



## EPIPHANY SUNDAY

**January 7, 2024**

### **UMC in Wayne**

99 Parish Drive Wayne, New Jersey 07470

Email: [Office@umcwayne.org](mailto:Office@umcwayne.org) Phone: (973) 694-3260

Website: [www.umcwayne.org](http://www.umcwayne.org) Watch on Facebook: UMC.Wayne

Join us on Zoom: [Meeting ID: 823 9591 4126 Passcode: 092827](https://umcwayne.org/zoom)

## PRELUDE

*Medley of Christmas Lullabies*

## WELCOME

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Arise; shine, for your light has come!

**ALL: We are called out of our darkness into light.**

ONE: Lift up your eyes and look around.

**ALL: We rejoice in the gift of light.**

ONE: Come let us worship the God of light and joy and peace.

**ALL: We come to kneel at the cradle of the babe, the light incarnate.**

## HYMN

*We Three Kings Verse 1 & 2*

*UMH #254*

## OPENING PRAYER

**God of promise and light, open our eyes this morning, that we may see your light in the darkness. Open our hearts, that we may perceive your promises of justice and righteousness fulfilled in the babe of Bethlehem. May we, like the Magi, have a star to guide us on our journey quest to find the one who will truly set us free. May this time of worship bring us closer to you, that the good news of the birth of light and love will transform our lives. Amen.**

## THE BASKET

### SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12 Good News Translation

**Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the time when Herod was king. Soon afterward, some men who studied the stars came from the East to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the baby born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star when it came up in the east, and we have come to worship him."**

**When King Herod heard about this, he was very upset, and so was everyone else in Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the teachers of the Law and asked them, "Where will the Messiah be born?"**

**“In the town of Bethlehem in Judea,” they answered. “For this is what the prophet wrote:**

**‘Bethlehem in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means the least of the leading cities of Judah;  
for from you will come a leader  
who will guide my people, Israel.’”**

**So Herod called the visitors from the East to a secret meeting and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem with these instructions: “Go and make a careful search for the child; and when you find him, let me know, so that I too may go and worship him.”**

**And so they left, and on their way they saw the same star they had seen in the East. When they saw it, how happy they were, what joy was theirs! It went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. They went into the house, and when they saw the child with his mother Mary, they knelt down and worshiped him. They brought out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and presented them to him.**

**Then they returned to their country by another road, since God had warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod.**

## **MESSAGE**

**ANTHEM**

*Christmas Lullaby*

*Cathy Nalesnik*

## **PRAYER OF GOD’S PEOPLE**

### **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly turn from their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin to God with one another.**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Eternal God, your Word of grace is a light for our path. We thank you.  
We recall those moments when the star of your love shone for us,  
and we followed on a good path...**

*silence...*

**We recall those times when we did not see the star,  
when we were not on a good path...**

*silence...*

**In all things, God, we trust your grace.**

**Forgive our sin, heal our hearts, open our eyes to the light of your love, and  
help us to follow faithfully, in the name of Christ, for the sake of the healing  
of the world. Amen.**

## **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**May the peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.**

## **WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING**

**OFFERTORY**

*We Three Kings*

*Verses 3 & 4*

*UMH #254*

### ***Doxology***

***O star of wonder, star of light  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy perfect light***

## **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Loving God, we offer you our gold:  
The radiance of a new day  
The glow on the faces of children at play  
The shining moments that brighten our lives.**

**We offer you our frankincense:  
The quiet reassurance of familiar things  
The grace of care and friendship  
The blessing of bread and our heart's yearning in prayer.**

**We offer you our myrrh:  
The ashes of our dreams  
The bitter taste of our failures  
The shadows through which we stumble.**

**Transform our inadequate gifts,  
that they may be an acceptable sacrifice of praise,  
and transform our lives  
to reflect more deeply your justice and joy  
In the life of the world.**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*After our servers come forward to receive the gifts of bread and grape juice you will be invited by our ushers to receive Holy Communion either being served in your seat or coming forward to receive by intinction at the Altar. After receiving we invite you to reflect upon your communion with Christ.*

**Communion Setting**    *please see Communion Setting in Pews*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP  
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**\* CLOSING HYMN**

*We Three Kings verse 5*

*UMH #254*

**BENEDICTION**

## POSTLUDE

***Thank you for financially supporting our ministry.  
We offer many ways to give:***

*In the sanctuary or by mail.*

Online at [www.umcwayne.org](http://www.umcwayne.org)

<https://giving.ncsservices.org/app/giving/umcwgiving>

Text "GIVING" to 973-447-3223

QR Code:



### **The words and music in our liturgy, hymns, and songs are by:**

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Christmas Lullaby. Amy Grant & Chris Eaton, CCLI Song # 2974693 Amy Grant | Chris Eaton  
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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS January 7, 2024**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS January 8 - 14**

**Monday January 8<sup>th</sup>**

AA mtg @ 7:30pm in Fellowship Hall (Room 8)

**Tuesday January 9<sup>th</sup>**

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Bible Study @ 7pm in Pastor's Office

**Wednesday January 10<sup>th</sup>**

Bible Study @ 12pm in the pastor's office BYO Lunch

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

**Thursday January 11<sup>th</sup>**

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

**Friday January 12<sup>th</sup>**

Friday Morning Prayer @ 7pm on Facebook

**Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup>**

Worship by Parish Drive @ 10am

**Prayer and Devotion on Friday Mornings**  
**at 7am on Facebook.**

**Our Facebook page is: UMC.Wayne**

Join Pastor Ninabeth for this 30 minute gathering.

You do not have to be a Facebook user to participate.

**UMC Wayne Ministers**  
**All the members of UMC in Wayne**

Pastor Ninabeth Metcalf  
Email: [PastorNinabeth@umcwayne.org](mailto:PastorNinabeth@umcwayne.org) Cell: 908-391-2561

Don Matthews – Lay Leader

Peter Candela – Music Director  
email: [peter@umcwayne.org](mailto:peter@umcwayne.org)

Marilyn Creamer – Handbell Director

David Philp – Parish Drive Director

Nicole Force – Admin. Assistant

email: [office@umcwayne.org](mailto:office@umcwayne.org)