Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 26, 2025

9:30 a.m. at First UMC 11:00 a.m. at Old First UMC

*Congregation is invited to rise if able and comfortable.

Readings in **BOLD** are to be read in unison. **Hymnals: UMH is Red or Purple-TFWS is Black-W&S is Green**

Please note that this service is being recorded and viewed on social media.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE This is Amazing Grace (9:30)

Riddle

As you settle into the sanctuary, please open your phone and share the live service from your Facebook page as a way of inviting the larger community to worship.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (9:30) More Like You TFWS 2167

More like you, Jesus, more like you.

Fill my heart with your desire to make me more like you.

More like you, Jesus, more like you.

Touch my lips with holy fire and make me more like you.

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Come and hear the good news.

No matter what is happening in our lives, God's blessing and love is here.

Come and hear what God wants you to do:

to live lives of justice, love, and truth in God's name.

Come and get courage and strength to be fools for Christ, embracing Kingdom values rather than those of the world.

We're here, ready to listen, open to change, expecting to be blessed by our time together.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF THE CHRIST

We invite you to turn to the person next to you and greet them saying,

"Peace be with you."

You are invited to respond by saying,

"And also with you."

*SONG OF PRAISE

Your Grace is Enough (9:30)

W&S 3106

Gather Us In (11:00)

TFWS 2236

CENTERING PRAYER

With thankful hearts we pause this day to be reminded of our grandest hope: that the calamities, the demands, even the blessings of this world do not have the last word. You are the one who was and is, and who is yet to come—a ruler of a different kind. Open our hearts to the comfort, the challenge, and the mystery of this good news. In the name of Jesus Christ, your faithful witness, we pray. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC (9:30)

No Matter What
Praise Team

Stevenson

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

FASCINATION AND FAITH (9:30)

Our youngest disciples are invited to come forward for a special message before heading to Sunday School.

As they come forward the congregation is invited to sing...

Where Children Belong

TFWS 2233

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.

Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:

This is where children belong.

EPISTLE LESSON

2 Corinthians 4:8-12

Pew Bible NT 180

For the Word of God in Scripture For the Word of God among us For the Word of God within us

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:10-12

Pew Bible NT 4

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Blest Are They

TFWS 2155, vs.5

Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom. Shine for all to see.
Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

SERMON

Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith

Blessed are the Persecuted

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SHARING OUR PRAYERS

At the **9:30** service, you are invited to name your prayers for the congregation. After each prayer request, the congregation will respond...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

PRAYERS FOR All GOD'S BELOVED PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO THE MINISTRY OF GOD

MISSION MINUTE

Hope School

*PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

UMH 94

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, you bless us in so many areas of our lives - in places we often fail to recognize as blessing. Help us have eyes to see and hearts to understand the depth of your love and blessing. Today, we give out of that blessedness, dedicating ourselves to lives of justice and love, giving all that we are and all that we have to bring about your beloved community, here and now. Amen.

*SONG OF DEDICATION

Grace Alone (9:30)

TFWS 2162

Lift Every Voice and Sing (11:00)

UMH 519

*SENDING FORTH

*LIGHT OF CHRIST LEADS US INTO THE WORLD

Christ Beside Me

TFWS 2166, vs. 2

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me shield in the strife;
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising light of my life.

*POSTLUDE

Please join us in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and fellowship.

An Adult Study is offered in FUMCO's Wesley Hall at 11:00 a.m.,

located on the lower level of the building

Our Service Of Worship Has Ended.
Our Worship Through Service Begins.

ALTAR FLOWERS AT FUMCO

Given by Susan McRae in loving memory of her mother, Jeanne Killian & her aunt, Barbara Davis.

Given by Bonnie McNamara in appreciation of Pastor Jill & her family.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Welcome to this service of worship. We pray this service offered an opportunity to engage with the Divine. If we can be of service to you in any way, please let us know. If you are looking for a church to call home, please consider joining together with us, where we help each other grow in faith, love, and service.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION-FUMCO

- There are **hearing devices** to assist you to experience the service more clearly, with our streaming team, in the rear of the sanctuary. Feel free to pick one up.
- A **rocking chair** is available for the comfort of parent and baby, in Blair Chapel, behind the pews.
- To access the **restrooms**, please exit the side door to the right of the lectern/chancel area. In the hall, make a left into Fellowship Hall and follow the signs.
- There are **infant changing tables** available in the restrooms.
- Large print hymnals are available. Please ask the usher for one if needed.

The United Methodist Church is a Global and Connectional Church which welcomes and invites the church communities to share resources and ministries. The First UMC of Oakhurst and Old First UMC have been linked with the invisible thread of heritage and now by their pastor, Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith. All are invited to share in all our joint ministries, missions and prayers shared in this bulletin.

