

Grace United Methodist Church



March 1, 2023 – 7:30PM

Order of Worship LENT

Grace United Methodist Church is a Family of Faith
striving to share God's love with all.

*** Please Stand If You Are Able**

Opening Voluntary – “You are my hiding place” by M. Ledner
arr. Kenneth Richardson

Choral Introit

Welcome/Greetings

*** Call to Worship**

L: Come, children of God, rejoice in your Maker!

P: Sing songs and hymns, old and new; celebrate with voices and instruments, with praise and prayers!

L: Open your eyes to the life-giving presence of Jesus Christ. For God is already here, among us and within us, bringing new life to all who believe.

P: Let's praise God together!

*** Opening Hymn #128** – “He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought” *HE LEADETH ME*

*** Opening Prayer**

All-knowing and all-caring God, we gather this day drained by another week. We are like a parched desert, empty and in need of replenishment. Visit us with your presence, saturate us with your Spirit, and bathe us in your streams of living water, that our lives might acknowledge and worship you to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ. Amen!

Scriptures

Old Testament – Psalm 32

[1](#) Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. [2](#) Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. [3](#) While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. [4](#) For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. (Selah) [5](#) Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. (Selah) [6](#) Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. [7](#) You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. (Selah) [8](#) I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. [9](#) Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. [10](#) Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. [11](#) Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

L: The Word of God, For the People of God. **P: Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel – Matthew 18:10-14

[10](#) "Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven. [12](#) What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? [13](#) And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. [14](#) So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.

L: The Word of God, For the People of God. **P: Thanks be to God.**

* Hymn before Message #405 – "Seek Ye First"

SEEK YE

Message – "Lost Sheep"

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey L. Hooker, Pastor

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God of Eden's morning, we know that Lent is a hard time for us. In a culture which showcases success, you call us to sacrifice ourselves for others. In a world which promotes power, you invite us to deny ourselves. In a society which encourages us to 'feel good,' you point us to the struggles of siblings, the burdens others bear. By your mercy, forgive us, Hope of our lives. Remind us that as we journey with Jesus, we learn the steps of discipleship. As we listen to his call to obedience, may we learn how to say 'no' to all that tempts us. As we see his suffering, may we live out the good news which has come to us through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Words of Assurance

L: By ourselves, we would be easily controlled by sin and temptation. But God has given us the free gift of grace, and so we are set free to live as disciples.

P: **This is the gift which brings us hope; this is the gift which brings us joy; this is the gift which brings us life. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

Invitation to Tithes and Offering

With grateful hearts, let us share a portion of the bounty God has given us. We do so as an act of faith, and in support of God's work in the congregation and the world.

Solo Selection – “The 23rd Psalm” by A. H. Malotte
Soloist, Lisa Richardson

*** Presentation of Offering – Hymn #95**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*** Prayer of Dedication**

May the privileged always share with the forgotten, may the powerful learn the grace of humility, and may our generosity reveal our gratitude for all the blessings we have been given so we can share them with others. Amen.

Closing Hymn #670 – “Go Forth for God”

GENEVA 124

*** Benediction**

Closing Voluntary – “Allegretto” by E. Ashford

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey L. Hooker	Liturgist and Reader: Andrea Owen Boyd
Director of Music: Kenneth Richardson	Ushers: Everett Fitch, Carol Provenzano, Michael Provenzano



♥Victims of the Earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, ♥†♦Family of Christine Louise Doeringer, ♥♦Noah Castells (grandson of Elaine Treske), ♥♦Coleen Murray, ♥♦Loretta Lewis Zimmer and Bob Zimmer, ♥Ron Albretchsen (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Irene Misiti (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Charles Zipperlen, ♥Rosa Maria de la Cruz (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Leonides Hernandez (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Ekow Eshun and mom, Pat Eshun, ♥Juzer Kasubhai, ♥NYPD, ♥NJPD, ♥Kevin Brown (father of Naomi Brown), ♥†Family of Robin Geffken, ♥†Family of Sylvia Obeng (cousin of Pat Eshun), ♥Karen and Peter Kiernan, ♥Meagan Kiernan (daughter of Karen and Peter Kiernan), ♥Jennifer Morton, ♥Honey Knice, ♥Emma Donnelly, ♥Audrey Weaver and Family, ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Patricia Sullivan (friend of Jenifer Hartig), ♥Jim Poch, ♥All our Military men and women, ♥Ken Richardson, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥People of Ukraine, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥All UMW in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥David Biegler, ♥Iris Molina, ♥Olga Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske). **Note.** Prayer List names will continue to be listed for two weeks. After that period of time, the names will be removed unless you call us with current information. † - Death in family, ♦ - New entry

WEDNESDAYS LENT SERVICES SCHEDULE

March 1, 2023 Grace Valley Stream UMC: Service @ 7:30 pm Rev. Dr. Jeff Hooker
 March 8, 2023 Floral Park UMC: Service @ 7:30 pm Rev. George Mangan
 March 15, 2023 St. John's UMC & Floral Park UMC: Service @ 7:30 pm
 Rev. David Ball & Rev. Delroy Murdock (Service will be held at St. John's UMC)
 March 22, 2023 St. Mark's UMC Rockville Centre: Service @ 7:30 pm Rev. Shim
 March 29, 2023 St. Paul's UMC Inwood: Service @ 7:30 pm @ 7pm Rev. David Henry

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