



MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 28, 2025 | 1st Sunday after Christmas

10:00 AM A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor

Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing a new song to God, who has done marvelous things.

God has spoken to us through a Child. Let us all worship at the manger.

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

God has given us a song to sing. Let our voices soar with good tidings.

* 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

*PRAYER OF CENTERING

Amazing God, once more you have sought us out and brought us to the manger. You have interrupted our routines to penetrate our dreariness with your good news. You have gathered this unlikely assortment of people to become a transforming community of faith, a holy people. Set your vision before us now and awaken our feet to follow your path to unlikely places where saving grace is revealed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

UMH 220

Rev. Jenn Lovallo

UMH 895

Rev. Jenn Lovallo

THE BIDDING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

OT p.3

God announces in the garden of Eden, Adam and Eve's punishment for their rebellion and that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

CAROL

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

UMH 196

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

OT p.18

God promises to Abraham that by his descendants all the nations of the earth shall obtain blessing.

CAROL

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1-2)

UMH 211++

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

OT p.638

The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness

CAROL

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (verses 1-2)

UMH 216++

FOURTH LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

OT p.865

The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor, and peace for all of God's creation

CAROL

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (verses 1, 3)

UMH 230

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

NT p.56-57

The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son, whose kingdom shall never end.

CAROL

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

UMH 240++

SIXTH LESSON	Luke 2:1-7	NT p. 58
<i>Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.</i>		
CAROL	“The First Noel” (verse 1)	UMH 245
SEVENTH LESSON		
	Luke 2:8-16	NT p. 58
<i>The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.</i>		
CAROL	“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” (verses 1-2)	UMH 251++
EIGHTH LESSON		
	Matthew 2:1-11	NT p. 2
<i>The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.</i>		
CAROL	“We Three Kings” (verses 1, 4)	UMH 254
NINTH LESSON		
	John 1:1-14	NT p. 91-92
*CAROL	“O Come, All Ye Faithful”	UMH 234++
PASTORAL PRAYER		
*PASSING THE PEACE		
OFFERING/OFFERTORY		
*DOXOLOGY	“What Child Is This” (verses 1,3)	UMH 219
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION		
<i>Almighty and everlasting God, thank you for all we have and for all we are. Thank you for the faithfulness of your love revealed to us through Jesus Christ. We thank you for the privilege of responding to your generosity with these gifts and with our lives, as we dedicate them to your service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</i>		
*CAROL	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	UMH 238
*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING		
May the Christ who by his Incarnation gathered into One all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be upon you and remain with you always.		
<i>Amen.</i>		
Go forth in peace and joy.		
<i>Thanks be to God. Alleluia!</i>		
POSTLUDE		

GREETERS | Pat Moulton & Jim Snodgrass **LITURGIST** | Jackie Pentecharsky
NURSERY | Dani Pentecharsky **FELLOWSHIP** | Rebecca Masters

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: On Winter Break

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

- **Friday, January 2nd 6:00-8:00PM—Pizza & Game Night (Fellowship Hall)**
- **Sunday, January 4th—10AM Epiphany Sunday “Baby Shower for Mary & Joseph”**
- **Friday, January 9th 6:00 PM—Ecumenical Food Pantry at Good Shepherd**
- **Saturday, January 17th 2:15PM— One Board Planning Retreat (Fellowship Hall)**

PRAYER LIST: Family of Marian Foran, Dianne Siconolfi, Rhonda Leister, Pastora Veronica, Greg Hunt, Patrick Singer, Marshall Cooper, Mark Geleyn, Carolyn Grossmann, Linda Ryder, Marie Fornoff, Scott Seltzer, Barbara Cooper, Beth Klopfleisch, David Scheer, Mike St. Jean, Joanne Green, Sue Rhodes, Jacob Hernandez, Rebecca Suarez, Barbara Brown, Nazareth, , Joe Schneider, Jim Schneider, The Tedesco Family, John Rodriguez, Richard Holt, Geoff & Pam Sackett, Armando Avila, Agnes Halsey, David Kent, James Bennet, Joan Pauley, Lori Sheppard, Nancy McKeen, Steve Urban, Brian Sheppard, Barbara Urban, Lee Malone, Ellen Lee, Henry Salidino, Jim Lordi

Next 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.

Next Sunday, Epiphany Sunday, January 4, 2026, you are invited to celebrate a Baby Shower for Mary and Joseph during the regular 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 UMC.
Thank you for your support of this vital ministry!

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