

Dear Church family,

We will have In-person and Online Worship on **Sunday, October 22, 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

1 Corinthians 3:6-11 and John 2:1-11

Today's Message! 'Pour Water'.

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 22, 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 22, 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 **Betty Caceres** for providing the flowers **In Honor of Loved Ones**. 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 **Lorraine & Dee Dee of Bethany Hope** 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.
- **All Saints Sunday** – We will observe All Saints Sunday on the First Sunday in November, **Nov. 5, 2023. Please bring a photo of your saints who showed you the model of Christian faith and gave you the legacy of faith and put the photo on the table at the altar before the service.** We will commemorate them.
- **Walk by Faith** - We will go to the community to give out our church brochure on **Saturday, October 28th, at 11:30 am.** Please join us and let us share the Good News with others and invite them to the church for a faith journey.
- **Prayer Meeting** - We will have our Prayer Meeting in **the Chapel at 1:30 pm.** Meeting Dates on **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, November 5, at the parsonage after Fellowship, from Noon to 1:30pm.**
- **Baked Potato Dinner, Saturday, November 4. Tickets are on sale now.**
- **SAVE THE DATE! – Holiday Craft Fair, Saturday, November 18. 10am to 3pm.** Homemade Baked Goods, Christmas Decorations, Gifts, Personalized Christmas Ornaments, Jewelry, Houseplants, Handcrafted Pottery, Handmade Necklaces & Scarves, Local Honey, Lunch & More! Including outside Vendors! Contact Cheryle: cmitchell354@gmail.com. **More information to follow!**
- **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 2nd.** 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: Celebrate God's love, which has been poured into your life!

All: Forgiveness, encouragement, support, and healing are gifts of God to us.

Leader: God requires our faithfulness and our service.

All: We reach out to others with the same kind of love with which God has touched our lives.

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord who is always with us.

All: Let us praise God who walks daily by our side. AMEN.

‡Praise Song

This Is The Day

UMH 657

Verse

This is the day

This is the day

That the Lord hath made

That the Lord hath made

Let us rejoice

Let us rejoice

And be glad in it

And be glad in it

This is the day

That the Lord hath made

We will rejoice and be glad in it

This is the day

This is the day

That the Lord hath made

Children's Time

Jesus' First Miracle

John 2:1-11

Jesus went to a wedding with his mother Mary and his Disciples. Mary heard the servants say, "There is no more wine. What can we do?" Mary told the servants, "Do what Jesus tells you to do." Jesus said, "Fill up six jars of water. Dip out a cup and give it to your master." When they did, they saw wine instead of water! The servants were amazed. When their master tasted the wine, he told the groom, "You have saved the very best wine for last!" The disciples were also amazed. This was Jesus' first miracle.

‡Hymn of Prayer

You Are Mine

TFWS 2218

I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice,
be still and know I am here.

I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light,
come and rest in me.

Refrain

Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine.

I am strength for all the despairing,
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name.

Refrain

I am the Word that leads all to freedom,
I am the Peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name, embracing all your pain,
stand up, now walk, and live!

Refrain

Pausing for Silent Prayer and Confession

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

Lord, we enter these “gates” with thanksgiving and praise. Many of us have come with burdens, seeking your healing; others have come with joys, celebrating the goodness and blessings that abound. Each one is welcome here. We know that there is much work to be done in this world. Injustice, greed, isolation, alienation all exist when we have forgotten to be your people of peace. As we have spoken the names of people who are dear to us, seeking prayers for their needs, let us also remember to be faithfully working for you in all that we do. Help us give to you our complete faithfulness. Teach us to be good citizens of your kingdom here on earth. Be with us as we go from this place. For we ask this 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

NT Lesson

1 Corinthians 3:6-11

⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷ So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. ⁹ For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building. ¹⁰ According to the grace of God given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Let each builder choose with care how to build on it. ¹¹ For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.

This ends the NT Lessons.

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

Gospel Lesson

John 2:1-11

The Wedding at Cana

² On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ³ Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ⁴ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁵ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come." ⁶ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁷ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁸ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁹ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet." So they took it. ¹⁰ When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom ¹¹ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹² Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Message

Pour Water

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, Paul delivered God's message to us. "We are all called to serve." I hope we remember that we are all called to serve along with that God is with us and God loves us so

much. Our service is for God's kingdom and glory. God works in us, our church, and in the world through us and our service. Let us do our best to serve God and God's ministry.

My kids put toys, books, papers, and other things everywhere in the house. My wife and I told them to bring whatever they used to play with back to the original place all the time. However, it never happens. They always bring toys, books, and other things to the living room and play with those and leave them in the living room. They can do that within five minutes right after the living room is cleaned and organized. So, it feels like cleaning the living room is meaningless.

We sometimes feel that doing something is meaningless because we cannot see the good result, or we see that the good result does not last long. Have you ever felt any of your work or effort for something is meaningless? When? How? What did you do? Did you stop doing that or keep doing that?

