



**March 19, 2023**  
**9:00 am**

***Welcome to worship today! Thanks for coming!***

*Succasunna United Methodist Church is a caring fellowship called to love and serve according to Jesus' example, welcome all people, worship God, and grow as Christian disciples.*

***LOVE. SERVE. GROW.***

**THEME 2023**

*"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you,  
and you will be my witnesses." (Acts 1:8)*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP  
Jennifer Antoncich

PRAISE SONGS  
Praise Band

GREET EACH OTHER

LENTEN MOMENT  
Jocelyn Hughes

WHAT'S GOING ON?  
Stephen Fifoot



SCRIPTURE READINGS  
Psalm 100 & ESTHER 4:12-17

Stephen Fifoot

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jessica Bourdette

MESSAGE

"If I Perish, I Perish"

Rev. Hun Choi

PRAYER SONG

Praise Band

*As we pass the offering plates, let us offer our gifts and hearts to God.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Stephen

**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.**

\*SENDING SONG

Praise Band

\*BLESSING

Pastor Stephen

**The flowers today are given by Sandy Sestak,  
in memory of Donald, Charles, and Joseph.  
Forever in her heart**

### **Scriptures for Daily Reflection**

March 20, Monday: Psalm 19  
March 21, Tuesday: Psalm 20  
March 22, Wednesday: Psalm 21  
March 23, Thursday: Psalm 22  
March 24, Friday: Psalm 23  
March 25, Saturday: Psalm 24



## **Psalm 100**

<sup>1</sup> Shout for joy to the LORD, everyone on earth.

<sup>2</sup> Worship the LORD with gladness.

Come to him with songs of joy.

<sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD is God.

He made us, and we belong to him.

We are his people.

We are the sheep belonging to his flock.

<sup>4</sup> Give thanks as you enter the gates of his temple.

Give praise as you enter its courtyards.

Give thanks to him and praise his name.

<sup>5</sup> The LORD is good. His faithful love continues forever.

It will last for all time to come.

## **Esther 4:12-17**

<sup>12</sup> When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, <sup>13</sup> he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. <sup>14</sup> For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

<sup>15</sup> Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: <sup>16</sup> "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

<sup>17</sup> So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions.

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO GUEST SPEAKER REV. HUN CHOI**

Today we welcome Rev. and Mrs. Hun Choi, a missionary to Ukraine, who will share a message with us. We will hear him witness how God has worked through his missions for the people of Ukraine even during the war.

## **SPECIAL FELLOWSHIP HOUR at 10am**

Please join us after this service for a Special Fellowship Hour sponsored by the Worship Committee. There will be interactive educational stations regarding Lent & Easter events and light refreshments to enjoy.

## **EASTER EGG HUNT – Sunday, April 2**

Save the date for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 2 at 12:15pm. All are welcome!

## **DONATIONS FOR EASTER EGG HUNT**

We are looking for candy, crafts, food & decoration donations for the Easter Egg Hunt. Contact Tami Haupt at [education@sumcnj.org](mailto:education@sumcnj.org) if you would like to volunteer to help with the hunt.

## **LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & LESSONS**

Our Wednesday night Lenten Soup Supper series will continue on Wednesday, March 22 (thru March 29 from 6pm-8pm). This is a family event where a light meal (Soup and Bread) is served and followed by a lesson from the book "Finding Jesus in the Psalms" by Barb Roose. This week's theme is "Finding Jesus as Our Strength," based on Psalm 69. Children are welcome.

## **CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PRAYERS ON THURSDAYS, 4 pm - 6 pm**

Does anyone in your life need prayers? You don't know what to pray for? The Holy Spirit who dwells within us intercedes for us with wordless groanings (Romans 8:26). Come and find the quiet center in the presence of the Holy Spirit. The church will be open for prayers on Thursdays between 4 to 6 pm. Stop by the church for a time of prayer as we seek to be empowered by the Holy Spirit together as a church!

## **ROXBURY FOOD PANTRY**

To prepare for Easter needs, through Easter, we will support the Roxbury Food Pantry by collecting hams and lasagna and healthy children's snacks such as granola and cereal bars and dried fruit boxes and pouches. Please contact Peggy Groh or Linda Diffley for your donations ham & lasagna donations. Otherwise, donations can be placed in the bin by the back door of the church.

## **2023 SUMMER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

SUMC is excited to be able to hold our annual Vacation Bible School this summer the week of July 17-21, 2023. The theme this year is "Hero Hotline". See Friday weekly email for registration information. Registration is now OPEN!

## **YOUTH GROUP BOWLING EVENT**

Our youth will enjoy going bowling on Sunday, March 26 at 2pm. Please contact Jennifer Antoncich if interested at [jantoncich@sumcnj.org](mailto:jantoncich@sumcnj.org)

## **WE NEED YOUR 2023 GRADUATES!**

Do you have someone in your family who is graduating from middle school, high school, or college this year? If so, please contact the church office by email at [office@sumcnj.org](mailto:office@sumcnj.org) or 973-584-7349. We will then ask you to fill out of form to tell us about your graduate as we celebrate their success.

## **SUMC STAFF**

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Angie Stierch, Praise Band Leader  
Caryn Porter, Administrative Assistant  
Aura Smith, Sexton