



**The Voices of Advent
Joseph**

December 21, 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

What Child Is This / Child of the Poor UMC in Wayne Choir

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Light of God, rising in our dreams, awaken us to your promises.

All: By your revealing light, may we see with faith and respond with courage.

Leader: Light of Christ, rising even in our pain and our struggle, awaken us to new life.

All: By your renewing light, may we see a new way to live, and follow confidently.

Leader: Spirit's light, rising in our hearts, awaken us to the gift of peace.

All: By your resurrecting light, may we see ourselves through your grace, give ourselves to your purposes, and serve you and worship you with all our hearts.

Leader: We await your coming with humble serenity,

All: that you may guide our feet in the way of peace. Come, Beloved Jesus, come! Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine

TFWS #2099

SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 7:14*

The Holy One will give you a sign.

Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

THE BASKET ~ LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

We light the candle of hope again to remind us that Christ will come again to fulfill all of God's promises to us.

Light the candle of Hope

We light the candle of peace again to remind us that Christ will come again and bring to the world everlasting peace.

Light the candle of Peace

Last Sunday we lit the candle of joy to remind us of the eternal Truth that God is with us and will never leave us.

Light the Third Candle of Joy

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, as we think about the coming of Jesus Christ we light the candle of love.

Another favorite Advent hymn is "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming".

In the second verse we hear:



*Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to men a Savior,
When half spent was the night.*

Jesus is the Rose; God's love shown aright. He is God's love in human form. The bible says that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Jesus shows us God's perfect love.

Love is patient, love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offense, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face, there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends.

We light this candle today to remind us of how God's perfect love is found in Jesus

Light the Fourth Candle

LET US PRAY: Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love - shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us prepare our hearts to receive Him. Bless us. Help us to hear and do your word. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen

SCRIPTURE Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

MESSAGE *The Voice of Joseph, "I will be here for you, my love."*

ANTHEM *Joseph's Lullaby / Lullabye* *Parish Drive*

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.

WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

OFFERTORY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
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

UMH #211

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**

Faithful God of unfolding plans, when our certainty falters and our expectations collapse, you are still at work, inviting us into grace that redefines and redeems. Like Joseph, we bring our gifts and lay down our plans, trusting that your Spirit can shape our offering into something greater than we imagined. Let these gifts and our lives be signs of obedience, humility, and hope. May they help carry Christ into a world still longing for peace, hungry for love, and needing redemption. We pray in the name of the one who is Emmanuel—God with us. Amen.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CLOSING HYMN

The King of Glory Comes

TFWS #2091

BENEDICTION

Wonderful Christmas Time

Parish Drive

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

Text "GIVING" to 973-447-3223

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ANNOUNCEMENTS December 2025

CALENDAR OF EVENTS December 22nd – December 28th

Monday December 22nd

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

Wednesday December 24th

Family Christmas Eve Service @ 4:30pm

Holy Communion Service @ 7:00pm

Thursday December 25th

May you have a blessed and joy filled Christmas

Friday December 26th

Friday Prayer and Devotion on FaceBook @ 7am

Sunday December 28th

The Voice of Christmas, Angels! @ 10am

A blue rectangular graphic with white text and decorative elements. On the left, there is a white crescent moon and several white stars of varying sizes, some with motion lines. The text is centered and reads:

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
Wednesday December 24th
4:30pm ~ Family Service with Parish Drive
7:00pm ~ Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion

THE RACK IS BACK!!!!

Now-March 1, 2026

A friend of mine has a rack of coats, and a bucket of hats, gloves, and scarves for anyone in need. The rack hangs in her front yard in Ringwood.

The sign outside reads

“Need a coat, take one- Want to help, leave one”.

If you have any coats, gloves, hats, or scarves that you cannot use anymore, you can bring them to church and give them to me.

I will make sure they get to the rack!

Thank you in advance, Liz Tible

First Friday Fellowship info for January:

The First Friday Fellowship group will meet at noon on the SECOND FRIDAY (January 9) this month, due to the holidays.

We will have fun exchanging White Elephant gifts. Please bring a wrapped, fun, used item to exchange for someone else in the group to enjoy.

We will also share our holiday stories. Please bring your own lunch and beverage.

Dessert will be provided.





**TODAY'S GOOD MOOD
IS SPONSORED
BY GOD
& COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Coffee fellowship info:

The following supplies are needed for coffee fellowship:
packaged cookies, crackers, napkins, juice boxes,
water bottles, and cups for coffee.

Sunday donations of bagels, cream cheese,
sliced cheese, fruit and
baked goods are always welcome.

See Liz Tible if you have any questions.

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

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UMC Wayne Ministers are all the members of UMC in Wayne

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