

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak
October 11, 2026 – Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given by Kathy Casey, “With Happy Birthday wishes to Cory and a Happy 49th Anniversary for Kathy and Jack!”

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: When the Lord calls us to the banquet, we get puffed up with importance.

P: Humility needs to be our attitude; humility and gratitude.

L: Help us, O Lord, be grateful for the many ways in which you love us.

P: Help us return that love by the way in which we care for others.

L: Be with us, O Lord, this day.

P: Open our hearts to hear your words of hope and encouragement.

AMEN.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

PRAISE SHARING

OPENING PRAYER:

Open our hearts and our spirits to hear your healing words of peace and love, O God. Help us be the people of service and justice that you have called us to be. Make us ready to heal rather than harm; to serve rather than sever. Give us hearts of joy and justice, for we offer this prayer in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: “We Gather Together” – UMH #131

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Gracious and loving God, you have prepared a great banquet and eagerly invited us to rejoice in your kingdom. We confess that we often make light of your call, we turn away to our own lives, our busyness, and our daily preoccupations, ignoring the generosity of your love. We confess that we put on the garments of our own making - garments of pride, self-reliance, judgment, and worry - rather than accepting the robes of grace and righteousness you freely provide. Forgive us, Lord, when we fail to honor your invitation or act as unworthy guests. Cleanse our hearts, strip away our self-righteousness, and clothe us anew in the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live as people ready for your feast. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Beloved of the Lord, you are healed and forgiven. You are called to go forth in compassionate ministry to help others in need. Know that God always goes with you on your journeys into ministry. Be at peace. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 32:1-14 NIV
Acts 8:14-25 NIV

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

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast" - UMH #339

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:1-14 NIV

SERMON: "Come to the Wedding Banquet"

1. The Invitation
2. What Will You Wear?
3. The Chosen

RESPONSE HYMN: "Take my Life and Let it Be" – UMH #399

OFFERTORY: Special Music Selection

DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: "Great is Thy Faithfulness" – UMH #140

BENEDICTION:

You have received blessing upon blessing from the Lord. Now go into the world offering hope and peace to all people you meet. Be involved in justice and healing ministries in the name of the Lord. Go in peace, AMEN.

https://ministrymatters.com/2020-08-07_worship_connection_october_15_2023/

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 32:1-14 (NIV)

32 When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, “Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don’t know what has happened to him.”

² Aaron answered them, “Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me.”

³ So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron.

⁴ He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, “These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.”

⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, “Tomorrow there will be a festival to the Lord.”

⁶ So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.

⁷ Then the Lord said to Moses, “Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt.

⁸ They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, ‘These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.’

⁹ “I have seen these people,” the Lord said to Moses, “and they are a stiff-necked people.

¹⁰ Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses sought the favor of the Lord his God. “Lord,” he said, “why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand?

(Over)

¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people.

¹³ Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.'"

¹⁴ Then the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

Acts 8:14-25 (NIV)

¹⁴ When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria.

¹⁵ When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit,

¹⁶ because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

¹⁷ Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

¹⁸ When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money

¹⁹ and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

²⁰ Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money!

²¹ You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God.

²² Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord in the hope that he may forgive you for having such a thought in your heart.

²³ For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin."

²⁴ Then Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me so that nothing you have said may happen to me."

²⁵ After they had further proclaimed the word of the Lord and testified about Jesus, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many Samaritan villages.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)

22 Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying:

² “The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.

³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴ “Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’

⁵ “But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business.

⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them.

⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

⁸ “Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come.

⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.’

¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes.

¹² He asked, ‘How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?’ The man was speechless.

¹³ “Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

¹⁴ “For many are invited, but few are chosen.”

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: October 19th.

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

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

SMALL GROUP 1: Thursday, 12:30 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

TRUSTEE'S MEETING: First Monday of every month. Next: Nov. 2nd (Zoom)

SMALL GROUP LEADERS MTG: Next meeting: Saturday Oct. 3rd and 17th, 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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+16465588656,,2610447551#,,,,*246240# US (New York)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
and
UPCOMING EVENTS**

DISTRICT TRAINING DAY: Saturday, Oct. 10th here at UMCSO, 10 am – 12 pm with lunch following. Come Worship, Learn, and Connect - and discover what the roles of our committees are.

WOMEN'S FALL TEA: Saturday, Oct. 17th, From 2-5 pm

CRAFT GROUP: Is meeting again in preparation for our annual craft fair in November. Meeting dates are:

Sat. 10/17 at 10 am

Sat. 11/7 at 10 am

PARSONAGE OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, Oct. 18th following worship.

TRUNK OR TREAT/PUMPKIN PATCH: Sunday, Oct. 25th from 1-3 pm.

Pastor Sandy will also do a “Blessing of the Animals” for anyone who wants to bring their pets.

ANNUAL ASP WALK: Sign up to come walk, run, or stroll with us.

Saturday, Oct. 31st at FDR Park, 9:30 am. You can sign up at

www.runsignup.com/Katonah.asp or register there.

ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR: Saturday, November 14th, 9 am-3 pm.

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.

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

Cory Casey	10/11
Lindsey Gilbert	10/11
Lisa Will	10/11
Pat Watkins	10/13
Dez Hinds	10/15
Hank Schrot	10/16
Cherie Philips	10/17
Bruce Shields	10/17

Anniversaries This Week

Ken and Nancy Mannino	10/11
Bob and Fran Davies	10/12
Kathy and Jack Casey	10/15