

**ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
LAITY SUNDAY**

10 a.m.

October 15, 2023

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

PRELUDE

*"In Church"
by Peter I. Tchaikovsky*

INTROIT

*"Come! Come! Everybody Worship" CUMC Adult Choir
by Natalie Sleeth*

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

One: The peace of the Lord be with you

All: And also with you

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

*HYMN

"Surely the Presence of the Lord" UMH #328

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice in God always. Again I say, Rejoice!

All: Take heart; the Lord is near.

One: Make it known among the people: God reigns.

All: Proclaim it from the rooftops.

One: Let gentleness and mirth be your guide.

All: Rejoice in God always. Again I say, Rejoice!

One: Take heart; the Lord is near.

OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, we come before you this day with praise on our lips and songs of joy in our hearts. When we abide in your kingdom and live according to your ways good triumphs over evil, love is stronger than hate, and truth wins the day. Focus our hearts and minds on things that are worthy of praise and bless us with a peace that passes all understanding. Amen.

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES *"Children's Message"* Virginia Lorenzi
Congregation sings *"Jesus Loves the Little Children"* - Lyrics inserted in Bulletin

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

If we confess our sins, God is merciful and just and forgives us our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. Lord, in your mercy, hear our confession as we pray silently to you now.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We seek your goodness, O God, for we search our hearts and find them wanting. We seek your joy, source of mirth and laughter, for our limbs are weary and our hearts are heavy. Set our minds on things that are excellent, admirable, and worthy of praise. Shine the light of your love far and wide, that the world might strive after things that are just, righteous, and true. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The peace of God, which passes all understanding is ours through Christ Jesus. Rest secure in this assurance for it is trustworthy and true.

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 SCRIPTURES

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 32: 1-14

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING 2 Timothy 1: 13-14

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 19: 16-26

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Discovering Gravity" Deborah Holland

INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

As recipients of God's steadfast love and grace, let us offer gifts of gratitude in our tithes and offering.

WEEKLY OFFERING & NOISY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"* CUMC Adult Choir
By Larry Shackley

*DOXOLOGY *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* UMH #95

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

God of steadfast love, your bounty knows no bounds. For the abundant gifts in our lives, we thank you. For the peace that passes all understanding, we praise you. For keeping our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, we honor you. Receive the gifts we bring you this day and help us stay focused on things that are excellent and admirable, holy and just, righteous and pure. Amen.

LAITY TESTIMONY Anthony Gittens

LITANY FOR THE MINISTRY OF LAITY *(See Insert)*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

God of peace and justice, you have taught us to love our neighbors as ourselves, to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. Today we raise Israel and Gaza, Ukraine and Russia, and all parts of the world where people are suffering from war. Provide protection and comfort to the innocent who have been impacted. 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 wars o, God. Amen.

*HYMN *"Jesus Calls Us"* UMH #398
(Verses 1-3)

*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, from this day forward and forevermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE *"Unity and Brotherhood"*
by Thomas Chesterton

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

October 15, 2023

Rev. Sue Hyosuk Yun Jeong-Hwa Park Mrs. Stacey Longenberger
Pastor Minister of Music Secretary

