



MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 1, 2023 | Epiphany Sunday | Holy Communion | 10:00 AM

Theme: Beatitudes

Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor

Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE "Carol of the Ship" (Variations & Fughetta)
setting by C. Uehlein

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Where is the One whose rule we accept? Who is the One whom we have come to worship?

God, whose dominion is over all creation, is with us. We worship God, who acts in human history.

What are the signs of God's presence? When shall we know we have found the truth we seek?

God is revealed in the commonplace, even in a child. When we share our gifts, God is made known.

*PRAYER OF CENTERING

Interrupt our lives, O God, with stars we cannot refuse to see. Set before us today those life-changing possibilities which will send us on better paths than we have known. Go with us as we explore the mysteries of Christ. Fill us with awe and wonder, with joy and confidence, with generosity and praise. Reveal to us in new ways the promises of the gospel, that we may be bold to proclaim good news by the way we live, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS** "We Three Kings" UMH 254
(During the hymn you are invited to bring your "baby shower" gifts up to the altar)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 4:23 – 5:3 NT p.4

SERMON "Stand Up for the Hopeless"

ANTHEM "Star of the East" by Amanda Kennedy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PARDON

Hear the good news: the stars by which God would lead us still shine. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION UMH 15-16

LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN "Love Came Down at Christmas" UMH 242

*SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

GREETERS| Linda Ryder LITURGIST| Jan Lucciola

*Sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall for Flowers and Fellowship.

Key to abbreviations:

OT: Old Testament; NT: New Testament

UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal TFWS: The Faith We Sing

++ Indicates Someone's Favorite Hymn

PRAYER LIST: Ruth Townsend, Bill Kanen, the family of Bill Davis, Jr., Rob Van Nest, Marilyn Schultz, Nicole Dunn Hernandez, Jay Norejko, The Family of Ros Williams, The Family of Nancy Farr, Brian Sheppard, Eileen Rail, Thomas Rail, Rose Belcastro, the Family of Robbie Schneider, the Family of Cesar Lecha, Jeanette Hendrick, Patrick Hall, Barbara Urban, Paul and Pat Ingold, Jean Troutman, Alan & Karen Zuis, Lee Malone, Ellen Lee, Barbara Myer, Joan Wortman, Valerie Dimatteo, Maureen Tresenreiter, Kelly Foster and family, Roy Sirel and family, Robert Keuhne, Sr., Alyre Hayworth, Thomas Harris, Henry Salidino, Bill Davis, Jim Lordi, Gina Bebenroth and family, Christine Pasquarosa, Patty Reynolds, Casey Peguero, Gina Alfano Walsh, Linda Klee, Geoff & Pam Sackett, Diane Siconolfi.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE and MEETING ZOOM LINK: bit.ly/MUMCZoom

CHOIR REHEARSAL: Every Sunday at 8:30 AM in the Sanctuary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Every Sunday at 9:30 AM

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL: Every Sunday at 11:30 AM following worship service

LOOKING AHEAD:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Tuesday, January 3, at 6:00 PM. Online

RECONCILING MINISTRISTIES: Wednesday, January 4, at 6:30 PM. Conf. Rm & Online

TRUSTEES: Tuesday, January 10, at 6:30 PM. Conference Room Online

CHURCH COUNCIL: Tuesday, January 24, at 6:30 PM. Online

Today during worship we will celebrate Epiphany and the Visit of the Magi with **A BABY SHOWER FOR MARY AND JOSEPH**. All donations will be delivered to the Baby Blessings Pantry at Dingmans Ferry UMC. Baby Blessings Pantry is a vital ministry in the Pike County community. Donations will be brought to the altar during the worship service as we shower both the Holy Family and our neighbors with love!

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12. Throughout the month of January, the Outreach Team invites you to bring your cans of soup to the sanctuary on Sundays.. Or, you can deliver them to the church office (M-Th 9-12). Your gifts will support both the Ecumenical Food Pantry as well as our own Little Food Pantry. **In 2022, we collected 871 cans and over \$125 in cash and gift cards.** Questions? Contact Jack Donson, Chair.

The church office will be closed Monday, January 16.

WE WELCOME ALL!

Our live church worship services are made available to persons viewing through the link: www.facebook.com/MilfordUMC. The weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter can be viewed through our website: www.milfordmethodists.org. It is located under the Worship Heading on the site. If you would like to be on our email list, please contact the office at www.milfordmethodist@gmail.com or (570) 296-6124.