



The Feast of the Nativity of Christ

Sunday January 5, 2025

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://www.zoom.us/j/82395914126)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of Creation, your light shines in the stars.

All: May your light lead us to life.

Leader: Your light shines in the heart of those who wander in search of you.

All: May your light lead us to wonder.

Leader: Your light shines in the Christ child, revealed as the light of the world.

All: May your light lead us to love.

Leader: Holy Spirit, light of God, shine in us, that we may be light for the world.

All: Alleluia! Come, Spirit of Life, and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

UMH #240

OPENING PRAYER

Light of God, your loveliness beckons us and we journey toward you. The way is long and hard, but the beauty of your light draws us on. Bring us always closer to Christ. Shine upon us, reveal your truth to us, and lead us in the ways of goodness and peace. Amen.

THE BASKET

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12 Common English Bible

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. They asked, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We've seen his star in the east, and we've come to honor him." When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. They said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

*You, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
by no means are you least among the rulers of Judah,
because from you will come one who governs,
who will shepherd my people Israel."*

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search

carefully for the child. When you've found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him." When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

MESSAGE

Going Home

HYMN

What Child Is This?

UMH #219

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we wish to see ourselves clearly with the eyes of love.

We recall those times we have followed the light of your grace and moved closer to you, and we give thanks.

Silent reflection...

We recall those times when we have followed false stars of ego, fear, or attachments, and have wandered away from you; and we ask your forgiveness.

Silent reflection...

In Christ we trust your grace.

Forgive us, heal us, and renew your Spirit in us, that we may faithfully follow the light of your love.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Dearly Beloved, know that all your sins are forgiven entirely; and we are set free to live by the Spirit each moment in the light and grace of God. Alleluia.

WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

OFFERTORY

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

UMH #251

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious Lord, whose light guides our steps, we bring these gifts in humble adoration. May they be used to spread your truth and love to all nations. As we journey into this new year, let our hearts remain focused on your presence and our hands open to your service. In the name of Christ, our guiding star, we pray. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Christ invites to this table all who are ready to move beyond the limitations of the past, all who are eager to move into the “new thing” that God is doing in our midst, all who are willing to let go of the pain that’s gone.

HYMN

This is the Day of New Beginnings

UMH #383

Verse 1

**This is a day of new beginnings
Time to remember and move on
Time to believe what love is bringing
Laying to rest the pain that's gone**

And so this is an open invitation to come and receive the bread that will sustain us as we embark on this new calendar year. All are invited to receive the sweetness of the cup as a sign of God’s promise of abundant possibilities. All are invited to this meal, for all are forgiven their past regrets and invited into God’s grace-filled future!

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creator and Renewer of all life. Time and again you seek us out, breathing again the breath of life into the deflated places our lives.

And so, we come to your table again to praise you and taste yet again what your steadfast love can do...

Verse 5

**In faith we'll gather 'round the table
To taste and share what love can do
This is a day of new beginnings
Our God is making all things new**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. He healed the sick, fed the hungry and ate with those others considered unworthy. Through him, faith and hope were born again for so many...

Verse 2

**For by the life and death of Jesus
Love's mighty Spirit now as then
Can make for us a world of difference
As faith and hope are born again**

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, ...

And so, as we remember these words and acts of Jesus, we offer our own lives, leaving behind what we do not need, seeking new paths full of risen life in you. As followers of Christ, we proclaim and live out this holy mystery:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Verse 3

**Then let us with the Spirit's daring
Step from the past and leave behind
Our disappointment guilt and grieving
Seeking new paths and sure to find**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, so that we may be for the world the body of Christ, breaking ourselves open to your future. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever!

Verse 4

**Christ is alive and goes before us
To show and share what love can do
This is a day of new beginnings
Our God is making all things new**

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**

Angels We Have Heard On High

UMH #238

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

<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:

Hark, The Herald Angels Sing. CCLI Song # 27738 Charles Wesley | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

What Child Is This CCLI Song # 30983 Unknown | William Chatterton Dix © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

Go, Tell It on the Mountain. John W. Work Jr., William Farley Smith CCLI Song #3063235 © Words: Public Domain; Music: 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

This is the Day of New Beginnings. Brian Arthur Wren, Carlton Raymond Young CCLI Song #231043 © Words: 1983, 1987 Hope Publishing Company; Music: 1987 Hope Publishing Company

Angels We Have Heard on High. Edward Shippen Barnes, James Chadwick CCLI Song #27721 © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

CCLI License # 3179963, CCLI Streaming License # 20349948

ANNOUNCEMENTS January 2025

CALENDAR OF EVENTS January 6th - 12th

Monday January 6th

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

Tuesday January 7th

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Bible Study @ 7pm in Pastor's Office

Wednesday January 8th

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

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Thursday January 9th

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Christian Meditation @ 6:30pm in Sanctuary

Friday January 10th

Friday Morning Prayer @ 7pm on Facebook

Sunday January 12th

Baptism of the Lord Worship @ 10am



Sunday School

Exciting News for Sunday School! We will now have a program for infants and toddlers aged 3 months to 4 years old. This will be led by Miss Olivia, who is First Aid Certified/CPR/AED certified and a Lead Teacher at So Big Child Development Center.

Olivia will be in Rm 9 on Sunday mornings during service. Feel free to contact her: olivia747m@hotmail.com

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

Marilyn Creamer – Handbell Director

email: peter@umcwayne.org

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