

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

God of peace and justice, you have taught us to love our neighbors as ourselves, to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. Today we raise Israel and Gaza, Ukraine and Russia, and all parts of the world where people are suffering from war. Provide protection and comfort to the innocent who have been impacted. Transform the hearts and minds of all those who perpetuate violence and oppression. Grant wisdom to world leaders in advancing efforts toward world peace; may they not be compromised by self-interest and blind indifference. Stop the wars o, God. Amen.

*HYMN *How Great Is Our God* See Bulletin Insert

*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

As you leave this sacred space, go with an excitement to share all you have learned at the feet of Jesus.

FAREWELL *Go Now in Peace (2x)* UMH #665

POSTLUDE *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*
by Martin Luther/arr. Roger C. Wilson

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS



Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly
~Colossians 3:16

Community United Methodist Church
100 Park Boulevard
Massapequa, NY 11758

December 29, 2024

Reverend Sue H. Yun, Pastor Jeong-Hwa Park, Minister of Music
Stacey Longenberger, Secretary

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE 1st SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

10 a.m.

December 29, 2024

PRELUDE *Love Came Down at Christmas*
by Benton Price

INTROIT *This Is My Wish* Tyler Stankiewicz
Previously Recorded

WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD

GREETINGS

One: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: The risen Christ is with us.

All: Praise the Lord!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: May God increase our love for one another and strengthen our hearts in holiness,
as we greet one another in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you

All: And also with you

*HYMN *Lord, I Lift Your Name On High* TFWS #2088

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather this morning ready to listen.

All: Open our ears, Lord.

One: We gather this morning ready to learn.

All: Open our minds, Lord.

One: We gather this morning ready to love.

All: Open our hearts, Lord.

One: We gather this morning ready to worship.

All: Open our spirits to receive you, Lord.

One: We gather to praise the Lord Almighty!

OPENING PRAYER

**Holy one, as we gather today, may we be like young Jesus and Samuel—
eager to hear, eager to learn, and eager to minister to others. Meet us here in this
sacred space. May our hearts and minds be open to your call, as we worship and praise
your holy name. Amen.**

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES “Children’s Message” Rev. Sue H. Yun

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF YEARNING

**God of love, we long to hear your voice, but sometimes block our ears to the true
words of love you speak into our lives. You offer words of love and acceptance,
but we find reason to ignore them or withhold them from others. Be tolerant and
forgive us in your love. For we yearn to find your perfect bond of unity in our
relationships with one another and with the world. Amen.**

A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

When you feel like no one understands, sit at Christ’s feet. Ask the hard questions
and listen for the answers. God will speak. You are not alone. You are loved.

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

THE OLD TESTAMENT: 1 Samuel 2:18-20

THE NEW TESTAMENT: Colossians 3:12-17

THE GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Jesus is Missing!” Rev. Sue H. Yun

INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

God has given us so much. May we, in turn, bear good fruit for God’s world. In praise
and thanksgiving, let us open our hearts and offer our gifts to God.

WEEKLY OFFERING & NOISY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Manger Throne* Tyler Stankiewicz
by Phil Wickham, Tony Wood, & Jonathan Smith Vocal Soloist

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #95

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**God of generosity, may your peace and your love seep into our hearts and our
offerings, that we might become shining examples of your light in a dark and
hurting world. Thank you for your many gifts— this gift of community,
the enthusiasm for learning, the power of generosity, and the gift of love.
May our gifts and our very lives bring your blessings to the world. Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS