



Altar Design and Photo by Gail Niles

Order of Worship
Second Sunday of Stewardship Season
“Giving Thanks in All Circumstances”

October 18, 2020

8:15 & 10:00 a.m.

Gathering of the Community

Welcome
Service Introduction and Announcements

Gratitude Testimony
Silent Prayer

Prelude

“Prelude Semplice”

James Southbridge

*Call to Worship

Each morning, God’s grace awakens us,
each evening, God’s peace cradles us.

**Compassion is our constant companion,
as we go through work, school, the day.**

In every moment, God is present with us;
God whispers words which can change our lives.

**Justice is our faithful teacher,
pointing to where we can carry out fairness.**

When we find ourselves groping in the shadows,
God's light will provide a way home.

**We turn the corner, and hope is waiting for us;
we return home, and find a feast prepared.**

*Hymn

“We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

Wir Pflügen

Refrain:

All good gifts around us
are sent from heav'n above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
for all God's love.

1. We plow the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand.
God sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain. [*Refrain*]

2. God only is the Maker
of all things near and far;
Who paints the wayside flower,
And lights the evening star.
the wind and waves obey God,
by whom the birds are fed;
much more to us, God's children,
God gives our daily bread. [*Refrain*]

3. We thank you, our Creator,
for all things bright and good:
the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food;
Accept the gifts we to offer
for all your love imparts,
accept what you most welcome:
our humble, thankful hearts! [*Refrain*]

*Opening Prayer

Steadfast Hope: when we want to make all the rules so we can win every game, you call us to your side, put your arm around us and whisper, “play fair!” When we tremble in fear, worried that our lives are about to crash to the bottom, you place us in the hollow of your heart, and give us safety.

Word of Joy: when we would follow those who pretend to be our saviors to achieve their own ends, you remind us that we have been chosen to be examples of faith to others. When we would fill our pockets with the treasures of temptation, you ask us to empty them, so we can become servants of hope.

Crafter of Faith: when others judge us on our backgrounds, education, looks, you teach us how to treat all people as equals, to welcome each person as our sister or brother. When we wonder how our needs, our hopes, our lives will be made known to God, you mention us, by name, in all your prayers.

**God in Community, Holy in One, we know you as Glory, Grace, Goodness, and lift our prayer to you.
Amen.**

Proclamation of the Word

Children's Hymn

“God We See What You Have Given”

Nettleton
Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
used by permission

We are stewards of your welcome
That you showed through Christ the Son.
In his living and his teaching,
Jesus welcomed everyone.
To the outcast and the stranger,
He showed hospitality!
By your Spirit, may we also
Give the welcome we've received.

Epistle Lesson

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

NRSV

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹ As it is written,

“He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹² for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³ Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴ while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

*Hymn #577

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Cwm Rhondda

1. God of grace and God of glory,
on the people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story,
bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;
free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness,
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

Sermon

“Circle of Grace”

Rev. Marti Swords-Horrell

Invitation to Offering

the October Jingle is for FSA Thanksgiving Baskets

Prayer of Dedication

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People Each prayer will end, “In your mercy;” please respond, “**Hear our prayer.**”

The Lord’s Prayer: One thing we ask, God in Community, Holy in One, hear us as we pray, saying: “***Our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, who art in heaven . . .***”

*Hymn #582

“Whom Shall I Send?”

Deus Tuorum Militum

1. Whom shall I send? our Maker cries;
and many, when they hear God’s voice,
are sure where their vocation lies;
but many shrink from such a choice.

2. For who can serve a God so pure,
or claim to speak in such a name,
while doubt makes every step unsure,
and self confuses every aim?

3. And yet, believing God who calls
knows what we are and still may be,
our past defeats, our future falls,
we dare to answer: Lord, send me!

4. Those who are called God purifies,
and daily gives us strength to bend
our thoughts, our skills, our energies,
and life itself to this one end.

The Good Word

Postlude

“Kingsfold”

Jason Krug

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Thank you for your continued gifts and tithes to the church!

*Today we collect the special offering for World Communion Sunday,
which was on October 4th. Your contribution funds World Communion
and Ethnic Scholarships and Ethnic In-Service training.*

Thank you for your generous gift!



From the Green Team

Vote!

COVID spotlights the necessity of acting early and decisively to ward off suffering and death. That insight applies also to the climate crisis. Early and decisive action on behalf of planet and people is essential. The sooner we act, the better. Speak up! Write letters to legislators. Vote for God's planet and people!

Are you ready to vote? Joyce Miller has Otsego County Absentee Ballot Applications and is willing to deliver to whoever needs one. Call her at 607.432.8751. Or you can email her at millerumw@verizon.net. COVID 19 is a valid excuse for requesting an absentee ballot in NY State.

