**Production Team**: Larry Crandell, Bob Aiello, Bob & Jamie Olcott

**Production Team email**: production@horseheadsumc.org

**Music Director:**  David Peckham

**Liturgist:** Bob Solsky

**Greeters:** Doris Vaughn

**Ushers:** Guerry and Alberta Howard; Chad Miller

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Jeff McDowell

**Pastor’s Email:** pastorjeffmcd@yahoo.com

**Secretary:** Sandy Crane

**Church Phone:** (607) 739-1943

**Web site:** www.hhdsumc.org

**Email:** office@horseheadsumc.org

See us live on Facebook & You Tube, Sundays at 9:30am

Check us out anytime on our Web site, You Tube or Facebook

Facebook: Horseheads United Methodist Church

You Tube: Hh 1st United Methodist Church

**Sermon Theme:**

Life after Easter continues, just like every year of our lives. Even before we were born, this momentous event changed our world and our ability to come boldly to the throne of God’s grace and find help. The light has come into the world through Jesus of Nazareth, the Savior. But we often live as though Christ was not raised from the dead. We live in darkness when there is light all around us, as during a solar eclipse. We let the pain of our own sin convince us that God mainly wants to punish us instead of redeeming us. Much of this low self-image comes from an inaccurate view of all that Christ has done for us. Easter tells us that Christ died for us when we were still sinners; that we died to our old selves and live as new people. Don’t let worry, unbelief or a focus on your weakness keep you in the dark. Come to the light of Christ shining brightly on you and believe that He is living inside you. The Eclipse of the heart is over. The Son is shining once again.

 ***“ Working Together with All to Connect to God’s Love”***

 ***“Working Together with All to Connect to God’s Love.”***

 **First United Methodist Church of Horseheads**

**April 14, 2024**

**Greeting and Announcements**

{as this service begins, please use the white prayer cards on the pew-back in front of you if you want something read aloud from the pulpit. During our first hymn, the Ushers will collect cards to be read aloud.}

**Prelude:** The Blessed Christ is Risen                      J.S. Bach

**\*Call to Worship**

**\*Hymn:** Easter People, Raise Your Voices #304 UMH

**\*Unison Prayer:**

Leader: Praise be to God!
**People: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,**
**who has visited and redeemed the people.**

Leader: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
**People: Blessed be the name of the Lord.**
Leader: Tell the timid to take heart.
**People: The Lord our God will come!**
Leader: We wait for the word of the Lord as we wait for the rains
**People: and our God shall come down upon us like gentle dew.**
Leader: The hills and the mountains will be singing praise to God.
**People: Every tree in the forest will be clapping its hands.**
**The Lord will come and rule for ever. Alleluia.**

God of light and source of beauty, you are the one to brighten our darkness. You give us the rainbow after the storm and the daffodil to cheer our morning. God of light, kindle a flame in us. Let us be expressions of your love and instruments of your peace. Source of beauty, awaken in us that holy space that knows wonder, awe, and amazement. God of light and source of beauty, we are shy in your presence, undeserving of your favor. Yet you love and care for us. You lavish grace upon us beyond measure, overflowing every expectation. We bow before you and rise to praise you. Amen.

**Joys and Concerns**

**Silent Prayer**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer (on screen)** p.#895

**Gift of Music:** The Tallis Canon                                arr. by Douglas Wagner

**Young Disciples’ Time**

**Scripture:** Psalm 4 p. #490

 Leader: The word of God for the people of God

***People: Thanks be to God!***

**\*Hymn:** Be Thou My Vision #451 UMH

**Scripture**: Luke 24:36-48 p. #91

 Leader: The word of God for the people of God

 ***People: Thanks be to God!***

**Sermon: Eclipse of the Heart**

**Offering**

**Offering Music**            Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song              James Biery
**Doxology**

**\*Hymn:** Christ Is Alive! #318UMH

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude:** Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen                        Keith Kolander

 [Please feel free to be seated and enjoy the Postlude}

 \*indicates please stand, if able UMH = red hymnal

 FWS =   black songbook

**Ou8e4**

**Announcements April 14, 2024**

Flowers on the altar are given to the GLORY OF GOD and in memory of Dean Neubauer by Kim Neubauer

The rose on the altar is given to the Glory of God and in honor of Christopher James.  Parents Christopher and Sarah Woodard,  sister Adelaide Woodard, grandparents Robert and Jamie Olcott, Great grandma Jean Paul

**April Calendar**

**15t**h: 9am, Quilting, FH

**16th**: 1pm, Worship Team, SCR

**17th**: 12pm, United Women in Faith, LCR

 2pm, Missions, LCR

 6:30pm, Staff Parish

**20th:** 3pm, Choir Practice

**Holy Grounds Kitchen:**  Please find in the entranceway a sign-up sheet for donations of food and kitchen volunteers for the week of the rummage sale.

