

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

May 10, 2026 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given by The Reynolds Family, "In loving memory of Loyal Reynolds."

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Live in God's love!

P: Let that love be poured out for all God's people!

L: Bring hope and peace to all whom you meet.

P: We are called to be God's witnesses.

L: Celebrate and rejoice.

P: Praise be to God who has called, healed, and given us a ministry of peace and love. AMEN.

PRAISE and WORSHIP:

PRAISE SHARING

OPENING PRAYER:

Lord of wondrous light and power, we come to you this day to learn of your will for our lives. Heal our wounds; lift our spirits; give us courage and confidence to boldly serve you in all that we do. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: "Blessed Assurance" – UMH #369

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Lord of mercy, there are so many times in our lives when we feel alone. We wonder where you are. We cry out to you in our confusion, pain, and hurt. And when you do not immediately grant the prayers of our cries, we begin to doubt that you even care or exist. Stop us from going down this path of self-destruction. Help us look around and find the many ways in which you have blessed our lives. Forgive us when we are so quick to doubt and so arrogant in our demands of your responses. Give us a spirit of patience and willingness to be ready to hear your voice. Strengthen us for the ministries of love and hope that you have placed before us; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Hear the Good News!

Even in the midst of doubt and darkness, the light of God is shining in you, on you, and through you. Out of God's great love, you have been redeemed and made whole. Rejoice, beloved of God! AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 17:22-31 (NRSVue)

1 Peter 3:13-22 (NRSVue)

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS *(Children will be dismissed right after)*

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Abide With Me" – UMH #700

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21 (NRSVue)

SERMON: **Leaning on God's Everlasting Arms**

1. Is Jesus Your Savior and Lord?
2. Account for Your Hope
3. God's Love Abides

RESPONSE HYMN: "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" – UMH #133

OFFERTORY: "How Beautiful"

DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: "Because He Lives" – UMH #364

BENEDICTION:

Being washed in the love of Christ, now go into this world with the healing love of God to be given generously in peace and hope. God's peace will always be with those who live in God's love. AMEN.

https://ministrymatters.com/2020-04-06_worship_connection_may_14_2023/

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 17:22-31 (NRSVue)

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way.

²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,

²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.

²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,

²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.

²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.

³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent,

³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

1 Peter 3:13-22 (NRSVue)

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?

¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated,

¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you,

¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.

¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered

for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,

¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison,

²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water.

²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

GOSPEL READING

John 14:15-21 (NRSVue)

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.

¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you.

¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.

²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

UMCSO WEEKLY 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.

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP: Meets once a month at 7:00 pm on Zoom.
Next meeting: May 11th

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: TBD

SMALL GROUP LEADERS MTG: Next meeting: Saturday May 16th, 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=MXVIUGgvOFRRs3RZNVB2a0pIRi8rUT09>

