

Dear Church family,

We will have In-person and Online Worship on **Sunday, October 1, 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

Exodus 17:1-7 and Matthew 21:23-32

Today's Message! 'Remember and Trust'.

We will have Holy Communion during Sunday Worship on October 1, 2023.

The elements will be given to those who are in the Sanctuary.

Online Folks, please prepare a piece of bread (or a Cracker) and a small cup of juice (or Water) as the elements of Holy Communion before worship.

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

October 1, 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, October 1, 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.
- **Holy Communion** – We will have Holy Communion during ***Sunday Worship on October 1, 10am.*** If you plan to join us Online service, please prepare Holy Communion elements, Bread (or a cracker) and Grape juice (or water).
- **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** – If you would like to offer the altar flowers, please contact Janet (973) 896-8936 or ladyteddy@aol.com.
- **Fellowship Time after Worship** – Thank you **Lynn Wielinga** for hosting the coffee hour. 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.
- **Church Conference** – We will have **the Church Conference at 10:30 am on Saturday, October 7, Saturday by Zoom.** The Zoom Link will be emailed when we receive it from the GNJ Annual Conference.
- **Prayer Meeting** - We will have our Prayer Meeting in **the Chapel at 1:30 pm.** Meeting Dates on **October 4, November 8, and 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 have Bible Study every **Thursday, September 14 to November 16,** at 1 pm, at Lee Lounge. We will read the ***Book of Revelation (Part 2)*** in the New Testament in the Bible and have a conversation, having coffee. Jung Ae will lead the study. Sign up online or contact Jung Ae, cclim92@gmail.com. Please join us!
- **Young Adult & Family Gathering** – We will have a Young Adult and Family Gathering on **Sunday, October 8, at the parsonage after Fellowship, from Noon to 1:30pm.**

- **Church Wide Yard Sale** – Thank you everyone, for your help and support!
- **Post Confirmation Meeting for Youths – Sunday, October 15** at 5pm in Lee Lounge.
- **SAVE THE DATE! – Baked Potato Dinner, Saturday, November 4.**
- **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 2023-2024 Season of Kids & Youths For Christ will begin at 5 pm on **Thursday, September 21**. 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!
- **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 will sell Kohl’s Gift Card until it is sold out. We will not reorder Kohl’s gift cards due to the change of the policy of the gift card usage.
- **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!

- The church secretary will be out of the office from October 3-6. The church office will be closed.

‡Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us worship God who provides for us.

All: Even though we whine and complain, God hears our cries.

Leader: Lift your voices in praise, for God has come to comfort you.

All: Thanks be to God who forgives and heals our wounded souls.

Leader: Come, celebrate God’s steadfast love.

All: Open our hearts, O Lord, and let us truly listen to your words. AMEN.

‡Praise Song **Open the Eyes of My Heart** **Worship & Song 3008**

Chorus

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
open the eyes of my heart,
I want to see You, I want to see You

Verse

To see You high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love
as we sing holy, holy, holy.

Bridge

Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see You.

Children’s Time John Baptize Jesus Matthew 3:1-17

John was born just before Jesus was. They were cousins. When John grew up, he lived in the desert and ate bugs and honey. John told the people about God. they asked him many questions about what is right and what is wrong. John told them to be good and kind and honest. John preached about God’s forgiveness. Many people decided to follow God. John Baptized the people in a river. John told the people to get ready for a special person who would save them from their sins. One day Jesus came to the river. John knew Jesus was that special person. Jesus told him, “I need to be baptized by you.” John was surprised, but Jesus said, “It is right for you to do this.” So John took Jesus into the Jordan River and baptized him. The Holy Spirit came down from heaven in the form of a dove. It landed on Jesus. Jesus smiled. Then God said, “This is my Son, and I love him. I am very pleased with him.”

