

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak
July 12th, 2026 – Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given by Linda Hoernes, “In honor and celebration of Peter’s 65th birthday!”

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: God has abundantly cast seeds of love and hope upon us.

P: May we be fruitful soil for the planting and growing of hope and peace.

L: Come, let us praise God who is so generous with us.

P: Let us sing songs of joy to God.

L: Hallelujah!

P: Hallelujah!

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

PRAISE SHARING

OPENING PRAYER:

God of abundant love, we come to you this day in the midst of a season of great growth and coming harvest. All around us are signs of growth, in our earth, in our families, in our nation, in our world. We come this day, seeking your healing love and abounding mercy. Open our hearts to receive all that you offer that we may become fruitful workers for you. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” – UMH #139

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Lord, forgive us when we doubt your mercy and your love. We are so caught up in getting everything that we want; and we want it all right now. We have trouble waiting and remembering that it is in the waiting that we might hear your voice. It is difficult for us to believe that we can be fruitful, good soil for your words and work. We find excuses not to be attentive to you, but to focus instead on our own desires. Slow us down, Lord. Remind us again of your mercy and your love; for we offer this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

God hears your cries and heals your wounded hearts. God is preparing you for good things to come. Place your trust in God who has always loved you and will always love you. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 119:105-112 (NIV)

Romans 8:1-11 (NIV)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM



Molly Harper Murphy

*Born: October 27, 2023 to Parents,
Chloe and Edward Murphy*

Sponsors: Meghan & Edward Bogucki

Michael Cillian Murphy

*Born: October 11, 2025 to Parents,
Chloe and Edward Murphy*

*Sponsors: Erica Swansen &
Christopher Russo*

BAPTISMAL COVENANT II: UMH #39

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

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Hymn of Promise" - UMH #707

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

SERMON: Harvest of the Heart

1. Fertile Ground of the Holy Spirit
2. Let God's Word Light and Water Your Path
3. Grow and Bloom

RESPONSE HYMN: “Thy Word is a Lamp Unto my Feet” – UMH #601

OFFERTORY: Special Music Selection

DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” – UMH #664

BENEDICTION:

God has placed the seed of love and forgiveness in your heart. Go into God’s world with joy, telling of the good news of God’s abundant, lavish love for all creation. Go to be a witness to all the miraculous possibilities for hope and peace. AMEN.

https://ministrymatters.com/2020-06-01_worship_connection_proper_10_a/

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 119:105-112 (NIV)

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

¹⁰⁶ I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws.

¹⁰⁷ I have suffered much; preserve my life, Lord, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸ Accept, Lord, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your laws.

¹⁰⁹ Though I constantly take my life in my hands, I will not forget your law.

¹¹⁰ The wicked have set a snare for me, but I have not strayed from your precepts.

¹¹¹ Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.

¹¹² My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.

Romans 8:1-11 (NIV)

8 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh,

⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵ Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.

⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (NIV)

¹³ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake.

² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore.

³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed.

⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.

⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow.

⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants.

⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

¹⁸ “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means:

¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy.

²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

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: July 13th

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). **Thursday night Bible Study is on hiatus 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 July 18th, 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=MXVIUGgvOFRrS3RZNVB2a0pIRi8rUT09>

Meeting ID: 261 044 7551

Passcode: 246240

One tap mobile

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

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



SMALL GROUPS SUMMER SCHEDULE: Please note that the Thursday Evening Bible Study and the Bowling Group will be on hiatus for the summer and will resume in September. The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will be on summer break beginning July 22nd. If any other groups plan to break for the summer please let the office know.

YOUNG ADULT GATHERING AND PICNIC: Originally scheduled for this Sunday, July 12th, is **postponed** and we will keep the Young Adult Group informed of a new date.

ALSO ON JULY 12th: Grace UMC will be joining us for worship as Pastor Sandy officiates at a Grace family Baptism.

NEXT COMMUNION SERVICE: Will be **July 19th** . (not on July 12th as previously announced.)

BOWLING FELLOWSHIP: Bowling group will be on hiatus until Sept.

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

Agata Shkoda	7/12
Peter Hoernes	7/13
Stephanie Bardin	7/15
Bill Melvin Jr.	7/15
Enock Yatri	7/15
Chris Grace	7/16

No Anniversaries this week