

Grace United Methodist Church



January 21, 2024 - 10:00AM

**Order of Worship
Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

**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 – “I Lay My Sins on Jesus” by E. Broughton

Choral Introit

Welcome/Greetings

***Call to Worship**

L: God called to Jonah to get up, go to Nineveh and proclaim God's word.

P: But Jonah refused, until God called a second time.

L: God is persistent. God believes in those whom God has called.

P: Jesus called the disciples by the lakeshore.

L: They left their families and jobs to follow Jesus.

P: Lord, give us the courage to follow you all of our lives. Amen.

***Opening Hymn #577 – “God of Grace and God of Glory” CWM RHONDDA**

***Opening Prayer**

Loving God, for you alone our souls wait in silence. You are our shelter in the storm, our hope in times of trial. When our courage falters, be our rock and our fortress. When all hope seems lost, lift us up in the arms of your

salvation, that we might lift up others. Be our true home, O God, that silent place in our souls where prayers are answered and peace is found. Amen.

Children's Sermon – “The Jesus Way of Fishing”

Scriptures

Old Testament - Jonah 3:1-5, 10

3 The LORD's word came to Jonah a second time: ²“Get up and go to Nineveh, that great city, and declare against it the proclamation that I am commanding you.” ³And Jonah got up and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD's word. (Now Nineveh was indeed an enormous city, a three days' walk across.) ⁴Jonah started into the city, walking one day, and he cried out, “Just forty days more and Nineveh will be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and put on mourning clothes, from the greatest of them to the least significant. ¹⁰God saw what they were doing—that they had ceased their evil behavior. So God stopped planning to destroy them, and he didn't do it.

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

* **Gospel – Mark 1:14-20** (*Please stand if you are able*)

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, ¹⁵saying, “Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!”

¹⁶As Jesus passed alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷“Come, follow me,” he said, “and I'll show you how to fish for people.” ¹⁸Right away, they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹After going a little farther, he saw James and John, Zebedee's sons, in their boat repairing the fishing nets. ²⁰At that very moment he called them. They followed him, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired workers.

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

* **Hymn before Message #2036** – “Give Thanks” (Faith We Sing Hymnal)

GIVE THANKS

Sermon – “Leaving Nets Behind”

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey L. Hooker

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer and Choral Response

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we would rather proclaim death to our enemies, than see them forgiven and redeemed. Forgive our hardness of heart, O God, and our reluctance to see your divine image in those who hate and despise us. Teach us to love our enemies, that our lives may proclaim your truth—that love is stronger than hate, and mercy is greater than vengeance. We ask this in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news: Jesus came to save the world, not to condemn it. We who were dead to our sins have been raised to newness of life through Jesus who is the Lord of Life. Amen.

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Jesus comes to us, proclaiming the good news. He challenges us to acknowledge our wandering heart and to remember that we are loved. As children, forgiven by grace, let us take time now to extend peace to one another.

Invitation to Tithes and Offering

This is our time of offering, where we respond with gratitude to all that God has given us. Let us take a moment to consider what gifts we will bring and what commitments to action we will make this week.

Choral Selection – “Come to Me” by D. Forrest

*** Hymn No. 95 - Presentation of the Offering**

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, we ask you to bless the gifts we give this morning. We ask that you help grow the trust in us so that we might follow without looking back and we might leave behind more of our old lives to experience more deeply new life in you. Help us to leave our nets on the shore and leave those things that seemed essential before we heard the call, so that we might

travel the road you have put before us. In the name of Christ who goes before us and beside us, we pray. Amen.

* **Closing Hymn #438** – “Forth in Thy Name, O Lord”

DUKE STREET

* **Dismissal with Blessing**

Closing Voluntary – “Sing to The Lord a New and Glorious Song” by L. Smith

Please remain seated for the Closing Voluntary)

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey L. Hooker	Counting Team: Debbie Nicosia
Liturgist/Reader: Andrea Owen-Boyd	Ushers: Everett Fitch, Carol Provenzano, Michael Provenzano
Director of Music: Kenneth Richardson	Audio-Tech: Brandon Gauntlett



♥Carol Whyte, ♥Winston Scarlett (brother-in-law of Maudlyn Scarlett), ♥♦Patrick Curley (son of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥David Biegler, ♥Vivian (4 months old) Peeples and sister Emilia (4 years old) Peeples, ♥Mary Turbeville (cousin of Lenore Kurz), ♥Jennifer LaRochelle, ♥Michael Ciampi (friend of Kim Neri), ♥Peggy Robinson, ♥Michael Kurz, ♥Walter McKnight, ♥Vin Dowling, ♥Carolyn O’Loughlin, ♥Suella Fredrick (friend of Lorna McKenzie), ♥Juliana Bonds (sister of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Garvin Phillip (nephew of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Marilyn Eller (sister of Elaine Treske), ♥Irene Misiti (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Charles Zipperlen, ♥Emma Donnelly, ♥Jim Poch, ♥All our Military men and women, ♥Ken Richardson, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥All UMW in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥Iris Molina, ♥Olga Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Milly 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

REMINDER

Every Wednesday – Bible Study 7:30PM/Zoom

Every Saturday – Prayer Meeting 8AM/Zoom

The Zoom info is the same every week. A reminder is emailed with the Zoom info.

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

21 South Franklin Avenue, Valley Stream, NY 11580

Church Phone Number: 516/825-1182; Church E-mail: GraceVSNY@aol.com