



**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
December 8, 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/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 - We’re on our way – substitute the word “Peace” for “Hope”*

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

**All: We are on our way to more peace.**

Leader: Life is full of expectations and waiting for the right time,

**All: the right answer, the right opportunity.**

Leader: We are a people who wait for Good News.

**All: It is hard to wait, but there are milestone moments**

Leader: when we get a glimpse of what true peace feels like.

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

*Light the candle of Peace*

**See Insert - “We’re on our way” – substitute the word “Peace” for “Hope”**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**We have prepared our homes, and our gifts, Lord, but we need help in preparing our spirits to receive your message of Peace. Free us from the stresses and strains of this time, and place your peace which passes all our understanding in our hearts. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

**THE CHILDREN SHOW US THE WAY** *See insert – “Little Donkey”*

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

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

**UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**Lord, hear us this day as we open our hearts and our spirits to you. These times in which we live are often confusing and fearful. We are pushed to make preparations for a season which is supposed to bring hope and peace;**

yet we crowd it with obligations and stresses and shut the door to your healing love and compassion. We find ourselves being on edge, fretful, wondering if we have done enough, can do enough. You answer our fears with your voice, "Peace, be still". Help us to hear you. Slow us down. Encourage us to take some time to listen rather than shout, to stop and rest rather than run. Cause us to look around at situations and people who are in need and to place our focus on helping them. For it is in helping your people and reaching out in love that we will find true peace. These things we pray, in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

*Silence is kept*

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Jesus said, "I bring you peace, not the kind of peace the world would give to you. My peace I give to you, now and forever." Be at peace. Know God's love is given for you. AMEN.

### **GOSPEL READING Luke 1: 8-12, 57, 67- 79 The Good News Bible**

One day Zechariah was doing his work as a priest in the Temple, taking his turn in the daily service. According to the custom followed by the priests, he was chosen by lot to burn incense on the altar. So, he went into the Temple of the Lord, while the crowd of people outside prayed during the hour when the incense was burned. An angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar where the incense was burned. When Zechariah saw him, he was alarmed and felt afraid. <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son. You are to name him John.

The time came for Elizabeth to have her baby, and she gave birth to a son. John's father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit, and he spoke God's message:

Let us praise the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has come to the help of his people and has set them free.

He has provided for us a mighty Savior, a descendant of his servant David.

He promised through his holy prophets long ago that he would save us from our enemies, from the power of all those who hate us.

He said he would show mercy to our ancestors and remember his sacred covenant.

With a solemn oath to our ancestor Abraham he promised to rescue us from our enemies and allow us to serve him without fear, so that we might be holy and righteous before him all the days of our life.

“You, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High God.

You will go ahead of the Lord to prepare his road for him, to tell his people that they will be saved by having their sins forgiven.

Our God is merciful and tender.

He will cause the bright dawn of salvation to rise on us and to shine from heaven on all those who live in the dark shadow of death, to guide our steps into the path of peace.”

## **MESSAGE**

*Waiting for Peace*

## **HYMN**

*Come, and Let Us Sweetly Join*

*UMH #699*

## **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 Peace.

*See insert - Lead me, Guide me*

God of Peace, 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 Peace, 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 Peace. In this moment, we pause in silence, marking your presence with awe and asking you to fill us and guide us, along our journey.

*Moment of Silence*

May we live by the prayer you taught us...

## 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      *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel; verses 1 & 3*      *UMH #211*  
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

O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emanuel 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

Dear Father, we admit that Advent can be a challenging time. We are not accustomed to waiting. We live in a world of instant satisfaction. Yet you call us to wait, to anticipate, and to prepare. So, in preparation for the birth of your son, we share these gifts. May they be used to bring peace into your world. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

*People Look East*

*UMH #20*

## BLESSING FOR THE JOURNEY

## POSTLUDE

### **TODAY AFTER WORSHIP**

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

### **Save the Date!**

Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 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! Contact Nancy Kinch (973) 809-7322  
Email: [nkinch@aol.com](mailto:nkinch@aol.com)

**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)

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Text "GIVING" to 973-447-3223

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS December 9th-15<sup>th</sup> 2024**

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### **Monday December 9<sup>th</sup>**

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

#### **Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup>** Karate @ 5:00 in the Underground

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

#### **Wednesday December 11<sup>th</sup>**

Karate @ 5:00 in the Underground

Bible Study, "On the Way to Jerusalem" @ 12pm in the Pastor's Office  
BYOLunch

Bishop Cynthia Moore – KoiKoi will be having lunch with Pastors from the Skylands district in Fellowship Hall @ 12pm.

#### **Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup>**

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 13<sup>th</sup>**

Prayer and Devotion @ 7am on Facebook

#### **Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Worship with Parish Drive @10am



## **LAST CALL! 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 and payment due by Monday, 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

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

Children Show the Way is adapted from the Worship Design Studio

People Look East. CCLI Song # 3011380 Eleanor Farjeon | John Ferguson © 1999 Neil A. Kjos Music Company

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. CCLI Song # 31982 John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore  
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### **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

Nicole Force – Admin. Assistant Email: [office@umcwayne.org](mailto:office@umcwayne.org)