace always be with you. AMEN.

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4397/thanksgiving-sunday-yr-c>

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

### **Joel 2:21-27** (NIV)

<sup>21</sup> Do not be afraid, land of Judah; be glad and rejoice. Surely the LORD has done great things!

<sup>22</sup> Do not be afraid, you wild animals, for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green. The trees are bearing their fruit; the fig tree and the vine yield their riches.

<sup>23</sup> Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before.

<sup>24</sup> The threshing floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

<sup>25</sup> “I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten— the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm — my great army that I sent among you.

<sup>26</sup> You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the LORD your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed.

<sup>27</sup> Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed.

## **Psalm 126** (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed.

<sup>2</sup> Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

<sup>3</sup> The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

<sup>4</sup> Restore our fortunes, LORD, like streams in the Negev.

<sup>5</sup> Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup> Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

## GOSPEL READING

### Matthew 6:25-33 (NIV)

<sup>25</sup> “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?”

<sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

<sup>27</sup> Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

<sup>28</sup> “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.

<sup>29</sup> Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.

<sup>30</sup> If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

<sup>31</sup> So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’

<sup>32</sup> For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.

<sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

# MORE UPCOMING



## November

**23<sup>rd</sup>:** Charge Conference, 10:00 am, at Peekskill UMC

**24<sup>th</sup>:** - Packing of Harvest Baskets following service

- Northern Westchester Cooperative Parish Thanksgiving Service at Grace UMC, 3:00 pm

## December

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Trim a Tree (12pm – 3pm with pizza lunch)

**7<sup>th</sup>:** Craft Fair and Bake Sale 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (Sign-up sheet in breezeway)

**8<sup>th</sup>:** Caroling at the mall (following worship)

**14<sup>th</sup>:** Cookie Swap – 12-3 pm (A sign-up sheet is posted in the breezeway)

**21<sup>st</sup>:** -Tres Dias Christmas Secuela 2:00 pm in the sanctuary, followed by refreshments and fellowship in the GP Room.

- Pageant rehearsal at 4:30 in the Parish Hall with pizza dinner.

- Live Nativity at 6:30 pm

**22<sup>nd</sup>:** Christmas Pageant

**24<sup>th</sup>:** Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm

**Please come and join in the Thanksgiving Service this**  
**Sunday,**  
**Grace UMC at**

**November 24<sup>th</sup> at**  
**3:00 pm**





## **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, GP Room

**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#)

**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:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month, 9:30 am. Next: Dec. 7th

**TRUSTEES MEETING:** First Monday of every month, 7:30 pm (Zoom)

### **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**

**CHARGE CONFERENCE:** Saturday, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00 am at Peekskill UMC

**NORTHERN WESTCHESTER COOPERATIVE PARISH:** Invites you to join them for their Thanksgiving service, this Sunday, Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, at Grace UMC at 3:00 pm

**HARVEST BASKETS:** We will be sponsoring our annual Harvest Basket outreach program to support those in our local community who may be in need this holiday season. If you'd like to donate, we accept non-perishable foods (as listed below) or monetary donations toward an ACME gift card intended for purchasing a Thanksgiving turkey. We kindly request all donations be received by, **November 24<sup>th</sup>**. The bags will be packed in the GP Room on that day for delivery on Tues, Nov 26th. If you would like to gift a check or cash, please contact Kathy Casey at: [luminany@aol.com](mailto:luminany@aol.com)

**Suggestions:** Cranberry Sauce, Canned vegetables, Canned Yams, Boxes of Stuffing, Boxes/Pouches of Mashed Potatoes, Jars/Pouches of Gravy, Canned Fruit, Boxes/Pouches of Brownie, or Cookie Mix. We thank you in advance for your generosity and look forward to another year of this great mission.

**CAN YOU HELP?:** The Missions and Outreach Committee is looking for a few people to head up an expansion of the Angel Tree program as well as an event building Blessing Bags to help the homeless and needy in our community. If you'd like to get involved in these worthwhile ministries please contact Cory Casey or Pastor Sandy.

**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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**This Week's B'days:**

Jamen Cervini 11/27

Michele Squibb 11/28

Greyson Bucher 11/29

Marilyn Bucher 11/29

**Anniversaries:**

Locksley and Cherie Philips 11/25

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