



MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 10, 2023 | 10:00 AM | 2nd Sunday of Advent

Theme: The Gift of the Nutcracker

Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor

Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The day of God is coming; lift up your voices.

We await Christ's coming with anticipation. We seek the peace and patience God provides.

Prepare the way for One who is coming. Comfort, O comfort my people, says our God.

God's hand is upon us in blessing. We are welcomed by God's steadfast love.

* CONGREGATION STANDS AS COMFORTABLE

CONGREGATION RESPONSE IN ***BOLD Italic***

*PRAYER OF CENTERING

Righteous and holy God, your glory is revealed to us day by day as valleys of despair are lifted up and mountainous problems are leveled. In your presence, we see beyond our current circumstances. We catch a glimpse of your eternal purposes. Come among us now and speak your word of peace. Teach us your truth and equip us to receive the grace you offer, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Jan Lucciola and Liz Steen

*OPENING HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1 & 2) UMH 211++

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 40:1-5 OT p.667

SERMON "A Godfather's Love"

ANTHEM "Creation Will Be at Peace" Anna Laura Page

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

*PASSING THE PEACE

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 94++

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, may our offerings extend the promise of salvation and hope to all in need. Bless these gifts and the givers, that through our church people may be comforted, supported, and nurtured, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" UMH 103++

*SENDING FORTH

Key to abbreviations: OT: Old Testament; NT: New Testament UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS: The Faith We Sing ++ Indicates Someone's Favorite Hymn

GREETER | Penny Werner **LITURGIST** | Maryann Schneider
FLOWERS | Robert and Richard Bloomer - In Memory of their mother, Emogene Bloomer
*Sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall for Flowers and Fellowship.

On Epiphany Sunday, January 7, 2024, 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 United Methodist Church.

Thank you for your support of this vital ministry!

PRAYER LIST: Family of Camille Campanella, David Heim, Family of Marge Carofano, Pam Houskeeper, Doug Houskeeper, Marie Fornoff, Agnes Halsey, Dale Chanson, Sherry Raser, Martha Peldunas, David Kent, James Bennet, Barbara Repenning, Joan Pauley, Ali Fitzgerald, Roger Fitzgerald, Jodi Hancock, Gloria Schneider, Karen Boehning, Arlene & Emil Moglia, Ernie Balch, Michael Gilmore, Debbie Conklin, Carl Hendrick, Joan ucciola, Lori Sheppard, Richard Holt, Lorraine Gregory, Gretel Metzger, Nancy McKeen, Steve Urban, Raymond Vetter, Brian Sheppard, Rose Belcastro, Jeanette Hendrick, Patrick Hall, Barbara Urban, Alan & Karen Zuis, Lee Malone, Ellen Lee, Joan Wortman, Robert Keuhne Sr., Henry Salidino, Bill Davis, Jim Lordi, Christine Pasquarosa, Patty Reynolds, Casey Peguero, Linda Klee, Geoff & Pam Sackett, Diane Siconolfi

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.

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

- **Tuesday, December 12, 6:30PM—Church Council Meeting (Hybrid)**
- **Thursday, December 14, 6:30PM- Reconciling Ministries Meeting (Hybrid)**
- **Sunday, December 17, 4:00PM—Blue Christmas Service**
- **Tuesday, December 19, 6:00PM—Finance Committee Meeting (Online)**
- **Friday, December 29, 6:15PM—Ecumenical Food Pantry**

Christmas Eve, December 24th

10:00 am – Family Service

7:00 pm – Candlelight Worship with Choir & Bells

Sunday, December 31st

10:00 am— A Service of Lessons & Carols



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