

Dear Church family,

We will have In-person and Online Worship on **Sunday, November 12, 2023, 10am.**

Online Worship

Website: www.littlefallsumc.org

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@lfumc

You can join Online Worship using your home phone or cell phone.

Call 646-876-9923; enter the Meeting ID 917 9067 6301; and enter the Passcode 139139.

Sunday Scriptures

Psalm 145:1-9, 13-21 and John 6:1-14

Today's Message! 'Abundance in Community: Sharing What You Have'.

If you have any concerns and joys and want to share them with the congregation, and ask the church to pray on Sunday, please let me know! You can email, call, or text me. Or you can submit your prayer concerns and joys here: www.littlefallsumc.org/prayer

Your generous financial support is significant and appreciated very much.
We have continued our ministries with your support.

You can support God's ministry in three ways:

1. Put your offerings in the plates at the Offering Station at the in-person Worship
2. Mail your offerings and tithes to the church office: 139 Main St. Little Falls, NJ 07424
3. Make online donations at www.littlefallsumc.org/donation

Again, we appreciate your generosity very much.

Please see the bulletin for other announcements!
Have a good day! See you on Sunday!

Pastor Jin

Little Falls United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship Service

November 12, 2023 - 10 am



139 Main Street, Little Falls, NJ 07424

Office Phone: (973) 256-0993

Website: www.LittleFallsUMC.org

Email: Info@LittleFallsUMC.org

***“A Welcoming Community of Faith, Hope,
Mission and Outreach Sharing Christ’s Love”***

“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World”

**“I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,
to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God,
which is your spiritual worship.” (Romans 12:1)**

Called to Praise

‡Prepare your heart and body for Worship

Greeting & Announcements

- We have ‘**In-Person**’ & ‘**Online Worship**’ on **Sunday, November 12, 2023, 10am.**
- You can join our online worship via YouTube or Facebook. Type “Little Falls United Methodist Church” in the search window on YouTube or Facebook. Please use the link below to join in Online Worship. YouTube: www.youtube.com/@lfumc
- You can join the Online Worship by your phone. Call (646)-876-9923 and enter the Meeting ID, 917 9067 6301, and Passcode 139139.
- **Prayer Concerns & Joys** – If you would like to share your concerns and joys with the congregation, please email Pastor Jin (jkim@littlefallsumc.org) or complete the online form, www.littlefallsumc.org/prayer.
- **Altar Flowers** – Thank you **Linda Timms** for providing the flowers **In Memory of Jason Timms**. If you would like to offer the altar flowers, please contact Janet (973) 896-8936 or ladyteddy@aol.com.
- **Fellowship Time after Worship** – Let us enjoy a good fellowship time every Sunday after Worship. Please help us with hosting the coffee hour. The Sign-up board is on the table in the Narthex. Please contact Cheryle or Kathy F. if you have any questions about the coffee hour.
- **Stewardship Campaign for the year 2024** – We are on the Stewardship Campaign for our church ministry for the year 2024 on **October 29, 2023**. Our offerings and tithes are an expression of our faith as we put our first priority in God’s ministry in our lives. Our offering and tithes are a form of self-denial, a form of worship, a means of serving, a way of recognizing that all of life is a gift, an attempt to give back, an expression of love and gratitude, and a means of following Jesus. Please participate in this campaign with your generous, faithful hearts. **We will dedicate our pledge cards on Sunday, November 26.** God Bless you as you fill out the pledge card and mail it back, drop it off at the church, put it in the offering plate, or add it to the Pledge Box on the Narthex.
- **Prayer Meeting** - We will have our Prayer Meeting in **the Chapel at 1:30 pm**. Meeting Date **December 6**. Terrie and Ken will lead the meeting. Please keep this prayer meeting in your hearts before our Lord, that we are open to his guidance and faithful to follow through.
- **Coffee and Bible** – We will start a new season of *Coffee and Bible* on **Thursday November 30th** at 1 pm, at Lee Lounge. We will study **the Book of Ecclesiastes** in the Old Testament in the Bible and have a conversation, having coffee for 12 weeks. Jung Ae will lead the study. Sign up online or contact Jung Ae,

cclim92@gmail.com. Please join us!