In today's scripture, Mary, Jesus' mother, Jesus, and his disciples were invited to a wedding. Mary found that the host of the wedding was in trouble because the wine he prepared for the wedding banquet was gone in the middle of the party. Mary asked Jesus to help him. Although Jesus said to her, "What concern is that to me or to you?" Jesus listened to his mother and began to help them. What Jesus did was to order the servants of the house to fill six big stone jars with water. Can you guess what the servants thought about the order when they heard Jesus' order? The servants knew that they needed wine but the order they got from a guest, Jesus, was to fill the big jars with water. That doesn't make sense at all. If the order for them is to go to a market or store to buy all the wines and bring them to the house, that makes sense. They would think, "What would this be for? Why does this guy let us fill the jars with water? He cannot make wine now at this time. Even, this is not the process of making wine at all" As you know, they didn't have a water faucet at home at that time. To fill the jars with water, they had to go to the well with buckets to get water. Not just one or two times but many times. What would they think if they went too well and came to the house to fill the big jars with water? If I were them, I would think it is meaningless or worthless to do that because the work of filling the jar with water would not solve the problem of the shortage of wine at the party.

Last month, Lynn, Pete, Terrie, Jung Ae, and I went out to the community to post the church brochures and a keychain on doors in the community. We named it "Walk by Faith." We had two purposes: going out and posting the church brochures on doors in the community. One is to share Good News, Gospel so on the page, we wrote "God loves you so much. God is with you and cares for you. God's love and grace have been with you." We wanted to tell them or remind them of this truth. The second purpose is to invite people to church and to the faith journey with us. Also, there were two reasons that we began this ministry. First, proclaiming Good News to local people to make disciples of Jesus Christ. The church's main mission and the most important mission is to proclaim the Gospel and serve people to know God's love and to begin their faith journey. The second background is to have people. As you know, we need more people. So, we wanted to invite people to the church by giving them information about programs and ministries that we have. When we had conversations to plan the ministry, we didn't expect a great result. Rather, we realized it would not be effective. However, we did because this was what we were able to try. This was the one of ways that we could carry out Jesus' great commission: "Go to the world and make disciples of Jesus Christ."

The servants filled the jars up to the brim with water as Jesus ordered. In fact, they couldn't choose to do that or not because they were servants. The next order they received from Jesus was to draw some out of the jars and let the host taste it. That didn't make sense at all. They poured water in the jars so whatever they drew out of the jars should be water. However, when the host tasted it, it was wine, not just wine but a good quality of wine. Jesus worked and made a miracle. Servants' work on filling the jars with water seemed meaningless and did not solve the problem. Pouring water to fill the jar seemed meaningless in the sight of the servants or any other people but it was meaningful because Jesus worked in that way. Jesus worked and water in the six stone jars changed to wine. What a wonderful work Jesus made. Jesus worked when the servants worked. Although the servants couldn't understand or expect Jesus' way to work on it, Jesus worked in Jesus' way and made miracles.

After we posted the church brochure, two visitors joined our Sunday Worship each Sunday. Both were coming from the apartment community where we posted the church brochure on doors. One of them said she always wanted to visit us although she is a church member in another town, and she has attended every Sunday since she was a preschool student. Another person told me that he recently moved to Little Falls, and he came to us after he received our church brochure. They didn't become regular attendees, and our result does not look good but I don't think our work on the ministry is not effective or meaningless. At least two people responded to our ministry, Walk by Faith. Think about this. In what ways can we invite people to join Sunday Worship rather than other events or programs? Moreover, while I posted the church brochures on doors, I saw that a man came to his apartment door where we already posted the church brochure and the key chain. When found the brochure and the key chain, he stood at the door for a while and read the message on the brochure. After he finished reading, he took them and brought them into his home. What I saw from him was that people read the message. Rather than throw it out right away without reading it, people read the message that we want to deliver. And I believe God works in them although we cannot see how God works in them.

I know this is not a dramatic result, unlike Jesus' miracle to change water to wine. However, I believe this ministry is meaningful to proclaim the Gospel and invite people to our church family. This coming Saturday, October 28, at 11:30 am, we will go out to post the church brochure and key chains. Please join us. Let us proclaim Good News to the people and invite them to the church. Let us carry out God's will according to Jesus's Great Commission by practicing this ministry together. It would be like pour water in the jars, but it is meaningful because I believe God will walk with us and God will work in people's hearts in God's ways. Church Family, let us walk by Faith together! 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, source of every good gift: the tithes and offerings we bring to you are simply a token of our desire to walk more closely beside you. We give, knowing that “rendering unto you what is yours” would mean leaving everything at your altar – all we have and all we are. We are not there yet, but with your help, we are on the road to getting there. Bless what we give; may it speak words of compassion, mercy, and love as it empowers your mission and ministry. We pray this in the powerful name of Jesus, whose light we seek to follow. Amen.

Called to the World

‡Closing Hymn

Go Forth for God

UMH 670

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
in God's good spirit daily to increase,
till in the kingdom we see face to face.
Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.

Go forth for God, go to the world in love;
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak,
help the afflicted; richly from above
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.
Go forth for God, go to the world in love.

Go forth for God, go to the world in strength;
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;
render to no one evil; Christ at length
shall overcome all darkness with his light.
Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.

Go forth for God, go to the world in joy;
to serve God's people every day and hour,
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

‡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 Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. Amen