This Week We Hold in Prayer...



The UM Church, our bishop, Cynthia Moore KoiKoi, our church leadership & ministry, our friends, neighbors, community, world, all God's children.

COMFORT & HEALING: Avery Fallon & family, Bill Strong, Kristine & family, the Steneck family, the Debruin family, George Eitel, Don Whittaker, Ed Ahrens, Terry Frazier, June Holder, Debbie, Arlene Shaw, Rose Byrne, Jackie Gilman, Ed Foran, Charles, Ginny & Vicky OUR HOMEBOUND: David Miller, Bev Itell, Jean Gillette, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Elaine Gould SUNNYSIDE AT WALL: Nancy Burtt

**FUMCO has a team of prayer warriors, known as the Prayer Chain.

If you have a prayer need, please contact the FUMCO office.

**If you know someone who is in need of pastoral care, please contact our pastor, Jill Hubbard-Smith 732-209-4563 or revimhs@gmail.com.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAMS THIS MORNING

Greeter/Usher at 9:30: Pamela Lynch/Jim Scisco
Acolyte at 9:30: Joy More
Lay Reader at 9:30: Timothy Haider
Lay Reader at 11:00:

Counters at 9:30: Mary Bailey, Cheryl McLoughlin, John Montgomery

Counter at 11:00: Donna Ahrens

ANNOUNCEMENTS-FUMCO

Advent Booklets: For many years we have compiled a booklet of devotions for the season of Advent. These devotions are written by our members, friends, & family. It is time to collect those devotions. Not many have come in and the deadline is fast approaching: November 8th. Please prayerfully consider participating this year. Send your devotions to Diane Maher, dianeserine07712@yahoo.com.

World Thank Offering: Every year from November to November, the UWIF participates in this mission project and they are hoping the congregation will participate as well. For information, please see *The Cornerstone*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-OLD FIRST

Administrative Council Meeting: November 2nd at noon.

Mission Trip to WV: January 24th-31st. All are welcome to participate. No particular skills needed. There is something for everyone to do. Contact Robyn Korsen, robynpt21@comcast.net if interested.

Please Join Us In Mission and Ministry

where together we help each other grow in faith, love, and service.	
FUMCO: First UMC at 103 Monmouth Rd.	Old First UMC: 197 Locust Ave.
Today	
Fellowship Time – Fellowship Hall	10:30 a.m. FUMCO
Adult Sunday School – Wesley Hall	11 a.m. FUMCO
Service of Worship in Person & Posted	11 a.m. Old First
Charge Conference – St. John's UMC	1:30 p.m.
Monday, October 27	
AA – Wesley Hall	7:30 a.m. FUMCO
Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m. FUMCO
Tuesday, October 28	
Women's Covenant Group – Library	8:30 a.m. FUMCO
Java With Jill – Blue Swan Diner	10 a.m.
Naranon – Wesley Hall	11 a.m. FUMCO
Scouts – Fellowship Hall	7 p.m. FUMCO
Wednesday, October 29	
AA – Wesley Hall	7:30 a.m. FUMCO
Thursday, October 30	
Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m. FUMCO
Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary	6:30 p.m. FUMCO
OA – Wesley Hall	6:30 p.m. FUMCO
Friday, October 31	
AA – Wesley Hall	7 p.m. FUMCO
Sunday, November 2 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIM	IE
Service of Worship in Person & Online	9:30 a.m. FUMCO
Fellowship Time – Fellowship Hall	10:30 a.m. FUMCO
Service of Worship In Person & Posted	11 a.m. Old First
Adult Sunday School – Wesley Hall	11 a.m. FUMCO



First UMC of Oakhurst

...is a community of faith committed to Christ, seeking to learn the needs of others and responding with Christian love.

9:30 a.m. Worship Every Sunday Morning In Person & Streaming

103 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755 732-531-1150

FUMCOakhurst@outlook.com

Oakhurst.umcchurches.org

Like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/FUMCOakhurst

Follow us on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchofOakhurst CCLI #1588788

Pastor: Rev. Jill Hubbard-SmithSecretary: Joy MoreDirector of Music: Denise FurdaSexton: Lisa Costello

Streaming Team: Chip Stoll, Rob Crowther, Johnny Tocci

Director of Wesley Nursery School: Noel Worthington

Music Director Emeritus: Gary Farquhar



& Posted to Facebook

197 Locust Avenue
West Long Branch, NJ 07764
office@oldfirstumchurch.org

Pastor: Rev. Jill Marie Hubbard-Smith Music Director: George Murphy Sexton: Bill Strong Administrative Assistant: Donna Ahrens

Streaming Team: Alex Eckert & Justin Wortmann