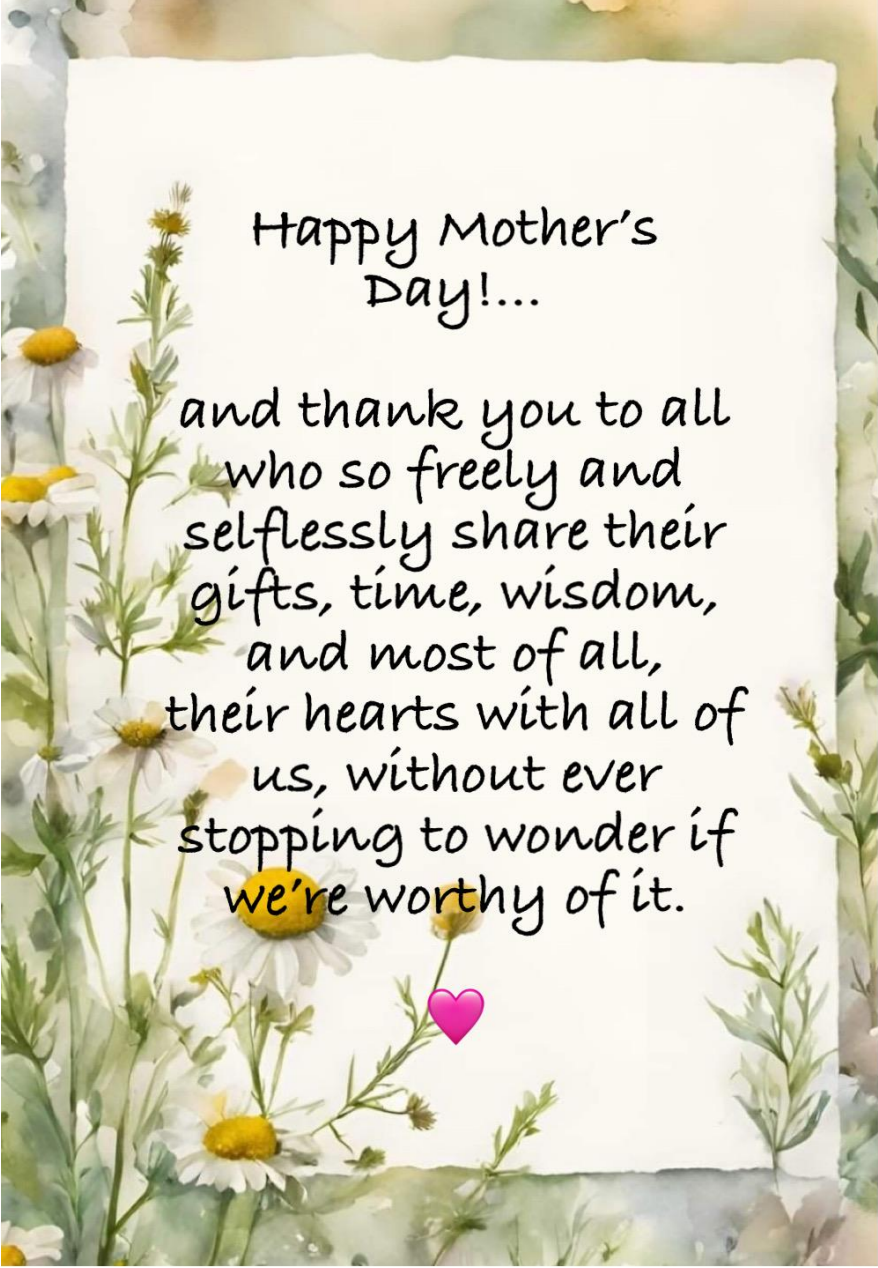
Meeting ID: 261 044 7551

Passcode: 246240

One tap mobile

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Happy Mother's
Day!...

and thank you to all
who so freely and
selflessly share their
gifts, time, wisdom,
and most of all,
their hearts with all of
us, without ever
stopping to wonder if
we're worthy of it.





CORRECTION: The Women's Monday night group will meet on May 11th at 7 pm on Zoom; **not** the 18th as stated in the Chimes and previous bulletins.

AD COUNCIL MEETING: May 20th at 6 pm in the GP Room.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2026: Meets every Sunday following worship, upstairs in classroom #21 unless otherwise specified.

BREAKFAST RUN: On Sunday, May 31st, our youth and teachers will make their way to NYC with provisions for the those in need. The following list are the requested items, and the collection box is in the breezeway, please donate as you are able: (of greatest need are items in red)

Men's dark colored summer t-shirts: (Med, Lg, X-Lg)

Men's black socks

Wash cloths

Bar Soap

Tooth paste and Toothbrushes

Trial size Shampoo and Deodorant

BOWLING FELLOWSHIP: The "UMCSO Holy Rollers" meets on Sundays from 2:00 – 5:00 pm at JV Lanes. (1:45 if you want some practice time). All are welcome!

SUMMER 2026 YOUTH MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITIES: UM Army trip dates this year are July 5th – July 11th. Anyone interested in participating should contact Doug Gaylor.

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

Birthdays

Rich Haigh Jr 5/11

Karla Marie Ruth 5/15

Art Shkoda 5/15

No Anniversaries this week