‡Hymn of Prayer **All I Need Is You** **TFWS 2080**

Verse 1

All I need is You
Jesus all I need is You

You are the source
Of all I need
All I need is You

Verse 2
All I want is You
Jesus all I want is You
You are the source
Of all I need
All I want is You

Verse 3
My only hope is You
Lord my only hope is You
You are the source
Of all I need
My only hope is You

Pausing for Silent Prayer and Confession

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

Lord of hope and healing, you have heard the cries of our hearts. You know that we do want to serve you, and yet when things get tough, we buckle and cave in. We lack the courage and strength to work for you. You have reminded us that you will be continually with us and we need to place our trust in that fact. Your love will sustain and heal us. Your mercy and grace will give us courage and strength, joy and peace. As we have come before you this day, offering our prayers for those near and dear to us, let us remember that you constantly lift and carry us in your love. Bring us to the knowledge of your mercy and powerful love that will never leave us. Prepare us for ministry in areas of need and desolation. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. 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

Exodus 17:1-7

Water from the Rock

17 From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. **2** The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" **3** But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" **4** So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." **5** The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. **6** I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. **7** He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

This ends the OT Lessons.

Let us turn to the Gospel Lesson. Please stand, if able.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:23-32

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" **24** Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. **25** Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?'" **26** But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." **27** So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

28 "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' **29** He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. **30** The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. **31** Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. **32** For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Message

Remember and Trust

Rev. Jin Kook Kim

Good morning, Church Family. I hope you had a blessed week in God's love and grace last week. Last Sunday, we considered Jonah's story. Jonah had always been under God's grace

and mercy, but he didn't want God to give God's grace and mercy to others, his enemies. However, God taught him that all people, even Jonah's enemies, were God's children, and God was concerned and cared for them. Church family, I hope we don't grumble or complain to God about God's goodness to others, even though they are our enemies. Instead, let us bless them and ask for God's grace and mercy for them. Because God has been faithful to us and has shown God's mercy and grace in our lives. The same faithful and merciful God wants to love His children and show His grace and mercy to them, even though they are not who we think are our enemies. We have been under God's grace and mercy, so let us love all and be kind to all, thinking of God's love and grace that God has shown us.

I have three kids. It is a blessing to have kids and live with them, but it is not always easy. As my children grow, what they need becomes more and bigger. When they were babies, they just needed love and care, along with food and a hug. As they grow, they need more toys. They want to have or do something more and bigger. As parents, my wife and I give them what they need. They are happy when they have what they want. Sometimes, we don't give them what they want because it is not necessary from our perspective. Then, they complain to us. Have you had such a moment in your life?

The experience makes me think of my relationship with God. God loves me and cares for me always. Do I complain to God about what I don't get from God in my life? Do I think God does not love me anymore because I didn't get what I want from God? Do I think God is not with me because of what I don't get from God? How about you? Have you ever complained to God about what you didn't get from God? Have you ever thought God is not with you or that God does not love you anymore because of what you don't get from God?

In today's scripture, the people of Israel complained to Moses because they didn't have water and were thirsty in the wilderness. They said to Moses, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" We understand their situation and their anger. They were in danger because they were almost dead due to the lack of water. However, they shouldn't have said that. In fact, they were complaining to God because God was the one who brought them out of Egypt, and Moses was the person whom God ordered to do so. Even their lives in Egypt were not good at all. Egyptians oppressed the Israelites a lot at that time. They suffered. God heard their cries and pains and called Moses to save them. God loved them and cared for them, so God saved them from the hands of Egypt. God led them with the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire. God made a dry path by dividing the Red Sea to save them. Even right before this situation where they didn't have water, they had another situation where they didn't have food. At that time, they complained, saying the same words, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us with hunger?" and God gave them food, Manna, and quail, and said, "You shall know that I am God, your Lord." God had been faithful to the Israelites, but they forgot God's salvation and provision, God's love, and grace, and complained to God over and over when they were in trouble. Through salvation, God gave them freedom and a new life. Isn't it big enough for them? Isn't God's grace sufficient in their lives? God had cared for them and wanted them to know who God was: The faithful God, the loving God, the caring God. However, they forgot God's grace and complained to God whenever they faced new trouble, rather than remembering God's works for them and asking for God's help.

