



1st Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion
December 1, 2024

UMC in Wayne

99 Parish Drive Wayne, New Jersey 07470

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

Website: www.umcwayne.org Watch on Facebook: UMC.Wayne

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

PRELUDE WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP ~ LIGHT FOR THE JOURNEY

Leader: You are invited to rise in body and/or spirit and sing together “We’re on our Way”.

~ **See Insert**

Leader: The journey begins, and this candle will help light our way.

All: We are on our way to more hope.

Leader: Decrees and decisions affect our world and our lives as they did in Jesus’ day.

All: We are a people who long for Good News.

Leader: There are milestones that guide us to a better day.

All: God’s light goes before us, we are not alone.

Light the candle of Hope ~ See Insert

OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, we come to you full of hopes and fears. We bear in our hearts deep longing for you, that you would come and be with us. We ask your blessing on our deepest yearnings that are not even known to us, but only faint stirrings in the darkness. Loving God, we are homesick for you. Come to us; speak to us; bring us into the light and warmth of the home that is your Word. Amen.

THE CHILDREN SHOW US THE WAY~ See Insert

GOSPEL READING *Luke 21:25-36 Common English Bible*

“There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. On the earth, there will be dismay among nations in their confusion over the roaring of the sea and surging waves. The planets and other heavenly bodies will be shaken, causing people to faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world. Then they will see the Human One coming on a cloud with power and great splendor. Now when these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, because your redemption is near.”

Jesus told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that God’s kingdom is

near. I assure you that this generation won't pass away until everything has happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.

"Take care that your hearts aren't dulled by drinking parties, drunkenness, and the anxieties of day-to-day life. Don't let that day fall upon you unexpectedly, like a trap. It will come upon everyone who lives on the face of the whole earth. Stay alert at all times, praying that you are strong enough to escape everything that is about to happen and to stand before the Human One."

MESSAGE

Longing For ...

HYMN

In The Bleak Midwinter

UMH #221

GUIDED BY THE PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

We begin our prayer time today remembering that when we need guidance the most, we can turn to God in prayer. Today we are guided by Hope.

Let us pray:

God of Hope, we come to you today longing for your presence in our lives and with all those who suffer—in body, mind, or spirit. We pray this day for...

God of Hope, we come to you today so deeply grateful for celebrations, triumphs, and even small steps toward the lives we seek and the world we desire. We pray this day for...

Holy God, we know you are near. We know that every step along the way to Bethlehem in this Advent season is a step closer to renewed life in Jesus, the Christ. We know that your Spirit resides within us, growing day by day into the fullness of Hope. In this moment, we pause in silence, marking your presence with awe and asking you to fill us, guide us, along our journey.

Moments of Silence

**Lead me, guide me, along the way.
For if you lead me I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with you.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

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 tender mercy, let us come honestly before God.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Trusting in God's tender mercy, let us open ourselves in honesty towards God.

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Gracious God, We confess the darkness and cold in our lives. Like barren trees in winter, we do not bear the fruits of love as you would have us. Forgive our sin, heal our hearts, and be born in us again, that by your grace we may bear your light. O come to us, Lord, and save us! Amen.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Through Christ, God's love has done great things for us. Through Christ, God's grace restores our life and makes us whole once more.

GIFTS ALONG THE WAY

OFFERTORY *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel verses 1 & 2*

UMH #211

Verse 1

O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

Verse 2

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show
and cause us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.

Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God, in this season of anticipation, we offer our gifts with hopeful hearts. As we prepare for the fullness of your kingdom, may these offerings be a sign of our readiness and desire to live attentively. Use them to bring justice, righteousness, and joy to our world. Surprise us with your presence and help us to look up, to pay attention, and to embrace the hope you bring. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

We are here because Jesus has called us – strangers and friends, locals and visitors,
believers and doubters, the certain and the curious.
It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers and invites to his table where,
in bread and wine, he meets us and through him we, who are different,
are joined to each other.
So come, not because you understand, but because you are understood.
Come, not because of how you feel, but because God has food for you.
Come, not because you deserve a place,
but because Jesus invites you, just as you are.

COMMUNION SETTING *please see Communion Setting in Pews*

Pastor Ninabeth: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Pastor Ninabeth: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor Ninabeth: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP SONG

Soon

Cathy Nalesnik

CLOSING HYMN

Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending

UMH #718

BLESSING FOR THE JOURNEY

POSTLUDE

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

***Please join us as we continue our worship
with food and conversation in fellowship hall***

Thank you for financially supporting our ministry.

We offer many ways to give:

In the sanctuary or by mail.

Online at www.umcwayne.org

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

Text "GIVING" to 973-447-3223

QR Code:



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2nd ~ December 8th

Monday December 2nd

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

Tuesday December 3rd

Karate @ 5:00 in the Underground

Bible Study One the Way to Jerusalem @ 7pm in the Pastor's Office and on Zoom

Wednesday December 4th

Karate @ 5:00 in the Underground

Bible Study On the Way to Jerusalem @ 12pm in Fellowship Hall BYOLunch

Thursday December 5th

Karate @ 5:00 in the Underground

Christian Meditation @ 6:30pm in the Sanctuary

Bible Study On the Way to Bethlehem @ 7pm in Pastor's Office

Friday December 6th

Prayer and Devotion @ 7am on Facebook

First Friday at Painting with a Twist

Sunday December 8th

2nd Sunday of Advent, Worship @10am

Save the Dates!

Wednesday December 18th @ 7pm – Blue Christmas; A Quiet Time of Prayer and Reflection

Attention all Bakers!! Christmas Cookie Sale 12-15-24!!

Set up on 12-12-24 at 1pm! More info to follow...



Christmas Poinsettia Orders

Make sure to fill out the envelope and attached form for your **Christmas Poinsettia!** Envelopes and forms are located in the church on the back table.

Please return all envelopes to the plate or to the church office. **Orders due 12/9/24**



On the Way to Bethlehem

Advent & Christmas Worship Services

Sunday December 1st @ 10am Rome: A Place of Longing (Hope)

Sunday December 8th @ 10am Jerusalem: A Place of Waiting (Peace)

Sunday December 15th @ 10am Nazareth: A Place of Simplicity (Joy)

Sunday December 22nd @ 10am Bethlehem: A Place of Humility (Love)

Tuesday December 24th @ 4:30pm and 7:00pm The Manger: A Place of Care

Sunday December 29th @ 10am Persia: A Place of Return



First Friday Event

REMINDER: The group will go to Painting with a Twist on December 6th from 11-1pm. Sign-up sheet in the narthex on the bulletin board. Please make all checks out to: Painting with a Twist.

You can return your payment to Sue Whitty via in person on Sundays or by mail at:
Susan Whitty 22 Kevin Rd, Lincoln Park, NJ 07035. Email: sueandtiger@verizon.net

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

Children Show the Way is adapted from the Worship Design Studio

In the Bleak Midwinter. CCLI Song # 294736 Christina Georgina Rossetti | Gustav Theodore Holst © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

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All the members of UMC in Wayne

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