### ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 a.m. September 24, 2023

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

PRELUDE "Fairest Lord Jesus"

by David H. Hegarty

INTROIT "Here I am to Worship" CUMC Adult Choir

by Tim Hughes/arr. Cindy Berry previously recorded

WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD

**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!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us share God's love and peace with one another.

\*HYMN "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" UMH #158

**CALL TO WORSHIP** 

One: Give thanks to the Lord.

All: Call on God's holy name.

One: Sing praises to our God.

All: Tell of God's wonderful works.

One: The Lord offers bread from heaven to satisfy our hunger.

All: God issues water from solid rock to quench our thirst.

One: Give thanks to the Lord.

All: Let everything that draws breath praise God.

# **OPENING PRAYER**

Guide our way, Caretaker God, in the wilderness of our lives. Offer us the bread of heaven, that we may taste your Spirit and be nourished in body and soul. Reveal your presence among us and show us the tender mercies of your love. In joy and jubilation, we pray. Amen.

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES "Children's Message" Virginia Lorenzi Congregation sings "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 16:2-15

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING Philippians 1:21-30

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 20:1-16

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Not Fair!" Rev. Sue H. Yun

## 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)

### A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of infinite patience, we turn complaining into an Olympic sport: "The journey is too long. The road is hard and our feet hurt. We're hungry and bored. This isn't what we signed up for!" You've heard it all before, faithful One. You'll hear it all again. Yet, you never forsake us in our grumbling. Shower us with your manifold blessings and open our lips to sing songs of gratitude. For we are weary of our complaining and long to make a fresh start. Amen.

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rejoice, you who seek the Lord. Count your blessings, not your troubles. For in acts of gratitude, you will find peace.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

# INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

In the wilderness of our lives, God's grace is like water flowing from a rock, transforming arid desert into flowing rivers. In thanksgiving for God's mercy, let us give from our abundance as we collect today's offering.

WEEKLY OFFERING & NOISY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "My Jesus, I Love Thee" Deborah Holland, Soloist by Deborah Criser/arr. Lloyd Larson

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" \*DOXOLOGY

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Gracious God, you provide bread in the wilderness and life-giving waters in the desert. We offer you our thanks and praise. May our gifts and offerings bless your world – that all may be blessed, and all may find purpose and passion, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS** 

# A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

God of peace and justice, we pray for Ukraine today. We pray for people suffering from war. Transform the hearts and minds of all those who perpetuate violence and oppression. Grant wisdom to world leaders in advancing efforts toward world peace; may they not be compromised by self-interest and blind indifference. Stop the war o, God. Amen.

\*HYMN "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" UMH #384

**UMH #95** 

# \*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

God meets us on our wilderness journeys, that we may not journey alone. Christ tends us on our wilderness journeys, that we may receive our daily bread. The Spirit sustains on our wilderness journeys, that we may be strengthened for what lies ahead. Go with God's blessings.

POSTLUDE

"Thank you, Lord" by Benton Price

**OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED** 

**NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS** 

# COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

New York 11758 • (516) 541-7008 September 24, 2023 100 Park Boulevard, Massapequa,

Stacey Longenberger Mrs. Minister of Music Rev. Sue Hyosuk Yun Pastor