

ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 28, 2024

9:30 A.M.

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF LAKE RONKONKOMA

Rev. Karen A. Burger, Pastor

Dr. Rex Enderlin, Choir Director

Heather Edwards-Wilson, Organist & Youth/Children's Music Director

(* *Indicates standing if possible*)

WELCOME VISITORS!

Thank you for joining us today! We invite you to come grow with us at the United Methodist Church of Lake Ronkonkoma. If you do not have a church fellowship, we offer you ours. If you are a visitor today, please make yourself known to the pastor or an usher. You may find the Bible and Hymnals under the chairs.

Please turn off cell phones! Phones set on “vibrate” still interfere with our audio equipment and may cause feedback. Thank you!

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PRELUDE: “Deep and Wide” *Children’s Choir*

WELCOME & YOUNG PEOPLE’S MOMENT *Pastor Karen Burger*

INTROIT: “Spirit Divine, Attend our Prayers” – Richard Terry
Chancel Choir

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God looks with compassion upon all that God has made.

People: **All people and all living things are precious in God’s sight!**

Leader: God sees possibilities and potential, but also loves us just as we are.

People: **God’s love includes those we forget or push aside.**

Leader: God searches for those who are lost and seeks out those in need.

God transforms and heals. God’s love is amazing and works wonders.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***OPENING HYMN:** “There’s A Wideness in God’s Mercy” **UMH #121**

(Prayer cards will be collected at this time.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that we have given up on some people who have let us down or who have deep problems. Sometimes we have forgotten Your awesome power to change things in the blink of an eye or over time. Help us to see others as You see them. Help us to keep praying for those who have the most difficulty accepting help and yielding to Your work in their lives. We pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.

SILENT MEDITATION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

LORD'S PRAYER

ANTHEM: "We Thank You, Lord" - Nancy Price & Don Besig

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 (pg. 302)

¹⁵ The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. ¹⁶ For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die." ¹⁷ The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹ I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. ²⁰ But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death."

Mark 1:21-28 (pg. 1552)

²¹ They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²² The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. ²³ Just then

a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴“What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” ²⁵“**Be quiet!**” said Jesus sternly. “**Come out of him!**” ²⁶The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. ²⁷The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” ²⁸News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

The Word of God for the People of God

(Congregation Responds: *Thanks be to God!*)

***HYMN:** “Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior”

UMH #351

HOMILY: “Delight in God’s Wonderful Works!”

Pastor Karen

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND SELF

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY:** UMH #95

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy God, in thanksgiving for all of Your marvelous deeds, we offer our gifts and our lives in Your service. Use what we give to make a difference and to free others from the hold of evil and from the bonds of suffering. We pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN:** “I Need Thee Every Hour”

UMH #397

***BENEDICTION**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please use the microphone to be heard.)

***RESOLUTION HYMN:** “Shout to the Lord”

FWS #2074

***POSTLUDE**

GOOD MORNING!

Welcome to Our Worship Service!

MINISTERS

All the People.

SERVING TODAY

Lectors: Beth Ann Graff & Jady Llorenz

Ushers: Charles Bornschein and Keith Bowes

Greeter: Wendy Duffy

Today's coffee hour is served by members of the Choir.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please pick up your 2023 contribution statements after the service.
- Mark your calendar: Soup Sunday IX will be held on Sunday, February 11.
- Book Club: Monday, February 12 - "Winter Garden" by Kristin Hannah.
- UMM Retreat – March 1, 2, 3 at Quinipet.
- Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner – Saturday, March 16.
- \$75 deposit due for Women's Retreat – April 26, 27, 28 at Quinipet