



MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 2, 2025 | 4th Sunday After The Epiphany | Holy Communion

Where You Are: *Embracing the Familiar* | 10:00 AM

Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor

Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE Prelude on “New York” Colin Curtis

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* 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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Children of God, we come to worship today with expectations. We find comfort in the familiar.

We come to worship, expecting God to meet us here.

Sometimes what feels familiar grows stale. Yet God is still here, moving and working among us.

We come to worship, expecting God to meet us here.

We meet God in a familiar voice speaking a hard word, in a song that touches our hearts, in a prayer that opens our minds.

We come to worship, expecting God to meet us here.

Children of God, come! Let us worship, ready to recognize God in the familiar and unfamiliar alike.

We come to worship, expecting God to meet us here. Thank be to God! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** “Honor and Praise” TFWS 2018++

PRAYER OF CENTERING

In a cynical and despairing world, O God, give us a voice to proclaim your hope. In a violent and angry world, O God, give us a voice to proclaim your peace. In a lonely and dismissive world, O God, give us a voice to proclaim your love. May we be so captivated by your hope, filled with your peace, and inspired by your love, O God, that we may become channels of your restoring grace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 4:21-30 NT p.61-2
SERMON “In Your Hometown”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The World Methodist Social Affirmation UMH 886
ANTHEM “Invitation to Communion” Deborah Govenor

OFFERING
OFFERTORY “Christ Is the World’s Light” harm. David Evans
***DOXOLOGY** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 95

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**
Compassionate God, who sees beyond our boundaries and loves without limit, we bring these offerings with grateful hearts. Use them to proclaim your good news, heal the broken, and extend your love to all, especially those we struggle to accept. Transform our gifts into a beacon of hope and inclusion that reflects the boundless love of Christ in every corner of our community. In his holy name, we pray. Amen.

IMPORTANT CHURCH INFORMATION

CHILD CARE AVAILABLE (NURSERY LOCATED AT END OF HALL IN EDUCATION WING)

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS 10:15 IN EDUCATION WING

(CHILDREN WILL BE ESCORTED TO CLASS AFTER CHILDREN'S MESSAGE)

- **CHOIR REHEARSAL: Sunday at 8:30 AM** in the Sanctuary
- **BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL: Sunday at 11:30 AM** in Sanctuary
- **CRAFTY LADIES: No Meetings Until Further Notice—Winter Break**

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

- **Friday, February 7th 6:00-8:00PM—Pizza and Game Night– Fellowship Hall**
- **Sunday, February 9th—Last Day for Collection of Soups for SouperBow!!!!**
- **Tuesday, February 11th 6:00 PM—Trustees Meeting**
- **Friday, February 14th 6:16 PM—Ecumenical Food Pantry (Good Shepherd)**
- **Tuesday, February 18th 6:30 PM—Finance Committee Mtg (H)**
- **Thursday, February 20th 6:30 PM—Reconciling Ministries Mtg (H)**

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, we are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

UMH 15-16

LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

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

"Lord of the Dance"

UMH 261++

*BENEDICTION

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

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

*SENDING FORTH

*POSTLUDE

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

harm. William H.
Havergal

OUR FEBRUARY COMMUNION OFFERING WILL BE DEDICATED TO THE BLACK COLLEGE FUND

Following the Civil War, the former Methodist Episcopal Church organized the Freedmen's Aid Society to help educate African Americans who could not read or write. In 1972, The United Methodist Church established the Black College Fund to provide reliable support for UM-related historically Black colleges and offer a chance to everyone with a dream and a commitment to excel – regardless of race, class, gender, or ethnic heritage.

GREETER | Pam Houskeeper LITURGIST | Nancy McCallum

PRAYER LIST Connie Reed, Linda Ryder, Dianne Siconolfi, Jay Norejko, Joe Schneider, Jim Schneider, The Tedesco Family, John Rodriguez, Michele Burrell, Richard Holt, Geoff & Pam Sackett, Camilla, Armando Avila, Gene Gillen, 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, Patty Reynolds, Casey Peguero, Linda Klee

WE WELCOME ALL!

Visiting with us today? Please fill out a Visitor Card found in our pews.

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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