This was in a recent Note from our DS, Rev. Nancy Adams. She will be our speaker next Sunday!

Friends, October is Pastor Appreciation Month. If you have not already done something for your pastor to show appreciation for all that he/she does for your congregation and beyond, please do so as soon as possible. Most pastors are working harder than ever due to Covid – learning new ways of using technology to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, being creative in encouraging those entrusted to their care, ways to stay connected during this time, learning and modeling the protocols for re-opening, etc. [Members of] the congregation [could] write notes of encouragement, give a gift card to a restaurant, send a bouquet of flowers, etc. - and of course, pray daily for your pastor. There are lots of ways to show appreciation, so please encourage your pastor in this way. Thank you! By the way, I hope October isn't the only time you show appreciation to your pastor...

PRAYER LIST – October 18th, 2020

Recovering or continuing in treatment: Irene Morrissey (at home);

Kathryn Roffe (Robynwood, 43 Walnut Street, Oneonta)

Focus Rehab: Bill Pharr (1445 Kemble Street, Room 207, Utica NY 13501)

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests will be published for 4 weeks. If you would like to extend a request, please call the church office to talk to the secretary or leave her a message.

- Ramona Leavey asks for prayers for her family & friends
- Ramona Leavey's neighbor, Wanita
- Ramona Leavey's friend, Mady
- Ramona Leavey's friend Mike
- Travis Walsh's mother Nancy, for health concerns
- Ramona Leavey's friend Fran Baldanza
- Ramona Leavey's friend Betty
- John, the man who sells cookies at the Farmers' Market in Franklin, who has cancer. He sends his profits to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.
- Ramona Leavey's friend, Mary LaForgia
- Ramona Leavey's friend Michael Joy
- David Jones

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: to *Helen Rees & Brandon Davis* on October 18; *Jason Franks, Honey Young, Roselyn Kinnick & Stefanie Paluch* on October 20; *Robert Bensen, Leslie Parmarter & Emma Maerz* on October 21; *Shirley Walker & Deb Kiakis* on October 22; *Scott McGowan & Helene LaHood* on October 23; *Sandra Currie, Rachel Rissberger & Maddox Hill* on October 24.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: to *Jennifer & R.P. Withington* on October 20.

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK – October 18th, 2020

- TODAY 8:15 am Worship by live stream through Facebook
 10:00 am Worship by live stream through Zoom — link by computer:
 https://zoom.us/j/195736049; or call on your phone: 1- 646-558- 8656 Meeting ID: 195 736 049.
 You will be admitted from the “waiting room”.
 11:00 am Coffee Hour & Fellowship via Zoom
- MON. 10/19 10:30 Book Group by Zoom-call Margaret Parish
- TUES. 10/20 Pastor Marti’s Sabbath in the morning
 10:00 am Committee on Lay Leadership by Zoom
 2:00 pm Bible Study by Zoom
- WED. 10/21 10:00 am Staff Meeting-by Zoom
 12:00 pm UMW Meeting by Zoom
- THURS. 10/22 10:00 am UMW Book Group by Zoom-call Sharry Strait-Carey
 12:00 pm Lectio Divina by Zoom
- FRI. 10/23 10:00 am Imagine No Racism class by Zoom
- SAT. 10/24 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday’s Bread Hot Meal Program
- SUN. 10/25 8:15 am Worship by live stream through Facebook
 10:00 am Worship by live stream through Zoom — link by computer:
 https://zoom.us/j/195736049; or call on your phone: 1- 646-558- 8656 Meeting ID: 195 736 049.
 You will be admitted from the “waiting room”.
 11:00 am Coffee Hour & Fellowship via Zoom

Reader.....	Margaret Parish
Choristers.....	Chancel Choir Members
Ministers.....	Every Member of First United Methodist
Upper NY Area Bishop	Rev. Mark J. Webb
Oneonta District Superintendent	Rev. Nancy Adams
Oneonta District Associate.....	Rev. George Gallandorm
Ordained Minister.....	Rev. Marti Swords-Horrell
Co-Lay Leaders	Gail Niles & Peter Paluch
Director of Music Ministries	John Jurgensen
Business & Facilities Manager.....	Jeff Gardner
Sexton	Randall Wilson
Secretary	Leslie Bauer
Volunteer Caretaker	Christopher Brashear
Child Care.....	Keshia Genzardi
Church Address	66 Chestnut Street, Oneonta, NY 13820
Church Office Phone	(607) 432-4102
Church email	secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org
Pastor Marti’s email	pastor@firstumc-oneonta.org
Pastor Marti’s cell phone.....	(315) 569-9156
Church web page.....	http://www.firstumc-oneonta.org