**Newsletter:** Please let the church office know if you have not received the email with the monthly newsletter at any time. (The newsletter is sent out once a month, usually the last week of the month.) If you would like to be on the email list for the newsletter, and any other emails we need to send out, please send an email to the office at: office@horseheadsumc.org. If you would like to put something in the newsletter, please email or bring it to the office by the third Wednesday of the month. You can also find printed copies of the newsletter in the Narthex.

**Bulletin Boards**: Please find outside events on the Bulletin Board by the water fountains in the Narthex. You can find the Monthly calendar for all church Altar Flower sign up calendar hanging on the bulletin board by the kitchen doorway. United Women in Faith bulletin board changes each month, so please check it out. If you have a food panty donation, you can find the cart sitting beside the United Woman in Faith area.

**Stephen Ministry:** If you know of someone who would benefit from having a Christian caregiver for one hour a week, contact pastor Jeff at pastorjeffmcd@yahoo.com Care receivers are individuals in the congregation or community who are going through a crisis or life difficulty. Potential care receivers first meet with a pastor or Stephen Leader, who assesses their needs for care and matches them with a Stephen Minister. The caring relationship lasts for as long as the need persists. You can request a sit-down conversation with our pastor or other leader by filling out a referral form located on our website and on the ledge outside our church office.

**Casowasco Summer Camp** registration is now open! We will help you with the costs to attend! Go to https://Casowasco.org for information. Camp for children ages is available! Contact Pastor McDowell for more information about our scholarships.

**Nursery Good News!** As Sarah will be on maternity leave, we have openings for volunteer adults to help staff our nursery. Please sign up just outside the nursery or speak with our Lay Leader Jan Przybylski.

**Annual Spring Flower Sale!** It’s almost time for the 37th annual Flower sale.   We have added new hanging baskets, new colors to old favorites and old favorites returning this year. We will be back in the Narthex for taking orders April 21st and April 28th, all orders must be turned in by Sunday, April 28. The orders may be turned in at the office, handed to Judy or myself or preferably mailed to Carol Crandell, 243 Scottwood Avenue, Elmira Heights, NY 14903. The orders need to be received by April 28th. Please remember to make your check out to First UMC with flower sale on memo line. *The 2024 profits will be donated to the Trustees for the kitchen update project.* Thank you for your continued support of this fundraiser. God Bless, Judy Augustine, and Carol Crandell (Forms may be found in the narthex.)

**Methodist Laity Team:** Save the date for an Earth Day worship celebration on April 22, 2024 at the Webb Mills United Methodist Church, 1623 Pennsylvania Ave. at 6:30.  It will be an Earth Day Worship Experience with Rev. Corey Turnpenny from Church in the Wild, sponsored by the Elmira Operations Team, made up of laity members from Webb Mills, Horseheads, Big Flats, and New Beginning Methodist Churches.  See you there.

**Rummage Sale:** The United Women in Faith sponsor our annual rummage sale. All money raised goes solely for the many missions we support. Thank you for all your support with this event. The Spring Rummage Sale will be May 1,2,3. See the guidelines below for bringing your items. Thank you. UWF

RUMMAGE SALE GUIDELINES:

We will have our Spring rummage sale with the following guidelines for people who would like to donate items:

**No** items are to be brought to the church until Friday, April 26,2024 after 10:00am

**Please do not** put anything I the church garage or leave outside the church doors.

**All items must be clean and usable**. This includes clothing, children’s items, kitchen items, etc.

**We cannot accept TV’s, computer equipment, mattresses, bed pillows**.

**We cannot pick up large pieces of furniture** – you will need to bring the items to the church.

RUMMAGE SALE DROP OFF DAYS AND TIMES

 You can bring items on Friday, April 26, after 10:00am

 Saturday, April 27 and Monday, April 29 from 9:00am – 4:00pm

 Tuesday, April 30, 9:00am – NOON (no items accepted after noon)

 RUMMAGE SALE BEGINS:

 Wednesday, May 1 - 5:00pm – 8:00pm Full Price

 Thursday, May 2 – 9:00am – 4:00pm ½ Price

 Friday, May 3 – 9:00am – Noon $2.00 pr. Bag

 Wednesday evening, we are offering a free dinner from 5:00pm – 7:45pm

 Holy Grounds Kitchen Staff will be selling food on Thursday and Friday during the sale.

 Prices will be posted. NO PRE SALES!

Food Pantry needs: Chicken Broth, Cans of Black Beans, Jiffy Corn Bread