

**ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

10 a.m.

April 18, 2021

*\* indicates "stand if you are able." UMH is the blue hymnal. TFWS is the small black book.*

Introit "Amazing Grace" UMH #378

**GREETINGS**

One: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: The risen Christ is with us.

All: **Praise the Lord!**

**WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*HYMN "How Great Thou Art" verses 1, 2, 4 UMH #77

**CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER**

One: Answer us when we call, O God. Be gracious to us and hear our prayer.

All: **When we are in distress, you make space for us.**

**You put gladness in our hearts, as with a fine feast.**

One: When we are disturbed, may we not sin, but ponder things on our beds, and be silent.

All: **We will both lie down and sleep in peace.**

**For you alone, O Lord, make us lie down in safety.**

One: And together let us pray.

All: **Holy God, we give thanks that you often reveal yourself to be different from our expectations. When we long for the love we have known in the past, our eyes are dimmed to the beauty you reveal to us now. As your first followers struggled to see how a suffering savior could be the messiah, we strain to recognize you still today. Come, Spirit, make yourself known in the study of scripture, in our songs of praise, and especially in the grace and love we offer one another. Make yourself known in every friend we have yet to meet in your good and blessed name. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

**THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT SERVICE** Insert

*We celebrate the baptism of Jackson Edward Muhlihaler, son of Christina Polidora and Jason Muhlihaler. Sponsors: Kristie McKeough and James Raniolo.*

**A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES** "Children's Message"

\*HYMN "This Little Light of Mine" UMH #585

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Let all who wish to know the ways of life and death listen for the word of God. Truly the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

THE EPISTLE READING Acts 3:12-19

PSALM READING Psalm 4

THE GOSPEL READING John 3:1-7

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Return to God!" Rev. Jane Kim

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**INVITATION**

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

*(From UMH page 7)*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Spirit of the Risen Savior, when we fail to recognize you, we become reluctant to follow in your way. Just as the disciples struggled to comprehend how the Christ could have been a suffering servant, we find it difficult to see you in those who suffer today. We resist starting down the path you have shown us until we know exactly where it will lead. Free us from cynicism and fear. Liberate your world from suspicion and prejudice. Forgive us, Living Lord, and lead us wherever you will.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Christ lived, died, and rose again for us, even while we were sinners. This is proof of God's love for us. In the name of Christ, we are forgiven!

**ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**THE INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS** (in unison)

**Offering our gifts to God is a holy act. In this sacred moment, let us offer our gifts and our lives to the holy work of God.**

**WEEKLY OFFERING**

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Coming Home" by Joseph Martin  
CUMC Adult Choir

I've wandered far away from God, now I am coming, I'm coming home.  
The paths of sin too long I've trod, Lord, I am coming, I'm coming home.

I've wasted many precious years, But now I am coming, I'm coming home.  
I now repent with bitter tears. Lord, I am coming, I'm coming home.

Coming Home, coming home, Lord never more to roam.  
Open wide Your arm, Your arms of love, Lord, I am coming home.

My soul is sick, my heart is sore, now I am coming, I'm coming home.

My strength renew, my hope restore, now I am coming, I'm coming home.

\*DOXOLOGY      *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*    UMH #94

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

God of love, help us remember that Christ has no body now on earth but ours, no hands but ours, no feet but ours. Ours are the hands to bless the people we meet. Ours are the feet to do good in Christ’s name. Bless, O God, the work of our hands and these offerings, that they may be Christ’ work in the world. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

\*HYMN      *“10,000 Reasons” (Bless the Lord O My Soul)*                                  Insert

\*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

One:    Christ is alive and has met us here. Pastor Jane

All:    **Now let us meet God’s Spirit among friends, strangers, and in all of creation.**

One:    For God’s love lives today and forevermore, let us return to God.

All:    **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us share his love and peace with one another.

***PLEASE JOIN CUMC ZOOM COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.***

**OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED                                  NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS**

**COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

100 Park Boulevard, Massapequa, New York 11758 • (516) 541-7008

April 11, 2021

*Rev. Jane H. Kim*  
Pastor

*Jeong-Hwa Park*  
Minister of Music

*Mrs. Rita Lieberman*  
Secretary