



MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 5, 2025 | 2nd Sunday after Christmas Day

10:00 AM Theme: Epiphany

Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor

Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE "Carol of the Ship: Three Variations and Fughetta" Christopher Uehlein

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God, we enter the new year as we ended the last: gathered together for worship!

We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

The prophet Isaiah calls to us from deep in the past: "Arise, shine; for your light has come."

We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

The magi followed a star to find a small child who is the Light of the world.

We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

So, let us receive the call of Isaiah and follow the example of the magi as we begin this new year by turning our faces to receive the glory of God.

We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light today and every day. Amen.

* CONGREGATION STANDS AS COMFORTABLE CONGREGATION RESPONSE IN ***BOLD Italic***

Key to abbreviations: OT: Old Testament; NT: New Testament UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS: The Faith We Sing ++ Indicates Someone's Favorite Hymn

***OPENING HYMN** "We Three Kings" UMH 254
(During the hymn you are invited to bring your "Baby Shower" gifts up to the altar)

*PRAYER OF CENTERING

Interrupt our lives, O God, with stars we cannot refuse to see. Go with us as we explore the mysteries of Christ. Fill us with awe and wonder, joy and confidence, and generosity and praise, that we may be bold enough to proclaim the good news in word and action, through Jesus our Savior. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 2:1-12 NT p.2

SERMON "Come and Worship"

ANTHEM "I Saw Three Ships" Arr. MaryLynn Lightfoot

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "When Jesus Came to Jordan" W. Walker, harm. J. S. Bach

***DOXOLOGY** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (verses 1 & 6) UMH 234++

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, as we thank you for our baptism, our church, and your love, we give you our gifts today, remembering those who do not have the same freedoms we do, but who are just as much a part of your worldwide family. Bless what we give that we might unite with all who call you Lord and further your will in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. 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

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP *(Everyone is invited to come to the rail to receive 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

"The First Noel" (Verses 1-3)

UMH 245++

*BENEDICTION

For all that has been...*Thanks!*

For all that will be...*Yes!*

*SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

"We Would See Jesus"

Herbert B. Turner

PRAYER LIST The Family of Marion Steele, Jim Schneider, The Tedesco Family, John Rodriguez, Michele Burrell, Richard Holt, Geoff & Pam Sackett, Camilla, Armando Avila, Gene Gillen, Jay Norejko, Marlene Horan, Jonathan Clements, Bobbie Myer, Arlene Moglia, Michael Gilmore, The Whateley Family, Marie Fornoff, Agnes Halsey, Martha Peldunas, David Kent, James Bennet, Joan Pauley, Ali Fitzgerald, Roger Fitzgerald, Debbie Conklin, Lori Sheppard, Nancy McKeen, Steve Urban, Brian Sheppard, Rose Belcastro, Barbara Urban, Lee Malone, Ellen Lee, Henry Salidino, Bill Davis, Jim Lordi, Christine Pasquarosa, Patty Reynolds, Casey Peguero, Linda Klee, Dianne Siconolfi

GREETER | Linda Ryder **LITURGIST** | Liz Steen

FLOWERS | Sign up with office **FELLOWSHIP** | Brenda Hughes and Dori Stewart

IMPORTANT CHURCH INFORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHILD CARE (IN COMMUNITY RM/NURSERY AFTER CHILDREN'S MESSAGE)

CHOIR PRACTICE: SUNDAYS 8:30AM SANCTUARY

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE: SUNDAYS 11:30AM SANCTUARY

CRAFTY LADIES: WILL RESUME IN SPRING

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

- Tuesday, Jan. 7th 6:30 PM Trustees Meeting (Conference Rm)
- Friday, Jan. 10th 6:00-8:00PM Pizza and Game Night (RSVP to Office)
- Friday, Jan. 17th 6:00 PM Food Pantry @ Good Shepherd
- Tuesday, Jan. 21st 6:30 PM Finance Meeting (H)
- Tuesday, Jan 28th 6:30 PM Church Council (H)

This Sunday's Communion Offering will be dedicated to our **Shared Ministry Giving**. The **Shared Ministry Fund** is required giving that is apportioned equitably to all churches to support the numerous administrative functions, ministry programs and mission endeavors of our Greater New Jersey Conference.

WE WELCOME ALL!

Visiting with us today? Please fill out a Visitor Card found in our pews, thank you!

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.milfordmethodists@gmail.com or (570) 296-6124.



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