

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak
February 2nd , 2025 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Communion Sunday

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given by Maxine Haigh, “In loving memory of my mother, Eunice Freid.”

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Let us gather to listen deeply.

P: Word of God, speak.

L: Let us gather with childlike faith.

P: Ageless wisdom, reveal.

L: Word of God, speak.

P: Your servants are listening. Amen

PRAISE & WORSHIP:

PRAISE SHARING

OPENINGPRAYER:

God of love and life, speak to our hearts this day. Speak words of wisdom and faith. Open our hearts and minds to perceive your message of love, even when it’s hard to hear. Strengthen our faith to answer your call, even when we don’t feel confident or capable. Be our wisdom, our strength, and our love, that we may bring your wisdom, strength, and love to the world. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: “I’m Gonna Live ...” - FWS #2153

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (NIV)

1 Corinthians 13 (NIV)

HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN of PREPARATION: “The Gift of Love” – UMH # 408

GOSPEL: Luke 4:21-30 (NIV)

SERMON: Living Lives of Purpose!!

1. Set Apart to Serve
2. The Challenge of Love
3. Courage is Needed

RESPONSE HYMN: “Freely, Freely” – UMH #389

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: Special Music Selection

DOXOLOGY:

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: “Here I Am, Lord” - UMH #593

BENEDICTION:

Go with the courage of Christ. Go with the Spirit of love.
Go to answer God’s call, wherever and however God leads. May our lives
reflect the challenging messages of scripture. May love guide our path,
and, may courage light our way.

Amen.

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/11816/february-2-2025-fourth-sunday-after-epiphany>

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 1:4-10 (NIV)

⁴ The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

⁶ “Alas, Sovereign LORD,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

⁷ But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD.

⁹ Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

1 Corinthians 13 (NIV)

13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part,

¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears.

¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.

¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 4:21-30 (NIV)

²¹ He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”

²⁴ “Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown.

²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land.

²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon.

²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.”

²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this.

²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff.

³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

P: The word of God, to the people of God

ALL: Thanks be to God

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)

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

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

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 MEETING: Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025 at 9:30 am

TRUSTEE'S MEETING: Monday, Feb. 3, 2025 at 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=MXVIUGgvOFRrS3RZNVB2a0pIRi8rUT09>

Meeting ID: 261 044 7551

Passcode: 246240

One tap mobile

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VALENTINES: We will be making Valentine's cards on Feb 2nd, during Sunday School AND coffee hour, so everyone can get involved in spreading the love!

MISSION MEETING: Mission meeting, Feb. 2nd, following worship.

COOPERATIVE PARISH GAME NIGHT: Friday, Feb. 7th at 6:00 pm in the GP Room.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING: Is Sunday, Feb. 9th, following worship and during coffee hour.

CRAFT GROUP: Will meet on Feb. 9th following worship to discuss future plans.

AD COUNCIL MEETING: Wed., Feb. 19th. 7:00 pm (Zoom)

EDUCATION MEETING: Sunday, Feb. 23rd following service

ASH WED: March 5, 2025

LENTEN BONFIRE/POT TRUST DINNER: This year's Lenten Bonfire and Pot Trust dinner will take place on March 8th at 6:00 pm. There will be a sign-up sheet in the breezeway if you'd like to bring a soup or a salad to share. (No Desserts) All are welcome!

CONFIRMATION: There will be a Confirmation class this year for anyone 7th grade or older. Please speak to Pastor Sandy for more details.

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.

This Week's B'days:

Beth Gilleo 2/3

Beverly Martinez 2/4

Rob Gutowski 2/5

Johnny Whitman 2/6

Bjorg Davis 2/7

Karen King 2/7

No Anniversaries this week