

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak
August 2nd, 2026 – Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given by Alice and Al Fennell, “In honor and celebration of their 51st Wedding Anniversary!”

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Welcome to worship this day.

P: Thank you. We’re glad to be here.

L: Some have come seeking; some have come struggling

P: Lord, be with each one of us today. Feed our hearts and souls with your transforming love.

L: God is truly with you all today, guiding, lifting, feeding, restoring your souls.

P: Praise be to God who continually abides with us. AMEN.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

PRAISE SHARING

OPENING PRAYER:

In the darkness of night and the brightness of day, you, O Lord, are present to us. As we wrestle with situations which seem to drain us of our energy; as we struggle to find out who you call us to be, you reach out to us with reassurance of empowerment and courage for the days ahead. Calm our spirits and prepare our hearts and lives to receive your awesome grace. It is in Jesus’ name that we pray. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: “He Lives” – UMH #310

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Lord of mercy and hope, we come before you with fear. We know that we have fallen short of being the kind of disciples that you have called us to be. We have turned our backs on people in need; we have closed our ears to the cries of the voiceless. And so we hesitate to come before you because we believe that you are disappointed in us. Remind us again that you are merciful and your love transforms and changes our lives. When we falter and slide off the path of hope you place before us, you “pick us up and dust us off” and put us again on the trail, confident of your faithful presence with us. Forgive us our weakness. Strengthen us and give us courage; help us to be bearers of your good news of peace. We pray this in Christ’s name. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Here the Good News! Feel God's healing love pouring over you and into your lives. Know that God delights in each one of you and will always be present to you. This is indeed the Good News of the Gospel. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 17:1-9, 15 (NIV)

REFLECTION: Annette Reynolds

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

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Great is thy Faithfulness" – UMH #140

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 14:13-21 (NIV)

REFLECTION: Rachel Ward

RESPONSE HYMN: "Spirit Song" – UMH #347

OFFERTORY: Special Music Selection

DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: "Here I am, Lord" – UMH #593

BENEDICTION:

The Spirit sends us forth to serve. Go in peace, knowing that God will always be by your side in all that you do. Go in love, offering healing and hope to others. Go in joy, that others may be lifted and inspired in service. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalms 17:1-9,15 (NIV)

¹ Hear me, LORD, my plea is just; listen to my cry. Hear my prayer - it does not rise from deceitful lips.

² Let my vindication come from you; may your eyes see what is right.

³ Though you probe my heart, though you examine me at night and test me, you will find that I have planned no evil; my mouth has not transgressed.

⁴ Though people tried to bribe me, I have kept myself from the ways of the violent through what your lips have commanded.

⁵ My steps have held to your paths; my feet have not stumbled.

⁶ I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.

⁷ Show me the wonders of your great love, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you from their foes.

⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings

⁹ from the wicked who are out to destroy me, from my mortal enemies who surround me.

¹⁵ As for me, I will be vindicated and will see your face; when I awake, I will be satisfied with seeing your likeness.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 14:13-21 (NIV)

¹³ When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns.

¹⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

¹⁵ As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."

¹⁶ Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

¹⁷ "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

¹⁸ "Bring them here to me," he said.

¹⁹ And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.

²⁰ They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

²¹ The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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: August 17th

MORNING BIBLE STUDY: **On break until Sept.** 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). **Thursday night Bible Study is on break for the summer and will meet again in Sept.**

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 meetings: Saturday August 1st and 15th, 9:30 am (Zoom)

Pastor Sandy Mantz invites you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bible Study **(No meetings for the summer, resumes in Sept)**

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)



THE YOUNG ADULT PICNIC: Scheduled for this Friday, July 31st, has been cancelled and the group will be notified of a new date.

SMALL GROUPS SUMMER SCHEDULE: Please see the above “Weekly Schedule” for all groups that are breaking for the summer.

BOWLING FELLOWSHIP: Bowling group is also on break until Sept.

PUTNAM VALLEY FOOD PANTRY: Is experiencing a great need for women’s feminine products. There will be a collection box for supplies in the breezeway that will be delivered to Grace UMC every Wednesday. Please donate as you’re able.

TO ANYONE DROPPING OFF DONATIONS: If you are dropping off clothing or any other type of material donations PLEASE clearly label items with the intention (Rummage sale, craft room, etc). We cannot be responsible for items left unattended outside.



Rally Day: Sunday Sept. 13th. Breakfast and blessing of the backpacks

United Women of Faith Meeting: Saturday, Sept. 18th at 5:30 at Grace UMC

Women’s Fall Tea: Saturday, Sept. 26th, From 2-5 pm

Trunk or Treat/Pumpkin Patch: Sunday, Oct. 25th from 1-3 pm

Annual Craft Fair: Saturday, November 14th, 9 am-3 pm

(Any updates and further details will be provided closer to these events)

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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Birthdays

Jaxon DeMaria	8/1
Marissa Montaldo	8/2
Fran Davies	8/4
Jonathan Goodman	8/6
Dolsen Eccles	8/7

Anniversaries This Week

Al and Alice Fennell	8/2
Jim and Doreen Matthews	8/4
Peter and Leslie Sutton	8/6