- **Holiday Fair** – We will have our annual Holiday Fair at church **on November 18th from 10 am to 3 pm**. Please Join us! Help us! Invite all to the Holiday Fair!
- **Treasured Memories** – “Treasured Memories” is a grief group for those who have lost their loved ones. The ongoing meeting gathers every **2nd Wednesday of the month** in Lee Lounge at 7 pm. Contact Allison for details (973) 800-4152.
- **Kids & Youths For Christ** – The next meeting will be held at 5 pm on **Thursday, November 16**. Kids & Youths For Christ is a program for Kindergarten to grade 12 of Christian education and fun activities. K.Y.F.C. will get together every first and third Thursday from **September 21, 2023 to June 6, 2024**. All Students are welcome!
- **Thanksgiving Baskets** – UMW gives Thanksgiving Baskets to the clients of the food pantry every year. Linda T. is starting to collect food for the Thanksgiving baskets. Please contact her to sign up.
- **Online Donation** – Online donation is available now. Please visit the church website and click ‘Donation.’ The link is www.LittleFallsUMC.org/donation. Your financial support and generosity are greatly appreciated and essential for our church ministry and mission. Please consider sending your tithes and offerings to Little Falls UMC (139 Main St. Little Falls, NJ 07424). You can send your offerings and tithes to the church every week. Or you can send offerings and tithes for a month with a check. Thanks again for your generosity!
- **Shoprite Gift Card** – To purchase a Shoprite gift card, contact Pete (973) 595-5765 or detroit50@aol.com.
- **Kohl’s Gift Card** – We are selling Kohl’s Gift Card. Contact Allison.
- **LFUMC FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED** - Many families depend on the Food Pantry on a regular basis. The Pantry needs the following non-perishable items; canned vegetables, peanut butter, jelly, adult/children’s cereal, pasta & sauce, instant potatoes/rice, tuna, chicken, sardines, fruit, apple sauce, juice, and granola bars.
- **SOCKS FOR SOULS - Do your feet get cold?** Please help Unity Circle to provide new or gently used socks to the homeless. There is a constant need. Please drop off your socks in the large white sock in the Narthex.
- **Ongoing Collection** - UMW collects postmarked stamps, can pull tabs, and the front of greeting cards (No Hallmark). Items are donated to different charities and organizations.
- **The UMW is collecting lunchbox snacks and juice boxes for CUMAC and Oasis during the month of October.** Donations can be placed on the marked table in the Narthex. Thank you in advance for supporting this mission project!

‡Call to Worship

Leader: We gather today hoping to be fed by God.

All: Sometimes we worry that what we have is not enough.

Leader: Jesus fed thousands with just five loaves and two fish; God will feed us today.

All: The little we have is enough for God to receive, bless, and multiply.

Leader: God will provide enough for us and others.

All: Glory to God. Amen

‡Praise Song

God Is So Good

TFWS 2056

Verse 1

God is so good

God is so good

God is so good

God's so good to me

Verse 2

God cares for me

God cares for me

God cares for me

God's so good to me

Verse 3

God loves me so

God loves me so

God loves me so

God's so good to me

Verse 4

God is so good

God is so good

God is so good

God's so good to me

Children's Time

‡Hymn of Prayer

Change My Heart, O God

TFWS 2152

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true

Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.

You are the Potter, I am the clay.

Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true

Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.

Pausing for Silent Prayer and Confession

Prayers of the People (Response: God, in Your Mercy, hear our prayers.)

I plan to pray this as God leads me that morning, so I don't prepare the prayer ahead of time.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Called to the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today.

All: Amen

OT Lesson

Psalm 145:1-9, 13-21

**The Greatness and the Goodness of God
Praise. Of David.**

- ¹ I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- ² Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
- ³ Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.
- ⁴ One generation shall extol your works to another
and shall declare your mighty acts.
- ⁵ They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works I will meditate.
- ⁶ They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.
- ⁷ They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
- ⁸ The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- ⁹ The LORD is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.

- ¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
The LORD is faithful in all his words
and gracious in all his deeds.
- ¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who are falling

and raises up all who are bowed down.
15 The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.
16 You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.
17 The LORD is just in all his ways
and kind in all his doings.
18 The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.
19 He fulfills the desire of all who fear him;
he also hears their cry and saves them.
20 The LORD watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.
21 My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.

***This ends the OT Lessons.
Let us turn to the Gospel Lesson. Please stand, if able.***

Gospel Lesson John 6:1-14

Feeding the Five Thousand

6 After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. 2 A large crowd kept following him because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. 3 Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. 4 Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. 5 When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” 6 He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. 7 Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” 8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, 9 “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” 10 Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place, so they sat down, about five thousand in all. 11 Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” 13 So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. 14 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

This is the word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Message Abundance in Community: Sharing What You Have
Lay Servant, Glen Flannagan**

This morning we continue to reflect on our Stewardship campaign, and I would like us to focus on our community here at Little Falls and the ways we can share what we have with each other. We need to believe that, although at times we may each face some form of scarcity, Jesus receives what we offer, blesses it, and provides for us and through us,

