



**Grace United Methodist Church – Valley Stream
3rd Sunday of Easter/Native American Ministries Sunday/
Communion Sunday**

May 1, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

Order of Worship

In person in the sanctuary and via Zoom and Facebook

Greeting

Call to Worship

L: Sing praises to God, you people of faith.

P: We give thanks to God, who heals and restores.

L: Praise God who transforms us, who heals and loves us.

P: Praise God, who clothes us with joy.

L: Do not be silent. Praise the Lord!

P: We give thanks our God, today and always. (AWA, 2022)

Opening Voluntary – “How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place”
(from “Requiem”) by J. Brahms

Choral Introit

Opening Prayer

Wisdom of God, come and dwell among us. We gather to hear your word, and to sing your praise. We come as we are, trusting that your grace will perfect us. Interrupt our lives with your vision of truth and love. We praise you now and always. Amen.

(AWA, 2022)

Opening Hymn #185 - “When Morning Gilds the Skies”

LAUDES DOMINI

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we can be so sure that we know what is best. We head into life following our own dreams. Interrupt us with the blinding light of your grace, that we may gain new vision. When despair and sadness overwhelm us, and when hope fails us, teach us to dance to the music of your love. Open us up, O God, that we may see your path, walk in deeper faith, and be loving witnesses of your glory. Amen. (AWA, 2022)

Words of Assurance

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes in the morning. God is at work, transforming our sorrow, giving us hope for a new day. (AWA, 2022)

Scriptures

New Testament Reading – History – Acts 9:1-20 (The Conversion of Saul)

1 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" 5 He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." 7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. 10 Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." 11 The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; 14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; 16 I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." 17 So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, 19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, 20 and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

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

New Testament Reading - Gospel – John 21:1-19 (Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples)

1 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. 2 Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. 3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. 4 Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5 Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." 6 He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. 7 That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. 9 When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." 11 So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. 14 This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. 15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." 16 A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. 18 Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." 19 (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

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

Hymn Before Message #398 - "Jesus Calls Us"

GALILEE

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer and Choral Response

Sharing the Peace

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 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)

Choral Selection – "Manger, Cross and Tomb" by Victor C. Johnson

Doxology - Hymn #95 – "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD 100th

Prayer of Dedication

Thanksgiving and Communion **(Please have your communion elements ready)**

Great Thanksgiving (AWA, 2022)

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Rejoice and be glad.

P: We praise God with joy.

L: Thanks be to God.

P: We thank God with our whole hearts.

We join with every creature in heaven and on earth, every creature under the earth and in the sea, to sing your praises. You created all that is, bringing forth goodness and new life. You are at work in our world still, transforming lives, healing brokenness, comforting those who mourn. Your people were not always faithful. They followed their own desires, lashing out in anger, forgetting those in need. You sent prophets to call them back to your paths, reminding them of your love, and telling them to care for one another. You were always faithful, for you loved your people.

L: And so, we join all creation as we sing praise to you:

P: Worthy is our God and worthy is Jesus Christ! Power and might be yours! Wisdom and honor be yours! Glory and blessing be yours! Amen and amen. Now and forever. Amen.

You gave us Jesus to walk with us and to show us your love. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and taught us your ways. He showed us the abundance of your love and reminded us to share it with others. On the night before his death, Jesus gathered with his followers, telling them to love one another. He shared a meal with them, taking bread, blessing it, breaking it, and giving it to them, saying, "This is my very being. When you eat this, remember that I am with you." He took the cup, blessed it, and gave it, saying, "This is the cup of forgiveness, poured out in abundance for you and for all people. As you drink this, remember that I am with you."

L: And so, we offer our very selves, with glad and grateful hearts, as we proclaim this mystery:

P: Christ was with us from the beginning. Christ is with us today. Christ will be with us until the end of time.

Send your spirit of abundant love upon these gifts of the earth, bread and wine. Transform them, by the power of your grace, into food for our bodies and nourishment for our souls. Send your Spirit upon us, and transform us by the power of your Wisdom, that we may become the body of Christ, feeding his lambs, and tending to his sheep. All praise is yours, God of power and might, wisdom and honor, glory and blessing. All praise is yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

Taking the Bread and Cup (Individual or families will take their bread and juice)

Prayer after Holy Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn #571 - "Go, Make of All Disciples"


LANDCASHIRE

Dismissal with Blessing

Closing Voluntary – "Go Forth With Joy" by D. E. Wion

Our Liturgist is Earl Boyd and our Reader is David Earl Boyd.

Zoom Sunday School begins at 12:30.

 **Prayer List.** ♥Christine Doeringer, ♥Rasheen Rutledge (cousin of Naomi Brown), ♥Richard Keller (son of Bert Keller), ♥Lisel (daughter of Evelyn Neber), ♥Carolyn O'Loughlin, ♥Our Military men and women here and abroad, ♥Mason Baker (cousin of Debbie Nicosia), ♥Sherry Schutt (niece of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Thornton Stone (father of Brian Stone), ♥People of Ukraine, ♥Amy Cooke (sister of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Roael Cooke (brother-in-law of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Ramona Morrison (daughter of Margo and Vincent Morrison), ♥Neil Allen (son-in-law of Margo and Vincent Morrison), ♥Avril Wallace (relative of Earl Boyd), ♥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), ♥Faith Pollack (friend of Sing Larson), ♥Emilia Peeples (granddaughter of Debbie and Joe Nicosia), ♥Alice Shubrick (friend of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Susan Short and her daughter ♥Sarah Short (friends of Nancy Wasek), ♥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, ♥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

NOTE: Church Council Meeting has been changed to Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

On Sunday May 8, 2022, **The United Women in Faith** (UWF) will be having a UMF Day Fundraiser Event during the Church Service.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!! We are having a Retirement Dinner for Pastor Nation on Thursday, May 19th. 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 were sent out. **RSVP is needed no later than May 9th.** 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.

What is Native American Ministries Sunday?

Native American Ministries Sunday serves to remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society and in our communities. With more than 20,000 Native Americans within the denomination, this Special Sunday helps to ensure that Native American United Methodist leaders are recognized and to celebrate their special voice in The United Methodist Church.

This Special Sunday was officially recognized in 1988 and has been celebrated on the Third Sunday of Easter since 1989. An offering is taken on this day and is used to develop and strengthen Native American ministries in the annual conferences, and Native American rural, urban, reservation ministries and communities. It also provides scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology.

Donations support vital ministries and churches in the Native American communities and allow The UMC to partner with existing native ministries to develop new programs on behalf of Native Americans. Half of the donations collected remain within the Annual Conference to provide hope to children and youth, hope for a brighter future in impoverished communities and a voice to those who have felt voiceless for years. This fund is distributed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

When you give generously on Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. You empower congregations to find fresh and culturally appropriate ways to minister to their communities with Christ's love.