



**The Voices of Advent
John the Baptizer
"Until the Son of God Appears"
December 7, 2025**

UMC in Wayne

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

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

~Matthew 5:16

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT

Believe

Jubilation Ringers

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Loving God, bless your people, who turn to you in faith.

All: Bless the waiting, where there is space for you to come.

Leader: Bless the darkness, that we may wait with hope.

All: Bless the silence, that we may listen for your coming.

Leader: Grant us stillness, that with patience and courage we may prepare room in our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ.

All: Come, O Savior, Come! Amen.

OPENING HYMN *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Verses 6 & 7 *UMH #211*

OPENING PRAYER

God of love, a little child comes among us. You ask us to pay attention. You invite us to follow. You lead us to become like him. We open our hearts. Help us to listen, and be changed. Amen.

SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 11.6, 9*

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of God
as the waters cover the sea.

THE BASKET ~ LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, the candle of hope. Advent hope looks at the world as it is – fragile, unjust, unfinished – and still insists that

God is not done yet. We light it again as we remember that Christ will come again to fulfil all of God's promises to us.

Light the candle of hope

The second candle of Advent is the Candle of Peace. It is sometimes called the Bethlehem Candle to remind us of the place in which preparations were made to receive and cradle the Christ child.

One of my favorite Christmas Carols is...

... Our hope is in God, and in his son Jesus Christ. Our peace is found in him. We light this candle today to remind us that Jesus brings peace to all who trust in him.

Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.

All: Loving God, thank you for the peace you give us through Jesus. Help us prepare our hearts to receive Him. Bless us. Guide us in all that we say and do. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 3:1-12 Common English Bible

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the desert of Judea announcing, "Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!" He was the one of whom Isaiah the prophet spoke when he said:

The voice of one shouting in the wilderness,

"Prepare the way for the Lord;

make his paths straight."

John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. People from Jerusalem, throughout Judea, and all around the Jordan River came to him. As they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. Many Pharisees and Sadducees came to be baptized by John. He said to them, "You children of snakes! Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon? Produce fruit that shows you have changed your hearts and lives. And don't even think about saying to yourselves, Abraham is our father. I tell you that God is able to raise up Abraham's children from these stones. The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be chopped down and tossed into the fire. I baptize with water those of you who have changed your hearts and lives. The one who is coming after me is stronger than I am. I'm not worthy to carry his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can't be put out."

MESSAGE

"Until the Son of God Appear"

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

OFFERTORY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel verse 1

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**

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

Persistent God of new paths, we have been called to prepare the way—not with platitudes, but with changed hearts and lives. In this season of turning and anticipation, we offer these gifts as signs that we long to live by your story. Use them and use us to bear fruit worthy of repentance: fruit of justice, compassion, hospitality, and peace. Let our generosity reflect the nearness of your kingdom and the urgency of your call. In the wilderness of fear and want, may this offering clear a path for hope to be seen, known, and shared. In the name of the one who is coming and is already among us—Christ, our Lord. Amen.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, prepare your Way in me.

Open a way to enter the grim wilderness of my heart.

**Create a Way in this severe, unforgiving desert.
Make my rough places smooth; the crooked make straight.
Lay your hand at my root, and help me bear fruit.
Come and empty my heart of all things but you.
Sever me from my proud little treasures, and burn them up in your truth.**

In silence we open our hearts ...

**All that is chaff, burn away. Set me on fire with your Spirit.
God, I am willing to change.
Come, savior, prepare your Way in me.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CLOSING HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

UMH #213

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



Calling All Bakers

Please drop off your cookies by
Friday morning
December 12th

*If you have any questions please
ask Anita, Lyn, or Nancy*



First Friday Fellowship

We will meet on Friday December 12th to help assemble
the cookies for the 12/14 sale.

BYO lunch and beverage to enjoy together after we are
finished with the cookies assembly.

Dessert will be provided by Lyn Sentkowski.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Wednesday December 24th

4:30pm ~ Family Service

7:00pm~Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion

**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://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZP6G/home>

Text "GIVING" to 973-447-3223

QR Code:



ANNOUNCEMENTS December 2025

CALENDAR OF EVENTS December 8th – 14th

Monday December 8th

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

Tuesday December 9th

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Wednesday December 10th

Bible Study BYO Lunch @12pm in Fellowship Hall

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Thursday December 11th

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Friday December 12th

Friday Prayer and Devotion on FaceBook @ 7am

First Friday Fellowship @ 12 in Fellowship Hall BYO Lunch

Sunday December 14th

Worship: The Voices of Advent: Mary with Parish Drive @ 10am

Annual Cookie Sale!

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

Believe. Alan Silvestri and Glenn Ballard. Arr. Sandra Eithun ©2010 Hazen Music, Jobanala Music and Aerostation Corp

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. CCLI Song # 3063194 Henry Sloane Coffin | Laurence Hull Stookey | Thomas Helmore

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POINSETTIA ORDERS for 2025
Due by Monday, December 8, 2025
\$10 each

Please fill out the form below and complete the order information telling us whether this is 'in memory of', or 'in honor of'.

Quantity _____ Payment _____ Total Enclosed _____

In Honor of

In Memory of

Purchaser:

UMC Wayne Ministers are all the members of UMC in Wayne
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