

**United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak - ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**February 1, 2026**  
**Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

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

**GREETING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: People of God, who do you come to worship?

**P: We come to worship the one true God.**

L: How will you worship?

**P: Not with words alone, but by living lives  
of justice and love.**

L: Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of  
the world.

**P: Come and abide in God’s tent and in God’s heart, now and forever.  
Amen**

**PRAISE & WORSHIP:**

**PRAISE SHARING**

**OPENING PRAYER:**

Loving God, we come this morning seeking to abide in your presence.  
Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom, that we may know how to live as  
your people. Open our hearts to your spirit of truth, that we may love all  
your people with a love that speaks of justice, kindness, and radical grace.  
May this time of worship be authentic and pleasing to you. Amen.

**OPENING HYMN:** “Blest are They” - FWS #2155

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Micah 6:1-8 (NIV)

Psalm 15 (NIV)

**HOLY COMMUNION** *(Children will be dismissed right after)*

**HYMN OF PREPARATION:** “Softly and Tenderly...” UMH #348

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 5:1-12 (NIV)

**SERMON:** “Take Time to Refocus”

1. Walk With God
2. The Lord Requires Change!
3. We Are Blessed

**RESPONSE HYMN:** “A Charge to Keep I Have” – UMH #413

**OFFERTORY:** Special Music Selection

**DOXOLOGY**

**PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER**

**CLOSING HYMN:** “Shine, Jesus, Shine” – FWS #2173

**BENEDICTION:**

Those who live lives pleasing to God shall not be moved.  
Go now to embrace the kingdom values-values of love, justice, and truth.  
Go now with God’s blessing, to live those values through the power  
of our challenging, faithful, loving, empowering God. Amen.

[https://ministrymatters.com/2020-01-01 worship elements january 29 2023/](https://ministrymatters.com/2020-01-01-worship-elements-january-29-2023/)

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

### **Micah 6:1-8** (NIV)

6 Listen to what the LORD says: “Stand up, plead my case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say.

<sup>2</sup> “Hear, you mountains, the LORD’s accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the LORD has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel.

<sup>3</sup> “My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me.

<sup>4</sup> I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup> My people, remember what Balak king of Moab plotted and what Balaam son of Beor answered. Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup> With what shall I come before the LORD and bow down before the exalted God?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

<sup>8</sup> He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

## **Psalm 15** (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain?

<sup>2</sup> The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart;

<sup>3</sup> whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others;

<sup>4</sup> who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;

<sup>5</sup> who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

## **GOSPEL READING**

### **Matthew 5:1-12** (NIV)

5 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him,

<sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them. He said:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

<sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

## **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** Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 7:00 pm, (ZOOM) Next: Feb. 16th

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

**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#)

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

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

**TRUSTEE'S MEETING:** First Monday of every month. Next: Monday, February 2nd, 7:00 pm (Zoom)

**SMALL GROUP LEADERS MTG:** Saturday February 7<sup>th</sup> and 21st, 9:30 am (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)



**COOPERATIVE PARISH MEETING:** This Sunday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> at 3 pm (GP Room)

**VALENTINE'S DAY CARDS:** This Sunday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> we will be making Valentine's Day cards during coffee hour. Please come and participate in spreading the love.

**PLEASE NOTE - MONDAY WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP:** Will now be meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month instead of weekly. Their next meeting will be on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm on Zoom.

**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY:** Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> is Souper Bowl Sunday and we will be collecting for the local Food Pantry.

**UPDATE ON JOE SPINA:** Joe has finished his advanced training at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina and has transferred, on 1/27, to the US Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida for the next 9-12 months. All cards, letters, etc. for Joe can now be sent to his **new address:**



SPINA, JOSEPH  
440 ROBERTS AVE.  
PMB #2368  
PENSACOLA, FL 32511

**BOWLING FELLOWSHIP:** Bowling Fellowship continues! The group, now known as "**The UMCSO Holy Rollers,**" meets on Sundays at JV Lanes and all are welcome. Bowling is from 2-5 pm (1:30 if you want to practice) See the sign-up sheet in the breezeway or just show up! Contact Wesley Battle Sr. (914-837-4835) for more information.

**YOUNG ADULT GROUP FORMING!** We are excited to be starting a Young Adult Group at UMCSO this fall! If you are a young adult, please fill out this survey so we can find a good time for our first meeting. If you know of a young adult who may be interested, please forward this link to them, or have them speak to Pastor Sandy or Lisa Grace. We look forward to growing this new ministry!

**[Young Adult Meeting Survey](#)**

## **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 Birthdays:**

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**