Church family, what do you think? Are we like them or not? Like them, do we complain to God about what we don't get from God? As you and I believe, God gives us life. God created us in His image so that we have life. God saved us from sin and death through Jesus Christ on the

cross and let us be free from sin and have a new life in God. Life is God's grace. Life is God's mercy. God gives us life, not only through creation but also through the salvation in Jesus Christ on the cross. That's big and huge. That's enough and sufficient. However, that's not all. God loves us and cares for us. God has provided us with what we need in our lives. I testify that my life was provided by God. I can be here because of God's provision in every moment of my life. I, myself, and my life, are the testimony of God's provision, care, and love. How about you?

Jesus said, "God, your heavenly father knows what you need. So, don't worry about anything, what to eat or drink, or clothing." God knows what we need and gives us what we need. Sometimes God's provision is different from what we expect. When the Israelites asked for bread in the wilderness, God gave them manna which they had never seen before. It was like white coriander seed, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey. It was a new bread for the Israelites given by God and created by God. God provided them with the best thing in their lives at that time, although it was not what they expected. Likewise, God provides us with what we need, and it is sometimes different from what we expect, but I am sure that what God provides us is better than what we expect or want; actually, it is the best for us. God provides us with the best all the time.

Church family, let us remember God's creation and salvation. God created us in God's image, gave us life every day, and saved us from our sin and eternal death through Jesus Christ who died on the cross for us. We are not slaves to sin but children of God. God's grace is enough and sufficient. That's not all. Let us remember God's provision in our lives, in every moment of our life journey, and faith journey. God knew what we needed, and God has provided us with what we needed. Let us remember the grace of God. When we remember God's salvation and provision, we can trust in God for His provision and care, although we don't know how God works for us at this time. This is because God has shown us that God is our Lord by providing what we need. Let us remember and trust in God who gives us life and offers us His provision every time.

In the Book of Habakkuk, the prophet Habakkuk prayed, "Though the fig tree does not blossom and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation." (Habakkuk 3:7-18). He praised God and rejoiced in the Lord, although he didn't have any food, livestock, and other things for his life. He could praise God although his situation was not good because he knew who God was, God who was going to save him, God who was going to provide for him.

In what ways can we remember God's grace? Recall the moments in your life. Journal your stories. Read the Bible, which will help you recall God's grace in your life. And listen to hymns, and Christian contemporary music, that are someone's testimony of God's grace and mercy in his or her life. I hope all of us remember God's salvation and provision, care, and love, and trust in God all the time. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AND HOLY COMMUNION

Response 1

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Response 2

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Response 3

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: Holy God of infinite patience and grace, we bring our offerings today knowing that our actions too often don't live up to our intentions and aspirations. When calling ourselves Christians, we announce ourselves as followers of Christ, knowing how many times our choices have made us unrecognizable as his disciples. Yet you wait patiently for us to find our way back to the path. May our giving this day and our living reflect our desire to be on the path that would be recognized as faithful to the Savior, in whose blessed name we pray. Amen.

Called to the World

‡Closing Hymn God Will Take Care of You UMH 130

Verse 1
Be not dismayed whate'er betide
God will take care of you
Beneath His wings of love abide
God will take care of you

Chorus
God will take care of you
Through every day o'er all the way
He will take care of you
God will take care of you

Verse 2

Through days of toil when heart doth fail
God will take care of you
When dangers fierce your path assail
God will take care of you

Verse 3

All you may need He will provide
God will take care of you
Nothing you ask will be denied
God will take care of you

Verse 4

No matter what may be the test
God will take care of you
Lean weary one upon His breast
God will take care of you

‡Benediction

Rev. Jin Kook Kim

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. The grace of the Lord Jesus