



**1st Sunday of Christmas
December 29, 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](#)

**PRELUDE
WELCOME**

CALL TO WORSHIP ~ LIGHT FOR THE JOURNEY

Leader: The journey continues, and the light remains.

All: We have been changed on this journey.

Leader: We have journeyed from grand to humble places in search of Good News.

All: We are a people who believe that Good News resides in every place.

Leader: The milestones and markers of hope, peace, joy, and love have guided us along the way.

All: God's light continues to go before us, we are never alone.

OPENING HYMN

Three Kings (Verses 1 & 2)

UMH #254

We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts, we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.

O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

OPENING PRAYER

God of light, your glory shines throughout the world; help us to see it, and in it to seek you. The star of your guidance leads us; help us to discern wisely and to follow. The gifts you give us gleam in our hands and our hearts; grant us courage and generosity to give them. God of light, shine for us and in us. Speak your Word, and we will listen, and follow. Amen.

THE CHILDREN SHOW US THE WAY

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

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

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Holy and Living God, we pray for all who seek.

Too often, we are seeking things that do not satisfy.

Give us wisdom to pursue what really matters as this new year approaches.

Call us to a "turning"—following your Star of Wonder.

Call us to "re-turn" toward your purposes for us.

Remind us that our longing and our waiting are wrapped in your care.

Draw us to a more simple and humble existence in which our treasures are defined by the hope, peace, joy, and love we feel and also give away.

We pray this in the name of your Son, Jesus, the Christ, the Savior of Our Lives. Amen.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Let this be a marker of assurance that we are moving in a faithful direction:

God is with us every step of our way toward your Kingdom. Jesus has been born into our lives. The Spirit is transforming us in this place.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2: 1-2, 10-11

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage."

When the Magi saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

MESSAGE

Seeking the Star of Wonder

HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

UMH #216

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

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.

GIFTS ALONG THE WAY

OFFERTORY

We Three Kings (verses 3 & 4)

UMH #254

Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high.
O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
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

O Holy One, we make our offerings at this time both in gratitude and in seeking thy perfect light. We humbly acknowledge that of all the gifts we have received, your gift of a babe born in a manger is the one that truly matters. We prayerfully ask you to increase our ability to help others discover anew the best Christmas message ever, the promise of salvation through Jesus the Christ. In his name we pray. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

The First Noel (Verses 1 – 3)

UMH #245

BLESSING FOR THE JOURNEY

BENEDICTION

We Three Kings verse 5
Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies.
O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

UMH #254

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:



ANNOUNCEMENTS December 30th- January 5th 2024

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday December 30th

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

Tuesday December 31st & January 1st

Happy New Year!

Friday January 3rd

Prayer and Devotion @ 7am on Facebook

First Friday @ 12 noon, BYO lunch

Sunday January 5th

Epiphany Sunday and Holy Communion @10am

Mark Your Calendars!!

The **First Friday Fellowship** group will meet at noon on **1/3/25**. Cathy Nalesnik will lead a program that focuses on wellness. Please BYO your lunch, beverage, and any leftover holiday treats that you want to share.

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

Children Show the Way is adapted from the Worship Design Studio

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UMC Wayne Ministers

All the members of UMC in Wayne

Pastor Ninabeth Metcalf

Email: PastorNinabeth@umcwayne.org Cell: 908-391-2561

Don Matthews – Lay Leader

Peter Candela – Music Director

email: peter@umcwayne.org

Marilyn Creamer – Handbell Director

Nicole Force – Admin. Assistant Email: office@umcwayne.org

A Prayer For the New Year

God of love, we offer you our gold:
all that we value, all we possess or cling to:
may it be yours, and for your purposes only.

We offer you our frankincense:
our prayers now and in every moment of our lives,
that we may live in grateful trust,
in reverent joy, and in faithful love.

We offer you our myrrh:
knowing we are mortal, we give you these short lives
to spend as you would have us spend them.

We offer to you our dying,
that our living may be holy and beautiful.
These things we offer in the light of your grace
and the delight of your loving Christ. Amen.