

**Grace United Methodist Church – Valley Stream  
Order of Worship**

**2nd Sunday of Easter**

**April 24, 2022**

**10:00 A.M.**

**In person in the sanctuary and via Zoom and Facebook**

**Zoom Meeting ID: 883 84930735 Passcode: 086482**

**Phone # 1 929 205 6099**

**Greeting**

**Opening Voluntary** – “Prelude in G” by Mendelssohn

**Call to Worship**

L: Christ is risen!

**P: Christ is risen indeed!**

L: This is the day the Lord has made.

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!** (AWA, 2022)

**Opening Prayer**

Eternal God, who was and is and is to come, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and end of all things. Come to us now in visions and dreams, that our eyes may see more than they see, and our hearts may love more than they love. Make yourself known to us in this time of worship, for in you, we live and move and have our being. Bring your kingdom here on earth, that all may know your glory and find the courage to face each day. We ask this in the name of the one who conquered the grave to bring us eternal life. Amen. (AWA, 2022)

**Opening Hymn #139** - “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” *LOBE DEN HERREN*

**Prayer of Yearning**

God who abides in our doubts, we yearn for the courage to believe where we have not seen; we long for the ability to perceive things hidden from our eyes; we desire to embrace the riches of our faith when death looms all around us. Like Thomas before us, we often struggle to believe the mystery of your resurrection. So many doubts remain. So much uncertainty closes our minds to the wisdom that stirs our souls. Yet you work in and through our doubts, leading us ever deeper into the mystery of Christ, through the power of your Holy Spirit. May we

see Christ's glory amidst our doubts and proclaim with Thomas, "My Lord and my God!" Amen. (AWA, 2022)

### **Words of Assurance**

God has the power to heal us. Christ has the love to save us. The Spirit has the strength to free us. These gifts are graciously given, even in the midst of our doubts. God is here to lead us deeper, and show us the way home. (AWA, 2022)

### **Scriptures**

#### **Old Testament – Poetry – Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-21 (A Song of Victory)**

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! 2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever." 14 The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. 15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly; 16 the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly." 17 I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord. 18 The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. 20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

L: Word of God, Word of Life. **P: Thanks be to God.**

#### **New Testament – Gospel – John 20:19-31 (Jesus Appears to His disciples)**

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." 24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin ), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." 26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said,

"Peace be with you." 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

L: Word of God, Word of Life. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn before Message #2158 - "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" *CLOSER WALK***  
(The Faith We Sing Hymnal)

**Message**

Pastor Nation

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Christ appeared among his disciples with words of greeting and support: "Peace be with you." Christ is with us now, offering these same words of greeting and comfort: "Peace be with you." Let us share signs of this peace with one another.  
(AWA, 2022)

**Invitation to Tithes and Offering**

Let us be generous in our giving, that others may see in us the transforming power of God. Let us be lavish in our gifts, that others may draw life from the bounty of God's blessings. (AWA, 2022)

**Doxology - Hymn #95 – "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" *OLD 100th***

**Offering Selection – "Ich ruf zu dir" by Bach**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Closing Hymn #2147 - "There Are Some Things I May Not Know"**

(The Faith We Sing Hymnal)

***YES, GOD IS REAL***

## Dismissal with Blessing

### Closing Voluntary – “Fugue in G Major” by Mendelssohn

Our Guest Organist is Harvey Burgett.

Our Liturgist is Tonia Ukanwoke.

Our Reader is Patricia Eshun.



**Prayer List.** †♥Family of Adam Doeringer, ♥Christine Doeringer, ♥Richard Keller (son of Bert Keller), ♥Lisel (daughter of Evelyn Neber), ♥Carolyn O’Loughlin, ♥Our Military men and women here and abroad, ♥Michael Provenzano, ♥Mason Baker (cousin of Debbie Nicosia), ♥Sherry Schutt (niece of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Thornton Stone (father of Brian Stone), ♥People of Ukraine, ♥Roael Cooke (brother-in-law of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Ramona Morrison (daughter of Margo and Vincent Morrison), ♥Averil Wallace (relative of Earl Boyd), ♥Neil Allen (son-in-law of Margo and Vincent Morrison), ♥Pastor Nation, ♥Walter McKnight, ♥Coleen Murray, ♥Velda Mathis (sister-in-law of Marianne Pike), ♥Maria Smith (mother of Rebecca Heyward), ♥Kenneth Richardson, ♥Kris Thomsen (cousin of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥Nancy Roman (friend of Sing Larson), Emilia Peebles (granddaughter of Debbie and Joe Nicosia), ♥Alice Shubrick (friend of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Susan Short and her daughter ♥Sarah Short (friends of Nancy Wasek), ♥Faith Pollack (friend of Sing Larson), ♥Pearl Hamilton, ♥Charles Zipperlen, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥Douglas Hayes, ♥Ulysses Ceazer (friend of Svetlana Hamlet), ♥Hensbert Neville Brooks (husband of Mahalia Brooks), ♥Kay Hartmann, ♥All United Methodist Women in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Shirley Shivrattan-Dookhi, ♥Juliana Bonds (sister of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Maudlyn and Keible Scarlett, ♥Amy Cooke (sister of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Bob von Schmid (son-in-law of Adam and Christine Doeringer), ♥Kenneth Kurz (grandson of Lenore and Manny Kurz), ♥Michael Kurz (son of Lenore and Manny Kurz), ♥Airman Jayvee Kurz (grandson of Lenore and Manny Kurz), ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥Margo and Vincent Morrison, ♥Cyril (friend of Pat Eshun), ♥Samuel A. Dorsey (father of David A. Dorsey), ♥David Biegler, ♥Iris Molina, ♥Olga Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Everol Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske), ♥Bill Hammen (brother of Edie Zipperlen), ♥Rondolph Ives (brother of Margo Morrison), ♥Health care workers fighting the Viruses, those who are suffering, and grieving families. **Note.** Prayer List names will continue to be listed for three weeks. After that period of time, the names will be removed unless you call us with current information. † - Death in family, ♦ - New entry

**HOLD THE DATE!!** We are having a Retirement Dinner for Pastor Nation on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. It is being held at the Coral House located at 70 Milburn Avenue in Baldwin (516/223-6500). The cost per person is \$80 and the event will last from 6PM-10PM. We are looking forward to celebrating with Pastor and Desmond as they begin their new journey. Invitations have been sent out. RSVP is requested. NOTE: We are carefully monitoring the increase in the infection rate of COVID-19. If it continues to rise, masks and proof of vaccination may be required. The safety of our guests is of the utmost importance to us. You will be advised the week prior to the Retirement Dinner of the final decision. You can also call the Church Office for further clarification.

**Save The Date** for United Women in Faith (UWF) formerly known as UMW. We shall be having the UWF Day/Fundraiser Event on 5/8/22 during church service. Please check out the attached flyer.