



MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 15, 2024 | 10:00 AM | 3rd Sunday of Advent

Theme: Come, Let Us Adore Him

Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor

Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE "Twas in the Moon of Wintertime" Lynn Arthur Koch

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God, our world is full of humanity's greed, apathy, and neglect for the love of God, neighbor, self, and all of creation.

What, then, should we do?

Our world is also full of God's love that wells up around us, sustaining us, saving us, and reviving us to live as the people of God.

What, then, should we do?

God encircles us on every side: Divine Love present with us in creation, community, and in the anticipated arrival of the infant Christ. What then, children of God, should we do?

We will live in joyful presence with God and neighbor, turning away from sin and toward a life marked by joy, justice, and mercy. Amen.

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Bill and Joan Arlequeeuw

*OPENING HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 3 & 4) UMH 211++

*PRAYER OF CENTERING

Creator God, each moment of life lived in your presence is filled with wonder and joy. Make us watchful as we wait for the coming of Christ. May we not be found sleeping in apathy or despair. Wake us up to the newness of life with rejoicing and love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 12:2-6

OT p. 641

Luke 3:7-18

NT p. 60

SERMON

"Joy Resides"

ANTHEM

"While By Our Sleeping Flock We Lay"

Arr. Hugo Jungst

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

*PASSING THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

harm. Michael Praetorius

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH 95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of Advent joy, we bring our offerings with hearts open to your transformative call. In this season of anticipation, may our gifts help mend what is broken and share the promise of redemption. Empower us to give generously and act justly. Let these offerings be seeds of hope and joy that will draw us closer to your will. Bless our giving, that it may reflect your love and bring light to our world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Joy to the World"

UMH 246

***BENEDICTION**

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

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

***SENDING FORTH**

POSTLUDE

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

TRURO, *Psalmodia Evangelica*

GREETER | Pam Houskeeper **LITURGIST** | Liz Steen

FLOWERS | Sign Up in Fellowship Hall **FELLOWSHIP** | Diane Fornoff and Jess Reed

PRAYER LIST John Rodriguez, Cath Kanen, Michele Burrell, Lori Rothman, Family of Gloria Schneider, Patricia Melzer, Richard Holt, Geoff & Pam Sackett, Cindy Stine, 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 Benet, 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



Christmas Eve, December 24th

4:00 pm – Family Service

7:00 pm – Candlelight Worship with Choir & Bells

Sunday, December 29th

10:00 am— A Service of Lessons & Carols

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 (Some Wed. 5:30PM) SANCTUARY

CRAFTY LADIES: WILL RESUME IN SPRING

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

- **TODAY 4:00 PM** DVCS Christmas Concert (Sanctuary)
- **Tuesday, Dec. 17th 6:00 PM** Church Finance Meeting (H)
- **Tuesday, Dec. 17th 7:00PM** Church Council Meeting (H)
- **Thursday, Dec. 19th 6:30 PM** Reconciling Ministries (H)
- **Saturday, Dec. 21st 5:00 –7:00PM** Longest Night Taize Service *
**followed by Longest Night Vigil in support of the Unhoused and Soup Supper*
- **Friday, Jan. 3rd 6:00-8:00PM** Pizza and Game Night (RSVP to Office)

On Epiphany Sunday, January 5, 2025, you are invited to celebrate a Baby Shower for Mary and Joseph during the 10 a.m. service. We will remember the Magi as we bring our gifts to the altar. DIAPERS SIZE 4 AND UP are especially needed as well as wipes, diaper rash cream. gas drops, sleepers, nail clippers and socks. All donations will be delivered to Baby Blessings Pantry at Dingmans Ferry United Methodist Church. Thank you for your support of this vital ministry!

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.

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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Follow us on Instagram: @milfordmethodists
and Facebook: www.facebook.com/MilfordUMC

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

