



Please join us after worship today in the Parlor for Coffee Hour and fellowship.

New! The church has received a beautification grant from the Lunenfeld Foundation in the amount \$450. **THIS IS A MATCHING GRANT.** For those who are able, kindly help us raise the \$450 in matching funds by including an extra gift in the morning offering (please indicate "Garden" on the envelope). The monies will be used to purchase 4 concrete urns for our church entrances, and a Blue Spruce for our front lawn.

Save the Date! Chicken BBQ Dinner and Strawberry Festival
Thursday June 13, 2024 from 4-7pm
We'll need LOTS of volunteers so please mark your calendar today.

Kenmore United Methodist Church Food Pantry for the month of April: Canned tuna or chicken, Rice, Cereal, Spaghetti sauce & pasta, Peanut butter, canned vegetables and soups.

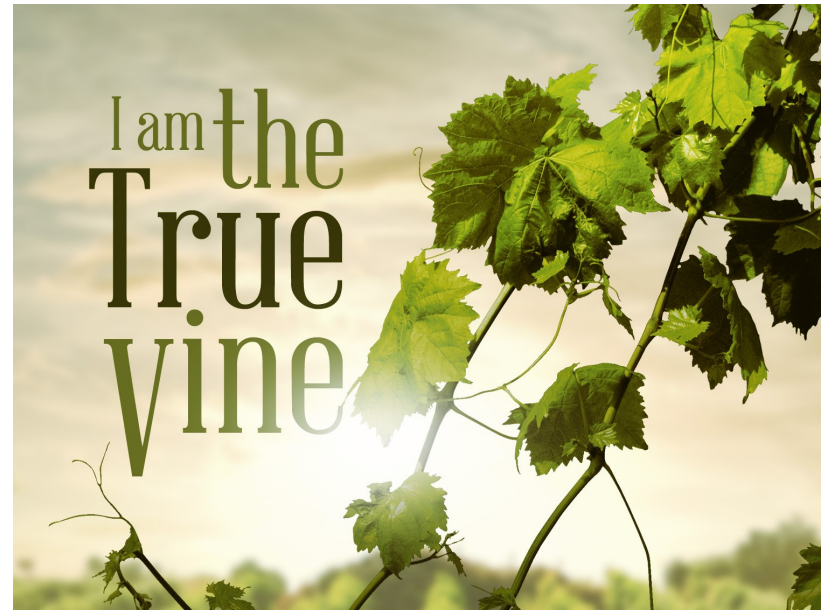
Please continue to bring your food offerings each Sunday. Betty Murphy is our volunteer who transports your donations, and we're grateful for her ministry! Some great ideas for donations include:

Last day to purchase geraniums for Mother's Day! Geraniums are for sale! Pink, white or red. They are 4 1/2" pots and are \$7 each. **Buy 12 and they're \$6 each! Fill out your order form** which is included in this bulletin and either **put it in the collection plate or give it to Shirley Byczynski.** Make check out to CPUMC and make sure to put 'geranium plants' or 'geranium sale' in the memo line. **The flowers will grace the altar on Mother's Day May 12.**

Weekly Coffee Hours: There are two ways you can help!
Sign up to **DONATE** refreshments, like cookies or fruit. OR...
Sign up to **HOST**, meaning set-up and cleanup.
BOTH are essential to this ministry of hospitality.
The sign-up sheets are in the Narthex. Any questions?

Mary Lou Frost is our Hospitality Coordinator. E-mail Mary Lou at mlfrost@verizon.net or call her at (716) 694-6136

New! Thursday morning prayer in chapel at 8:30am. Join us each Thursday morning for 1/2 hour of devotions. Use Beard Ave. entry.



April 28th, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Central Park United Methodist Church
216 Beard Ave. ~ Buffalo NY 14214

Website: centralparkcomplex.com

E-Mail: help@centralparkcomplex.com

Clara's Closet Website: clarasclosetbuffalo.org

Rev. Mary A. Kelly, Pastor

Mr. Matthew Caputy, Minister of Music
Lector/Eucharistic Minister: Ms. Kristine Aldrow
Videographer: Ms. Betty Murphy

We are a Christ-centered community of faith and love, reaching out to all.

The flowers at the altar today are designed by Jackie Paterniti and given by Memo Oshei, in loving memory of Mary and Bob Oshei.

Prelude: Intermezzo, Op. 118 No. 2 Johannes Brahms

+Call to Worship: Dr. Lisa Hancock
Easter people, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, the life-giving Vine.

We abide in Love, the life-giving Vine.
We are branches of the Vine—sustained, nurtured, and pruned by Love.

We have no life apart from Love, the life-giving Vine.
When we make our home in the Vine, and the Vine makes a home in us, we bear the fruit of Love.

We produce the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine.
Easter people, how shall we bear the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine?

We will love and learn to love as we rest, play, work, and build community with God and one another. Amen.

+Opening Hymn: “Gather Us In” Insert

Opening Prayer of Confession (Unison): 2012 Abingdon Worship Annual
Merciful One,
you know when we are afraid to love;
you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy.
Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears.
Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love,
even in the face of our imperfections.
Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth toward perfection,
that we may cast aside our pride
and embrace the power of love.

Words of Assurance: 2012 Abingdon Worship Annual
Christ is the vine. We are simply branches.
If we abide in Christ, Christ’s words will abide in us.
Ask for whatever you wish in Christ’s name
and it will be granted.
In the name of Christ,
you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

In the name of Christ,
you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

A Time for Children

Ms. Jackie Paterniti

Choral Anthem: “Create in Me” Johannes Brahms

Listen, the voice of God is calling...

Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

The New Testament: 1 John 4:7-21 pew Bible page#241

+The Gospel: John 15:1-8 pew Bible page #109

The Message The Rev. Mary A. Kelly

Reception of New Members: Pat & Alecia Ford Hymnal #46-48

+Hymn: “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether” Hymnal #632

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem Dan Schutte
“Here I Am, Lord”

+Blessing our Gifts

Holy Communion Hymnal #15

Baba Yetu Mr. Kakela Kolanda
Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni, Jina lako litukuzwe; Ufalme wako ufike, Utakalo lifanyike Duniani kama mbinguni. Utupe leo mkate wetu wa kila siku, Utusamehe makosa yetu, Kama nasi tunavyowasamehe waliotukosea. Usitutie katika kishawishi, Lakini utuopoe maovuni.
Amina.

The Lord’s Prayer Hymnal #895

+Closing Hymn: Hymnal #121
“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

+Benediction
Branches of the Vine, go from this place blessed by Love to work in love with your family, your friends, your neighbors, and strangers who will become friends, bearing the fruit of the life-giving Vine as you cultivate abundant life wherever you go. Amen.

+Postlude: Aus Meines Herzens Grunde - Fughette J.C. Bach

+denotes standing, as you are able.

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Men’s Breakfast: Saturday, May 4th at 9 am.