As I prepared this morning's message, I reminded myself of an act of simple generosity bestowed upon me by a total stranger. Going into a local convenience store one morning recently, I held open the door into the store for a woman and wished her a great day. A few minutes later, as she exited the store, she tapped me on the shoulder while I was waiting in line at the register and smiling broadly said to me "I got you!" and she left. When I reached the register, the store clerk told me that this woman had already paid for my coffee. I was speechless...and grateful. She was driving away as I left the store, so I never got to personally thank her, but her simple act of generosity turned out to be contagious as just a few days later, I had the opportunity to pay for the coffee of an elderly woman struggling to put her loose change together to pay for her coffee. Also my friend Sean and I often run into each other around the same time in the morning and take turns paying for the other's coffee (even when I sneak in a buttered roll on the days he is paying).

Generosity can come through the spirit flowing through community. I see how often the Little Falls women go beyond these 4 walls to help make life better for folks who are in need. Even now as cold weather rapidly sets in, collections have begun for hats, gloves, mittens, and socks. The food pantry seems to be growing larger each time I visit, and more and more people are able to get food they need to help keep themselves and their families fed and healthy. Dedicated prayer times and afternoon Bible studies offer new and old families alike support and education. These and other selfless acts of service provide us the opportunity to share the abundance God has blessed us with.

In our Gospel reading today, Jesus was speaking to a crowd that was experiencing scarcity, but look at what happens when, in trust, we bring what we have to God for blessing and multiplication. This crowd was sick and wanted healing. They were living under Roman occupation. They were there because they were in need. It is in this context that Jesus shows how God can multiply our gifts to provide for those in need, the community. Jesus doesn't make food appear out of nowhere; he takes the generous gift of the little boy, which did not seem like "enough" for the crowd and multiplies it to feed everyone and then some. Likewise, Jesus asks us to bring what we have to the table and let him do the rest.

Jesus could have easily prayed and called down bread from heaven without involving anyone else. But he used people, including a boy and his lunch, to meet the needs of other people. If you know Jesus, he wants to use you and me to meet others' needs in today's world as well. And when Christ uses you to meet the needs of others, he always provides a basketful of leftovers for your needs. Even though he can provide more than we need, we shouldn't waste it. What should come forth is the satisfaction of the fulness of Christ in our souls; then the Lord's blessing is on us. When we yield to him what we perceive are our inadequate abilities and gifts to use as he pleases, he will satisfy us with a full measure of Himself. We will have food to eat that others know nothing about.

Take a few moments now and reflect on the gifts you can offer up to LFUMC in the coming year. That is the essence of a Stewardship campaign. The reality of the need for careful Stewardship includes our estimates of how we can give financially to the operation of the church - this includes the physical building and its upkeep which our Trustees can attest to cannot be done without the financial gifts along with the gift of hours of volunteer labor which is also a vital piece of the care of the building. Our offerings spread out and allow us to continue our outreach to those who are hurting as well as presenting new and exciting ministries and

groups which will lead to church growth and prosperity. Sound decisions by empowered leadership can only take place when we know the gifts we have to work with.

In working with the folks at Trinity, I came up with a motto for them to follow and repeat as needed... "I DON'T SEE HOW IT'S GOING TO WORK, BUT I'LL GIVE IT ALL I GOT".

To me it provides an answer to any skepticism you might be feeling about the road ahead in stewardship, but it concludes with the optimism that you are committed to the cause and will do all it takes to get the job done

It is going to take faith and commitment on our part. We can either sit and do nothing, and, like Phillip, only think in terms of why we cannot or will not be involved and have success or we can be like Andrew and say, "I don't see how it's going to work but I'll give it all I got!" Which of these approaches do you think will find success and be pleasing to the Lord? Secondly, we need to understand that God can accomplish wonders with anyone! If we allow the Lord's will to become ours and seek to accomplish His work as we allow Him to direct our lives, then good success will result in some form or another. Welcome to unexplored and challenging territory - all are called, and all are needed to respond. Amen

Called to Share

Response to Our Generous God

‡Doxology Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

‡Prayer of Dedication

All: God of abundance, sometimes we have to learn how to have faith in the in-between. When there doesn't seem to be enough, show us how your people take care of each other. When we fear to share what we have, show us the grace of receiving an unexpected gift. When we hang on tight for later, just in case, show us that you are in this very moment. In these ways, teach us to give, to share, to offer ourselves for your kingdom work. In Jesus Christ's name we pray. Amen

Called to the World

‡Closing Hymn The Summons TFWS 2130

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known?
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

‡Benediction

Lay Servant, Glen Flannagan